EC/Madagascar fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 21 May 1995 to 20 May 1998

1995/0187(CNS) - 16/02/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mrs McKENNA (Irl, V), the European Parliament approved the proposal for a regulation with the following amendments: -Parliament noted that, in accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement of 29 October 1993, expenditure relating to this protocol was non-compulsory; -it emphasized the importance of conservation of the Indian Ocean tuna stock for the Union and the coastal states of the region. In this connection, it was concerned that no regional regime for the conservation of stocks, as required by the UNCLOS Convention, had been implemented in this region. At the same time, it pointed out that no provision had been made in the protocol for any scientific observer programme based in Madagascar. It therefore called, in the future, for account to be taken of the above considerations in the 'third generation' fisheries agreements (in particular, by incorporating Community investment aimed at modernizing local artisanal fisheries infrastructure). It raised the matter of joint ventures in connection with local processing, marketing and construction of fishing vessels, for which no provision had been made in the protocol; -with regard to Parliament being kept informed, the Commission should submit to the EP every year, before 1 May, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the protocol, accompanied by an up-dated financial statement. Before any negotiations on a new fisheries agreement, the EP should be informed of the progress made in the implementation of the present protocol, and only after the Council had consulted the EP could the Council give a new negotiating mandate to the Commission; -by the end of 1996, the Commission should present the Council and European Parliament with a report evaluating the impact of the agreement and of other fisheries agreements with Indian Ocean states on fishermen in this region.