EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 16 June 1995 to 15 June 1997

1995/0233(CNS) - 14/09/1995 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: conclusion of a new fisheries Protocol between the Community and Guinea-Bissau laying down the technical and financial conditions for the fishing activities of Community vessels in the waters of the latter country for the period from 16 June 1995 to 15 June 1997. SUBSTANCE: the Protocol signed by the parties on 7 June 1995 provides for the following fisheries possibilities: . licences for freezer shrimp trawlers: 8 800 GRT per month, based on an annual average; . licences for freezer fin-fish and cephalopod trawlers: 4 000 GRT per month, based on an annual average; . licences for 16 pole-and-line tuna vessels and surface longliners; . licences for 26 freezer tuna seiners. In return, financial compensation of ECU 10 800 000 will be paid to Guinea-Bissau in two unequal annual instalments (ECU 6 000 000 and ECU 4 800 000) on the understanding that additional financial compensation of ECU 1 200 000 must be granted if the fishing possibilities laid down have been exceeded. If the state of resources so permits and the Community so requests, the fishing possibilities for freezer shrimp and fin-fish or cephalopod trawlers may be increased by successive instalments of 1 000 GRT per month. In that event, the financial compensation will be raised in proportion. In addition to the above financial compensation, the Community will make the following contributions: . ECU 150 000 to fund scientific and technical fisheries development programmes; . ECU 100 000 to finance study and practical training grants to enable Guinea-Bissau fishermen to improve their skills in the Community. . The Commission will also be called upon to contribute to three small-scale local programmes involving a total cost of ECU 450 000. In addition, the Commission proposes defining in its regulation a scale for sharing out fishing possibilities between the Member States based on the traditional share-out of fishing possibilities under the EC-Guinea-Bissau agreement. The figures are as follows: - Italy: 3 200 GRT per year, - Portugal: 3 200 GRT per year, - Spain: 2 400 GRT per year. However, for the first year in which the Protocol will apply, the following allocation is laid down: - Italy: 3 800 GRT per year, - Portugal: 3 000 GRT per year, - Spain: 2 000 GRT per year. If the licence applications from the above Member States fall short of the fishing possibilities, the Commission may consider licence applications from any other Member State.