Basic information

2001/0299(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Conservation of fishery resources: cod and hake, stock recovery **Subject** 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources	

Key players

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2476	2002-12-16
Agriculture and Fisheries	2468	2002-11-28
Fisheries	2435	2002-06-11
Fisheries	2400	2001-12-17

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/12/2001	Legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0724	Summary
17/12/2001	Debate in Council		
16/01/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/05/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
22/05/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0177/2002	
11/06/2002	Debate in Council		Summary
12/06/2002	Debate in Parliament		
13/06/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0314/2002	Summary
28/11/2002	Debate in Council		
16/12/2002	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/12/2002	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2002)0773	Summary
17/03/2006	Additional information		Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/0299(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	PECH/5/15705

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0177/2002	22/05/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0314/2002 OJ C 261 30.10.2003, p. 0387-0520 E	13/06/2002	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2001)0724 OJ C 075 26.03.2002, p. 0362 E	11/12/2001	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(2002)0773	20/12/2002	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Conservation of fishery resources: cod and hake, stock recovery

2001/0299(CNS) - 11/06/2002

The Council noted the presentation by Commissioner Fischler of his package of proposals to reform the CFP and the contributions by delegations and instructed the Council's bodies to continue their intensive examination of the proposals and communications presented by the Commission. At this stage, several delegations welcomed the objectives of the reform contained in the proposal, without prejudice to the more specific reservations thay had on certain aspects of the planned provisions. With each delegation speaking in turn, the Council commented particularly on the following aspects of the reform : - the setting of TACs and quotas : some delegations indicated that they had reservations about a possible transfer of competences from

the Council to the Commission for the annual management of TACs and quotas; - the reduction of fishing effort and the abolition of official aid ; - the social impact of the planned restructuring measures : some delegations stressed the need for more long-term social action to accompany the fleet-scrapping measures for the oldest boats; - the consideration of the particular position of fishing in the outermost regions.

Conservation of fishery resources: cod and hake, stock recovery

2001/0299(CNS) - 20/12/2002 - Modified legislative proposal

Following recent scientific advice, the Commission has amended is proposal. The amendments concern: - adaptation of the targets for recovery : in the light of recent ICES discussions, the target value for recovery of the Northern Hake stock has been revised to 143000 tonnes; - adaptation of the procedure for setting total allowable catches : it is now proposed that the normal recovery strategy should apply when the stocks concerned have quantities of mature fish exceeding the limit biomass values identified by scientific advice. Stocks whose adult populations are below those levels are subject to low levels of fishing mortality identified in a new article; - revision of the system for fishing effort limitation : a simplified system of fishing effort is now proposed. They lay down the data to be collected by Member States and a method of allocation of fishing effort. This system would impose a standardised reduction of fishing effort on each segment of the fleet which catches the fish stock concerned. The values are identified for 2003, and will be adjusted in subsequent years in accordance with scientific advice; - modifications of control provisions : the previous proposals concerning the use of VMS have been removed, as they will be addressed in the new Framework Regulation to be adopted as part of CFP reform; - removal of structural measures proposals : these proposals have also been removed, as they will be addressed in the general CFP reform debate.

Conservation of fishery resources: cod and hake, stock recovery

2001/0299(CNS) - 13/06/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution largely based on the report by Catherine STIHLER (PES, UK). (Please refer to the document dated 22 /05/02.) Parliament did not, however, accept the exclusion of hake from the proposal. The amendments include a recital stating that certain scientific reports of international prestige indicate that overfishing is not the sole factor influencing the state of stocks, since the latter are also influenced by aspects linked to natural fluctuations in the marine environment, climate change, the northward drift of the biomass and pollution. Full data is not available on all zones in 2002 and no economic analyses have been made of the economic aspects of multispecies fishing, nor of the correlation between the fishing effort and fishing mortality rate. The current system of Total Allowable Catches does not resolve the problem of discards nor the impact on stocks of some multi-species fleets, which in turn affect the fishing fleet. Turning to temporary cessation of activity, Parliament provided that economic compensation will be laid down according to the following criteria: - aid will be fully paid by the EU. - holidays and rest periods will be regarded as being independent of periods of compulsory tying-up.

Conservation of fishery resources: cod and hake, stock recovery

2001/0299(CNS) - 11/12/2001 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: To establish measures for the recovery of cod and hake stocks in the North Sea and off the west coast of Scotland. CONTENT: A Report by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea warned last year that the cod and hake stock in the North Sea and west of Scotland are at serious risk of collapse. Cod stocks in the Kattegat and the Irish Sea are also declining rapidly. Urgent action is needed and the Commission is therefore proposing a Council Regulation to combat the decline in stock and ensure the survival of cod and hake in these maritime regions. The proposed Regulation contains the following elements: - the setting of biological targets for the recovery of the stocks concerned. Under this scheme the Council would be required to set quantitive targets for the adult populations of cod and hake. When the targets have been reached the stock concerned will be removed from the recovery plan. - a procedure for setting annual total allowable catches (TACs) for these stocks. Under this scheme the TAC would be set annually and give a high probability that the biomass will increase by 30% in the case of cod and 15% in the case of hake. - a system for limiting fishing effort (that is, the time spent by a fishing vessel at sea) in respect of all fishing vessels likely to catch cod and/or hake. Under this scheme, "available kilowatt-days" would be distributed by each Member State among the fishing vessels concerned. - the establishment of special conditions for the monitoring and control of vessels engaged in these fisheries. This scheme imposes monitoring conditions and obligations for vessels over 15m long. - amendment of the rules for Community financial aid to the fisheries sector. This scheme aims to stimulate structural change in the fishing fleets concerned, such as offering additional incentives for the scrapping of fishing vessels engaged in the fishing of cod and hake stock. - a procedure by which the Commission, upon request of a Member State, may decide to close fishing grounds temporarily. The maximum duration of any closure would be two months and the geographical area would be limited. This measure is deemed necessary in the case where there is an unpredictable accumulation of juvenile cod or hake. - an adjustment to the rules for the common organisation of the market. This measure aims to extend the responsibility of Producer Organisation to draw up fishing plans for those concerned. It will be accompanied by a Council Regulation aimed at laying down technical measures for fishing to protect juvenile fish in which all recent improvements in selectivity currently contained in Commission Regulation and a number of new elements of relevance to cod and/or hake recovery will be included. Lastly, the Commission will carry out an assessment of these measures, in conjunction with the Member States, in order to assess the effectiveness of the proposals, within 18 months of adoption by the Council.