Basic information

2008/2014(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Fisheries and aquaculture in the context of integrated coastal zone management in Europe **Subject** 3.15.02 Aquaculture 3.15.04 Management of fisheries, fisheries, fishing grounds 3.70.05 Marine and coastal pollution, pollution from ships, oil pollution	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	GKLAVAKIS Ioannis (PPE-DE)	11/09/2007

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	BORG Joe

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
17/01/2008	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/06/2008	Vote in committee		Summary
02/07/2008	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0286/2008	
02/09/2008	Decision by Parliament	T6-0382/2008	Summary
02/09/2008	Results of vote in Parliament		
02/09/2008	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2008/2014(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/6/56739

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE402.872	09/04/2008	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE406.157	21/05/2008	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0286/2008	02/07/2008	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0382/2008	02/09/2008	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2007)0308	07/06/2007	Summary

Fisheries and aquaculture in the context of integrated coastal zone management in Europe

2008/2014(INI) - 07/06/2007

This Communication constitutes the Commission's report further to the Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council of 30 May 2002, on the implementation of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) strategy in Europe. The main sources used for this report are:

- an external evaluation report, primarily assessing the coastal Member States' implementation of the EU ICZM Recommendation;
- a report by the European Environment Agency with an integrated spatial assessment of Europe's coastal zones;
- a report from the Working Group on Indicators and Data examining the use of indicators in the national reports, further to the EU ICZM Recommendation.

The EU ICZM Recommendation invited coastal Member States to report to the Commission on the progress made in implementing the Recommendation and, in particular, in relation to the development of a national strategy to promote ICZM. Of the 20 coastal EU Member States, 14 submitted official reports to the Commission, which represents 65% of coastal EU Member States and over 70% of the European coastline.

The reports often cover very different situations: (i) newly developed national strategies; (ii) a new phase in a longer on-going national process of implementing ICZM; (iii) the results of stocktaking exercises; (iv) initial proposals for a coastal strategy. Research indicates that all coastal EU Member States regulate coastal use and development in some form. Steps were taken during 2000-2005 towards a more integrated planning and management approach, but a mature and well-functioning ICZM involving all relevant levels of governance is still rarely observed.

The evaluation of the EU ICZM Recommendation has shown that the EU ICZM Recommendation has had a positive impact in stimulating progress towards a more integrated planning and management of coastal zones in Europe. Based on the conclusions outlined in the available reports, the Commission considers that continued efforts to support ICZM are needed at EU level:

- Coastal Member States are encouraged to implement their national ICZM strategies, or to develop ones where the EU ICZM Recommendation has not yet been implemented, with the aim of ensuring a balanced environmental, social, economic and cultural development, and in partnership with the relevant stakeholders;
- To achieve a more coherent understanding and implementation of ICZM across Member States, guidance needs to be developed to clarify the principles underlying sound coastal zone planning and management and ways to operationalise them;
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The proposed Marine Strategy Directive and the related work of regional seas conventions are key for the development of a holistic approach to the sustainable development of the EU oceans and seas. It is, therefore, essential to develop ICZM strategies in close co-ordination and co-operation with these instruments. By doing so, ICZM will become an important component of the future Maritime Policy of the European Union;

- More emphasis needs to be placed on cooperation at regional sea level, including coherence between plans, programmes and management covering the terrestrial and the sea parts of the coastal zones. The proposed Marine Strategy Directive and the related work of regional seas conventions will provide important instruments to take this forward;
- Given the high vulnerability of coastal zones to risks and possible impacts related to climate change, strategies to adapt to these risks should be developed and implemented in full coherence with ICZM strategies and instruments dealing with specific natural or technological hazards;
- More efforts are needed for comparative analyses and the communication and promotion of good practices regarding ICZM, including between coastal regions. The gathering of relevant data and effective information sharing and -use in policy and decision-making also needs to be furthered.

The integrated approach to policy-making of the future EU Maritime Policy and its environmental pillar, the EU Marine Strategy, allows us to take important steps towards implementing the above agenda.

Lastly, as regards direct support for the further implementation of ICZM and, as of 2007, the European Cohesion Policy will be a major contributor, mainly through the Cooperation objective and the Regions for Economic Change Initiative, which includes coastal management among its themes. Moreover, the European Fisheries Fund includes an axis dedicated to the integrated and sustainable development of fisheries dependant areas. The EU-supported coordination action ENCORA, launched in 2006, will aim to structure the fragmented approach to coastal zone research and education in Europe.

In this context, the current EU ICZM Recommendation remains valid to support the implementation of the national strategies and to promote ICZM along Europe's coast.

Fisheries and aquaculture in the context of integrated coastal zone management in Europe

2008/2014(INI) - 02/09/2008 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 652 votes to 14, with 25 abstentions, a resolution on Fisheries and Aquaculture in the context of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe in response to the Commission’s communication on the same issue.

The own initiative report had been tabled for consideration in plenary by Ioannis **GKLAVAKIS** (EPP-ED, EL) on behalf of the Committee on Fisheries.

The resolution underlines the **economic and social importance** of fishing and aquaculture for coastal regions and calls for them to receive assistance within the framework of ICZM. The Commission is invited to stimulate the process aimed at ensuring that the fisheries and aquaculture sectors are involved and well represented in transnational maritime clusters.

MEPs consider that the **European Fisheries Fund** can contribute to the long-term funding of measures within the framework of ICZM since it supports actions which contribute to the sustainable development of fishing regions. They consider it necessary to clarify the competences of the administrative bodies of the coastal zones concerned and establish coordinated strategies so that they can be more effective. The Commission is invited, in monitoring implementation of ICZM, to re-examine, after consultation with Member States, whether or not a coordinating body needs to be set up.

The resolution stresses the need for **representatives of the fishing and aquaculture sectors to be involved** in activities linked to the planning and development of ICZM. It also calls on the Commission and the Member States to cooperate in order to promote and incorporate the principle of equal opportunities at the various stages of the implementation of the European Fisheries Fund. Furthermore, MEPs call for closer cooperation between competent bodies at regional level through exchanges of information relating to the state of coastal zones and the adoption of joint strategies to improve the environmental situation of local marine ecosystems.

MEPs consider that the fisheries and aquaculture sectors must both be included in a **transversal approach** to all maritime activities taking place in coastal zones, in order to achieve sustainable development. They propose that aquaculture projects which use renewable energy sources and which do not infringe areas protected under EU environmental law should be given priority under ICZM. They also consider that greater research efforts should be made in aquaculture with a view to introducing cultivation systems based on closed-circuit intensive production.

The Commission is invited, after consulting Member States, to set a clear **timetable** for examining progress in the implementation of ICZM in the European Union.