Basic information

2008/2223(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Governance within the CFP: the European Parliament, the Regional Advisory Councils and other actors **Subject** 3.15 Fisheries policy	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	PECH Fisheries	ATTWOOLL Elspeth (ALDE)	09/09/2008

European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**
	Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	BORG Joe

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/09/2008	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/03/2009	Vote in committee		Summary
27/03/2009	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0187/2009	
24/04/2009	Decision by Parliament	T6-0317/2009	Summary
24/04/2009	Results of vote in Parliament		
24/04/2009	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2008/2223(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55-p4 Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/6/64839

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE418.118	18/12/2008	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE419.925	02/02/2009	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0187/2009	27/03/2009	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0317/2009	24/04/2009	Summary

Governance within the CFP: the European Parliament, the Regional Advisory Councils and other actors

2008/2223(INI) - 24/04/2009 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 346 votes to 7, with 32 abstentions, a resolution on governance within the CFP: the European Parliament, the Regional Advisory Councils and other actors.

The Parliament calls for members of its Fisheries Committee to be given **observer status** at meetings of the Council of Fisheries Ministers.

The Council, the Commission and Parliament are called upon to:

- complete the work required to reach a genuine agreement laying down standard forms of participation for members of Parliament's Committee on Fisheries in regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) and other international bodies whose meetings are given over to discussion of subjects affecting the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP);
- allow members of Parliament’s Committee on Fisheries to serve on the joint committees set up under Fisheries Partnership Agreements, to enable them to bring the necessary scrutiny to bear on those agreements.

The Commission is called upon to:

- notify the Parliament of all consultations that are taking place in relation to the CFP and maritime policy;
- engage in an evaluation of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee on Fisheries (STECF);
- take a number of actions in respect of Regional Advisory Councils (RACs): (i) increase their visibility and encourage participation by a wider range of stakeholders; (ii) improve their access to scientific evidence and data and liaison with STECF; (iii) involve them as early as possible in the consultation process; (iv) provide benchmarks to allow an assessment of the consistency of their advice with CFP objectives and to debrief them on the use made of it;
- fully accept and respect the advisory role of the RACs and to propose, in view of the CFP reform, their increasing involvement in management responsibilities.

The Parliament believes that RACS are currently under-financed for the level of work that they are undertaking. While noting that the Commission has issued guidelines concerning financial management, the Parliament believes that further dialogue is necessary in this regard and that alternatives to the current system should be explored.

MEPs believe that wider participation in RACs requires a review of their composition but that the current balance between the fishing industry and other organisations should not be disturbed. They call for:

- closer links between the RACs and Parliament, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee;
- technical and political decisions to be separated: political decisions should be subject to a regional approach and technical decisions to a scientific approach;
- any future legislation on RACs to afford members of the European Parliament formal status as active observers at their meetings.

Lastly, the Parliament calls on its Committee on Fisheries to appoint member(s) of the committee as a liaison for each RAC and to ensure that at regular intervals RACs are invited to participate in the committee's work in order to present their advice or recommendations.