Basic information

1999/2155(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Fishery resources: management and conservation of the marine environment **Subject** 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	KATIFORIS Giorgos (PSE)	01/09/1999

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	MCKENNA Patricia (V /ALE)	13/10/1999

Council of the European Union

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
14/07/1999	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1999)0363	Summary
07/10/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/01/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
27/01/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0017/2000	
01/03/2000	Debate in Parliament		
02/03/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0087/2000	Summary
02/03/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
04/12/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1999/2155(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/4/11119

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0017/2000 OJ C 339 29.11.2000, p. 0004	27/01/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0087/2000 OJ C 346 04.12.2000, p. 0017-0089	02/03/2000	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1999)0363	14/07/1999	Summary

Fishery resources: management and conservation of the marine environment

1999/2155(COS) - 02/03/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted its resolution drafted by Mr. Giorgios KATIFORIS (PES, Gr) on the European Commission's communication on fisheries management and nature conservation in the marine environment. Parliament welcomes the intention of the Commission to improve the integration of environmental protection into the common fisheries policy and hopes that the Council is able to find the political will to adopt the Commission's proposals. It calls on the Commission to: - always take into account, when drawing up any measure linked to the environment, that a wide range of (interlinked) factors are involved in causing deterioration in marine species, including pollution, climate changes, industrial activity, the pressure exerted by human activity on coastal areas, maritime transport and uncontrolled fishing; - continue to use the appropriate legal means within its powers whenever it detects a breach of the obligations of the Member States or third countries in the fisheries sector and to advocate in every international body that sanctions be imposed on any states not complying with its statutory principles; - continue to use appropriate legal and technical measures, where necessary, to restrict the capacity of the Community fleet and to take an international initiative to persuade the other major fishing powers in the world to follow suit; - ensure that current Community measures to reduce the intensity of fishing continue to include, as a matter of absolute necessity, the establishment of appropriate ceilings on fishing for the species listed in the scientific reports, in line with the conditions set out in those reports, and stringent checks on those ceilings at the various stages of the process; - urge the Member States to take more responsibility for the monitoring and control of compliance with environmental legislation affecting the management of fishery resources; - propose a definitive ban on the use and sale of fishing gear which alters the nature of the seabed, destroys fish spawn and does not select the target species to the full extent that is possible; - assess the operation of the current satellite fishing vessel monitoring systems (VMS) and, in the light of the results, to look into the possibility of extending them to a larger number of vessels; - take account of factors other than the length, tonnage and engine-power of vessels in measuring their fishing capacity; - speed up and strengthen the establishment of the Natura 2000 network of habitats of Community interest by involving the NGOs specialising in the protection of the environment and natural resources; - disseminate information about the proliferation in the Mediterranean Sea of the algae caulerpa taxifolia and, in particular, the impact thereof on inshore fishing and marine flora and fauna. The Parliament also calls for the drawing up of a Community policy for the management and protection not only of fishery resources but also of nature in the marine environment so as to safeguard both fish stocks and the marine environmentitself. It takes the view that pollution of the marine environment and its consequent destruction are frequently due to land-based sources of pollution and discharges of waste of all kinds. For this reason, it calls for the commitments given by the EU in the OSPAR, Baltic Sea and Mediterranean international conventions, as well as Community legislation, to be applied effectively and for their implementation to be strictly monitored by the competent authorities. Likewise, with respect to the dumping of oil and other

harmful substances from ships, it calls for the effective implementation of international agreements and penal sanctions to be applied. The EP urges that, if the Global Assessment of the Fifth Action Programme recommends a successor, the topic of fisheries be added as a sector for integration. The Council is called upon to confer on Community inspectors increased powers and responsibilities in line with the Commission proposals. The Parliament calls on the Commission and the Member States to step up the adoption of measures to combat the possible negative effects of aquaculture on the marine environment, including: - the mandatory possession of prior environmental impact assessments before the establishment of enterprises engaged in aquaculture, particularly in the case of establishments in enclosed sea areas in which the waters renew slowly, and in estuaries, more rigorous scientific monitoring of aquaculture as regards the possible effects on the local marine ecosystem of setting up an enterprise, the possibility of transmitting disease and the quality of the feed, - an obligation on entrepreneurs, where feasible, to clean the seabed in the area covered by their operations or any other type of pollution caused by those operations. Lastly, it calls on the Commission and Member States to launch an information campaign for fisherment and consumers to make them aware of the risks involved in the unthinking exploitation of fishery resources for the survival of fishing as an occupation for future generations, and to train them in sustainable development methods.

Fishery resources: management and conservation of the marine environment

1999/2155(COS) - 14/07/1999 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE: to improve the integration of environmental considerations in the common fisheries policy in coordination with nature protection policy. CONTENT: This communication forms part of an overall approach designed to improve the integration of environmental consideration in other Community policies in line with European Council orientations. It supplements various communications and proposal recently submitted to the Council and to Parliament, referring in particular to limiting the impact of fisheries activities, including aquaculture, on the marine ecosystems and to promoting responsible trade. To promote the implementation of the essential principles in the field of fisheries management and nature conservation in the marine environment, this communication identifies some priorities and implementing measures that will be complementary and even synergistic. The measures that will contribute to the conservation of fish stocks and thereby achieve sustainable exploitation and to the conservation of marine nature include the following: control of fisheries pressure to benefit commercial stocks and marine ecosystems; improved measures for nature conservation in the marine environment; integrated management of coastal areas; improved training, information and transparency; greater contribution from scientific research to fisheries management and more account taken of the biological impact of fisheries. The same priorities as those identified at the internal level should also be pursued by the Community in bilateral and multilateral negotiations in the framework of fisheries management or conservation of the marine environment. In particular, there is a need to further integrate sustainable exploitation of living resources and environmental concerns within fisheries agreements with third countries.