EC/Morocco fisheries agreement: shortening by one year (1995 instead of 1996)

1995/0195(CNS) - 19/07/1995 - Legislative proposal

- OBJECTIVE: to shorten by one year the duration of the agreement on sea fishing between the European Community and the Kingdom of Morocco (30.04.1995 instead of 30.04.1996). - SUBSTANCE: the agreement on relations in the sea fisheries sector between the European Community and the Kingdom of Morocco, which was concluded in 1992 for a period of 4 years, provides in its Article 15(2) for a mid-term review of the agreement. In the course of that review (meeting of 13.10.1994) the parties decided to limit the duration of the agreement to midnight on 30.04.1995 (and not 30.04.1996, as initially planned). This shortening is explained by the fact that during the review, Morocco invoked a crisis in its fisheries sector and raised the problem of overexploitation of its stocks. It consequently called for a substantial reduction in the fishing opportunities currently granted to the Community, while the latter expressed the view that these reductions went far beyond the spirit and letter of the agreement. As a result, the Parties agreed to limit the duration of the agreement and to open negotiations as soon as possible with a view to the conclusion of a new agreement for a duration of 3 years from 01.05.1995.