Basic information

2003/2099(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Common fisheries policy : improving scientific and technical advice for its management **Subject** 3.15 Fisheries policy	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	LAGE Carlos (PSE)	23/04/2003

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	LUCAS Caroline (V/ALE)	10/07/2003

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2534	2003-10-13

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
27/02/2003	Non-legislative basic document published	C(2003)0625	Summary
05/06/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/10/2003	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
20/01/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
20/01/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0023/2004	
10/02/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0083/2004	Summary
10/02/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/2099(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative

Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/5/19622

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0023/2004	20/01/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0083/2004 OJ C 097 22.04.2004, p. 0035-0130 E	10/02/2004	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	C(2003)0625	27/02/2003	Summary

Common fisheries policy : improving scientific and technical advice for its management

2003/2099(INI) - 27/02/2003 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to improve scientific advice for fisheries management. CONTENT : the Community must base the common fisheries policy on improved and timely scientific advice, thereby affording a firmer grounding in science than has been the case in the past. This will place more demands on the scientists and the existing scientific institutions than they can meet now and urgent improvements to the science base and its organisation are needed. The Commission has two main targets for improvements. 1) regional scientific organisations should maintain and strengthen their roles as forums for international science, methodological development, organisation of surveys and long-term, strategic advice on the scale of one or more years. To this end, the Community should better coordinate the contributions of Member States to regional scientific organisations. 2) the Community requires its own scientific advisory capacity which can provide operational advice for fisheries management within a short time-frame, to complement existing resources at the national level. The Commission proposes a short-term solution to improve the provision of advice, and outlines options for new institutional arrangements for a more solid and permanent framework for achieving this objective in the longer term. After debate in the Council and in the Parliament about this approach more detailed proposals will be developed in 2003.

Common fisheries policy : improving scientific and technical advice for its management

2003/2099(INI) - 10/02/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Carlos LAGE (PES, Portugal) on scientific advice for fisheries. (Please see the document dated 20/01/04.) Parliament felt that where there are contradictions between different scientific reports, these should be put to a higher scientific body to resolve the contradictions. Parliament went on to state that the impact of fishing upon non-commercial species of all kinds (fish, sharks, turtles, birds, marine mammals) must be investigated as a priority, in conjunction with research into alterations to fishing gears and practices to decrease such catches. EU measures based on scientific advice can have severe socio-economic impacts on fishing communities. It is therefore vital to improve the quality both of scientific advice and of socio-economic impact assessments. In particular recovery plans should be subjected to a thorough scientific assessment as quickly as possible, with special attention being paid to their effectiveness. Scientific advice on aquaculture needs to be improved and systematized. Parliament suggested an advisory committee with specific responsibility for aquaculture. Greater resources should be devoted to researching aquaculture, including the generation of production and economic data and environmental impact data. Parliament stated that the need for improved scientific advice on fisheries could be met by a combination of actions, including the strengthening of ICES, with new scientists directly employed to meet EU needs, as well as by the recruitment of further staff in the Commission on a permanent

official basis and also by increased use of temporary experts. Scientists should also travel on fishing vessels so as to conduct research at the locations where fishing is carried on. New fisheries, either for previously unexploited species or in new areas, must be the subject of more thorough studies to improve fisheries management by monitoring catches and establishing an appropriate fishing effort.