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

1995/0233(CNS) - 21/03/1996 - Final act

- OBJECTIVE: conclusion of a new 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. - COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation (EC) No 576/96 on the conclusion of the Protocol establishing the fishing possibilities and the financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the EEC and Guinea-Bissau on fishing off the coast of Guinea-Bissau for the period 16 June 1995 to 15 June 1997. - SUBSTANCE: The fishing possibilities established by the Protocol are as follows: . 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 Protocol allocates fishing possibilities. The figures, based on the traditional share-out of fishing possibilities under the EEC - Guinea-Bissau Agreement, are as follows: - Italy: 3 800 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. - ENTRY INTO FORCE: the Regulation entered into force on 6 April 1996. The persons empowered to sign the Protocol and hence to bind the Community were designated by the Council.