Basic information

2005/0229(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 1st August 2001 to 31st July 2006 **Subject** 3.15.15.02 Fisheries agreements with African countries **Geographical area** Mauritania	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	GUERREIRO Pedro (GUE/NGL)	07/12/2005

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	20/09/2004

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2707	2006-02-14
Agriculture and Fisheries	2730	2006-05-22

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/11/2005	Legislative proposal published	COM(2005)0591	Summary

15/12/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/03/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
22/03/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0066/2006	
27/04/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0156/2006	Summary
27/04/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
22/05/2006	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		Summary
22/05/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/09/2006	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2005/0229(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/6/32177

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE365.137	08/02/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE370.193	24/02/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0066/2006	22/03/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0156/2006	27/04/2006	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2005)0591	23/11/2005	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date

Final act

Regulation 2006/1316
OJ L 242 05.09.2006, p. 0001-0002 Summary

EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 1st August 2001 to 31st July 2006

2005/0229(CNS) - 22/05/2006

The Council unanimously adopted a Regulation on the conclusion of an agreement concerning the amendments to the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the period of 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006.

New fishing opportunities for "pole-and-line tuna vessel and surface longliner" are shared among France (9 vessels), Spain (23 vessels) and Portugal (3 vessels). A temporary reduction of the fishing effort is being applied.

EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 1st August 2001 to 31st July 2006

2005/0229(CNS) - 22/05/2006 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude an Agreement making amendments to the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the EC and Mauritania for the period 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Regulation 1316/2006/EC on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters concerning the provisional application of the Protocol amending the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the period 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006.

CONTENT: The Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the EC and Mauritania applies for the period 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006. However, in view of the scientific opinions on the state of resources in the Mauritanian EEZ the two parties have decided to amend the existing fishing opportunities. The outcome of those amendments has been the subject of an Exchange of Letters and involves a temporary reduction in the fishing effort for cephalopods, the fixing of a second closed period of one month for demersal fishing, and an increase in the number of pole-and-line tuna vessels and surface longliners and pelagic freezer trawlers.

This Decision approves the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters mentioned above. Following the amendments set out in the Exchange of Letters, the new fishing opportunities for the ‘pole-and-line tuna vessel and surface longliner’ category and for the ‘pelagic freezer trawler’ category are allocated among the Member States in accordance with the terms of the Decision. The temporary suspension of five fishing licences for the cephalopod fishing category shall take effect as from 1 January 2005. The future reactivation of those five licences shall be decided by common accord in a Joint Committee meeting held between the Commission and the Mauritanian authorities on the basis of the state of resources.

If licence applications from Member States do not cover all the fishing opportunities laid down by the Protocol, the Commission may take into consideration licence applications from any other Member State.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 08/09/2006.

EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 1st August 2001 to 31st July 2006

2005/0229(CNS) - 14/02/2006

The Council adopted a decision approving the signature of an agreement concerning the provisional application, for the period from 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006, of an amended protocol on the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the EU and Mauritania.

Amendments include a temporary reduction in the fishing effort for cephalopods, a second closed period of one month for demersal fishing, and an increase in the number of pole-and-line tuna vessels and surface longliners from 31 to 35 (+3 for Spain and +1 for France) and in the number of pelagic freezer trawlers from 15 to 25.

EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 1st August 2001 to 31st July 2006

2005/0229(CNS) - 27/04/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution by 456 votes for, 74 against and 61 abstentions by Pedro **GUERREIRO** (GUE/NGL, PT) approving the conclusion of the Agreement concerning the amendments to the Protocol to the EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement for the period 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006.

EC/Mauritania fisheries agreement: protocol for the period from 1st August 2001 to 31st July 2006

2005/0229(CNS) - 23/11/2005 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to conclude an Agreement making amendments to the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the EC and Mauritania for the period 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006

PROPOSED ACT : Council Regulation

CONTENT : The purpose of this proposal is to amend the existing Protocol to the Agreement on cooperation in the sea fisheries sector between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

On the basis of the conclusions of the technical working group comprising representatives of the Mauritanian administration and the European Commission, and in the light of the scientific opinions available, the two parties reached the conclusion at the Joint Committee meeting held on 10 September 2004 in Brussels that a number of measures should be taken concerning the management of the fishing effort in Mauritania's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

The Agreement on the amendments to the existing Protocol has been formalised by an Exchange of Letters.

The measures in question are aimed, on the one hand, at reducing the catch rate for cephalopods by decreasing the fishing effort and, on the other, by increasing the number of licences in the pelagic and tuna categories. In order to help integrate fleets flying the flags of the new Member States and guarantee continued access for Community fishing vessels traditionally operating under the above-mentioned Agreement, licences for the pelagic category will be awarded on the basis of the licence applications received from all Member States, taking into account the fishing activities traditionally carried on under this Agreement. If need be, the Commission will make a proposal on the allocation of licences for the pelagic category among the Member States.

The suspension of five cephalopod licences, which was the subject of a consultation with the Member States as far back as March 2004, has now been compensated for under this reorganisation through the issue of these new pelagic licences, thus guaranteeing sound and healthy financial management by allowing fishing opportunities to be adjusted in accordance with resources and sectoral demands. The new balance achieved through this reorganisation was established on the basis of the results of the 2001 negotiations on the existing Protocol and constitutes a very satisfactory outcome for the EC in cost-benefit terms.

The Commission proposes, on this basis, that the Council adopt this Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendments to the Protocol.

A proposal for a Council Decision on the provisional application of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendments to the Protocol is the subject of a separate procedure.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS :

Budget line: 110301 : International agreements concerning fisheries

Total resources allocated: EUR 86.000.000 for the EC/Mauritania Agreement currently in force. This amendment to the Protocol does not have any budgetary implications.

Period of application: 1 August 2001 to 31 July 2006

Total estimate of expenditure over five years: EUR 430 million