Continuous monitoring system using satellite communicationsfor Community fishing vessels (amend. regul. 2847/93/EEC)

1996/0193(CNS) - 13/12/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

Parliament adopted the report by Mr Dominique Souchet (NI, F) on the proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2847/93 establishing a control system applicable to the Common Fisheries Policy, and on the proposal amending the same Regulation as regards the deadline for a Council Decision on a continuous position monitoring system using satellite communications for Community fishing vessels. Parliament recommended the establishment, no later than 1 January 1999, of a satellite-based vessel monitoring system (VMS) for vessels fishing species declared 'sensitive'. It considered that the management committee should be delegated the task of updating the list of such species. In addition, the VMS should apply to all vessels exceeding 18 metres in overall length, instead of the 15 metres proposed by the Commission. Parliament also proposed, with the aim of ensuring fairness as between fishermen from the Member States and those of third countries, imposing strict reciprocity of the rules for the vessels of third countries fishing in European waters. Parliament also called for a budget to be set up at the level of the European Union to make continuous monitoring by satellite generally applicable by covering the necessary outlay and the cost of replacement. Finally, the Member States should impose fair sanctions for failure to comply with the Regulation and fraud in respect of fishing effort, for each vessel concerned.