Basic information

1998/0274(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
Diversification of fishing activities Amending Decision 97/292/EC 1996/0308(CNS) **Subject** 3.15.03 Fishing fleets, safety of fishing vessels 3.15.08 Fishing enterprises, fishermen, working conditions on board 3.15.16 Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG), European Fisheries Fund (EFF)	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	SOUCHET Dominique F.C. (I-EDN)	29/09/1998

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Fisheries	2125	1998-10-22
Fisheries	2152	1998-12-17

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/09/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0515	Summary
05/10/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/10/1998	Debate in Council		
25/11/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
25/11/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0463/1998	
15/12/1998	Debate in Parliament		
17/12/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

17/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/01/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0274(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	Amending Decision 97/292/EC 1996/0308(CNS)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/4/10467

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0463/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p. 0005	25/11/1998	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0744/1998 OJ C 098 09.04.1999, p. 0144-0160	16/12/1998	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0515 OJ C 314 13.10.1998, p. 0018	04/09/1998	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 1999/0027
OJ L 008 14.01.1999, p. 0022 Summary

Diversification of fishing activities

1998/0274(CNS) - 04/09/1998 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: specific measure to encourage diversification out of certain fishing activities. SUBSTANCE: Council Regulation (EC) No 894/97 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources, as recently amended by Regulation (EC) No 1239/98, prohibits fishing with driftnets intended for the capture of certain species from 01/01/2002. This ban applies to five Member States: Spain, Ireland, Italy, France and the United Kingdom. In the case of Italy, a variety of accompanying measures were implemented in 1997 on a voluntary basis. As the Council has already adopted a specific decision concerning this programme (Decision 97/292/EC), there is no need to adopt a new specific measure for Italian fishermen. However, in the interests of clarity it is proposed that Decision 97/292/EC be amended so as to list the cases in which cumulation of aid is permitted. The proposal is aimed at two categories of beneficiaries: fishermen serving on board and owners of vessels. Provision is made for two types of aid: for the permanent cessation of all economic activity and for conversion. The proposal only lays down the maximum amounts of aid. Member States are to adjust these in line with the actual economic or social loss resulting from the ban on fishing. They are also to take into account the cost of conversion and the age of the vessels. In relation to the ad hoc decision concerning Italy, the new proposal aims to: - simplify the procedures while maintaining equal treatment for Italian fishermen on the one hand and for Spanish, French, Irish and UK fishermen on the other; - limit implementation to 1999 (no specific compensation for suspension of fishing activities is provided for); - introduce a derogation to the rules on aid for modernisation of vessels laid down in Regulation (EC) No 3699/93 so as to raise the ceiling on eligible expenditure and decrease the rate of participation by beneficiaries.

Diversification of fishing activities

1998/0274(CNS) - 17/12/1998 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: to encourage diversification out of certain fishing activities. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Decision 1999/27/EC on a specific measure to encourage diversification out of certain fishing activities and amending Decision 97/292/EC. CONTENT: in the interests of clarity, the amendment to Decision 97/292/EC lists the cases in which cumulation of aid is permitted. The Decision is aimed at two categories of beneficiaries: fishermen serving on board and owners of vessels. Provision is made for two types of aid: for the permanent cessation of activity and for conversion. The Decision only lays down the maximum amounts of aid. Member States are to adjust these in line with the actual economic or social loss resulting from the ban on fishing. They are also to take into account the cost of conversion and the age of the vessels. The Decision aims mainly to: - simplify the procedures while maintaining equal treatment for Italian fishermen on the one hand and for Spanish, Irish, French and UK fishermen on the other; - limit implementation to 1999 (no specific compensation for suspension is provided for); - introduce a derogation to the rules in force on aid for modernisation of vessels laid down in Regulation (EC) No 3699/93 so as to raise the ceiling on eligible expenditure and decrease the rate of participation by beneficiaries.

Diversification of fishing activities

1998/0274(CNS) - 16/12/1998 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report drafted by Mr. Dominique SOUCHET (I-EDN, F) on the diversification out of certain fishing activities, the Parliament called for a delay in granting compensation measures to fishermen affected by the Council of Ministers' drift net ban, until the Court of Justice has ruled upon the appeal against the ban lodged by producer organisations. The ban on fishing with drift nets, intended to protect dolphins and other marine life, would affect French, Irish and UK fisherman particularly badly. If the drift net ban is not ruled illegal by the Court, fishermen and shipowners would need financial assistance in order to convert vessels to other types of fishing or to leave the ishing sector. Those ceasing all their activity in the fishing sector by 01.01.2002, provided that they are over 50 years of age, should be paid EUR 50 000. Those converting to other types of fishing would receive a payment of EUR 20,000. The Parliament also called for compensation for local authorities and producer organisations which had invested in port facilities and markets.