Basic information

2007/0232(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
EC/Seychelles Fisheries Agreement: protocol for the period from 18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011, amendments **Subject** 3.15.15.03 Fisheries agreements with Indian Ocean countries **Geographical area** Seychelles	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	ORTUONDO LARREA Josu (ALDE)	22/11/2007

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	BORRELL FONTELLES Josep (PSE)	18/12/2007
BUDG Budgets	TRÜPEL Helga (Verts/ALE)	20/09/2004

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2869	2008-05-26
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	2847	2008-02-12

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	BORG Joe

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
31/10/2007	Legislative proposal published	COM(2007)0664	Summary

29/11/2007	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/03/2008	Vote in committee		Summary
31/03/2008	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0085/2008	
08/05/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0187/2008	Summary
08/05/2008	Results of vote in Parliament		
26/05/2008	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
26/05/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/05/2008	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2007/0232(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2/3-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/6/55635

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE398.441	13/12/2007	
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE400.377	28/02/2008	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE400.695	28/02/2008	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE402.748	04/03/2008	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0085/2008	31/03/2008	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0187/2008	08/05/2008	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2007)0664	31/10/2007	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Regulation 2008/0480 OJ L 141 31.05.2008, p. 0001	Summary

EC/Seychelles Fisheries Agreement: protocol for the period from 18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011, amendments

2007/0232(CNS) - 31/10/2007 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendments to the Protocol setting out, for the period from **18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011**, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the EC and the Seychelles.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Regulation.

CONTENT: following the meeting of the EC/Seychelles Joint Committee in January 2007, it was decided that the two Parties would organise a meeting of the Joint Committee in order to submit proposals for amendments to the existing Protocol (CNS/2005/0173). These were discussed at the meeting of the Joint Committee held on 20-21 March in Brussels.

The main objective of the amendments made to the Protocol is to:

- increase the reference tonnage from 55 000 tonnes to **63 000 tonnes** to take account of the average level of catches over the past three years;
- introduce the financial support for the partnership which was not introduced in the previous negotiations (prior to the Council Conclusions of July 2004 on Fisheries Partnership Agreements);
- increase the share paid by ship owners from EUR 25 to **EUR 35 per tonne** to bring the Protocol into line with other tuna agreements, hence reducing the Community contribution from EUR 75 to EUR 65 per tonne;
- fishing opportunities remain unchanged: 40 tuna seiners and 12 surface longliners;
- the annual financial contribution increases from EUR 4 125 000 in the current Protocol to **EUR 5 355 000 in the amended Protocol** and the estimated fee payable by ship owners from EUR 1 375 000 to **EUR 2 205 000**;
- advances and fees payable by ship owners: **EUR 35** (compared with EUR 25 previously) per tonne of tuna. The advances are fixed at EUR 21 000 per year per tuna seiner, EUR 4 200 per year per surface longliner over 250 GT and EUR 3 150 per year per surface longliner of 250 GT or less.

The fishing opportunities set out in the Protocol and laid down in Regulation (EC) No 115/2006 will not be amended. To recall, these are:

Tuna seiners:

- Spain: 22 vessels
- France: 17 vessels
- Italy: 1 vessel

Surface longliners:

- Spain: 2 vessels
- France: 5 vessels
- Portugal: 5 vessels

This amended Protocol is to be applied provisionally from 18 January 2008 pending its entry into force in accordance with Article 13.

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.

EC/Seychelles Fisheries Agreement: protocol for the period from 18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011, amendments

2007/0232(CNS) - 26/05/2008 - Final act

PURPOSE: to amend the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the EC and the Seychelles.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Regulation (EC) No 480/2008 on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendments to the Protocol setting out, for the period from 18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Seychelles on fishing off Seychelles.

CONTENT: the Council adopted a regulation **amending the protocol** setting out, for the period from January 2005 to 17 January 2011, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the fisheries agreement with the Seychelles (see CNS/2005/0173).

The amendments increase the reference tonnage of fishing vessels, taking account of the average level of catches over the past three years, introduce financial support for the partnership and increase the share paid by ship owners.

The main objective of the amendments made to the Protocol is to:

- increase the reference tonnage from 55 000 tonnes to **63 000 tonnes** to take account of the average level of catches over the past three years;
- introduce the financial support for the partnership which was not introduced in the previous negotiations (prior to the Council Conclusions of July 2004 on Fisheries Partnership Agreements);
- increase the share paid by ship owners from EUR 25 to EUR 35 per tonne to bring the Protocol into line with other tuna agreements, hence reducing the Community contribution from EUR 75 to EUR 65 per tonne;
- fishing opportunities remain unchanged: 40 tuna seiners and 12 surface longliners;
- the annual financial contribution increases from EUR 4 125 000 in the current Protocol to **EUR 5 355 000** in the amended Protocol and the estimated fee payable by ship owners from EUR 1 375 000 to **EUR 2 205 000**;
- advances and fees payable by ship owners: EUR 35 (compared with EUR 25 previously) per tonne of tuna. The advances are fixed at EUR 21 000 per year per tuna seiner, EUR 4 200 per year per surface longliner over 250 GT and EUR 3 150 per year per surface longliner of 250 GT or less.

The fishing opportunities set out in the Protocol and laid down in Regulation (EC) No 115/2006 are not amended and are confirmed as follows:

Tuna seiners:

- Spain: 22 vessels
- France: 17 vessels
- Italy: 1 vessel

Surface longliners:

- Spain: 2 vessels
- France: 5 vessels
- Portugal: 5 vessels

If licence applications from these 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.

The Member States whose vessels fish under this Agreement will notify the Commission of the quantities of each stock caught within the Seychelles fishing zone in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 500/2001 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93 on the monitoring of catches taken by Community fishing vessels in third country waters and on the high seas.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 03/06/2008.

EC/Seychelles Fisheries Agreement: protocol for the period from 18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011, amendments

2007/0232(CNS) - 08/05/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted, by 503 votes to 71 with 33 abstentions, a legislative resolution making some amendments to the proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendments to the Protocol setting out, for the period from 18 January 2005 to 17 January 2011, the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Agreement between the European Community and the Seychelles. The report was tabled for consideration in plenary by Josu **ORTUONDO LARREA** (ALDE, ES), on behalf of the Committee on Fisheries.

The amendments, adopted under the framework of the consultation procedure, were as follows :

-a new recital states that Chapter VIII of this Fisheries Agreement, relating to port equipment, states that 'the Seychelles authorities shall lay down, in agreement with the shipowners, the conditions for using port equipment', but no action has yet been taken to meet our industry's demands as regards improving port infrastructure ;

-if fisheries sectoral policy in Seychelles is to become a reality, account must be taken of the improvement and modernisation of port infrastructure, which is currently highly congested, and of the possibility of abolishing the special landing fee for tuna, which does not exist in any other port in the world ;

-the Commission shall evaluate each year whether Member States whose vessels operate under the Protocol to the Agreement have complied with reporting requirements. Where they have not, the Commission shall withhold their requests for fishing licences for the following year ;

-the Commission shall report annually to the European Parliament and the Council on the results of the multiannual sectoral programme described in Article 7 of the Protocol as well as on compliance by the Member States with reporting requirements ;

- before expiry of the Protocol or the beginning of negotiations for its possible replacement, the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council an ex post evaluation of the Protocol, including a cost-benefit analysis.