Basic information

2013/0097(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone **Subject** 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources 3.15.15 Fisheries agreements and cooperation 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity 6.20.02 Export/import control, trade defence, trade barriers	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	ROMEVA I RUEDA Raül (Verts/ALE)	06/05/2013
	Shadow rapporteur FRAGA ESTÉVEZ Carmen (PPE) ARSENIS Kriton (S&D)	

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

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	3295	2014-02-20

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	DAMANAKI Maria

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2013)0185	Summary

08/04/2013	Legislative proposal published		
16/04/2013	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
17/12/2013	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
20/12/2013	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A7-0475/2013	Summary
05/02/2014	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T7-0073/2014	Summary
05/02/2014	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/02/2014	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
26/02/2014	Final act signed		
26/02/2014	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/03/2014	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2013/0097(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/7/12381

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE514.923	17/10/2013	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE522.996	11/11/2013	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A7-0475/2013	20/12/2013	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T7-0073/2014	05/02/2014	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Draft final act	00016/2014/LEX	26/02/2014	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary

Legislative proposal	COM(2013)0185	08/04/2013	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2014)446	20/05/2014	

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Regulation 2014/0249 OJ L 084 20.03.2014, p. 0004	Summary

Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 08/04/2013 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: the repeal of Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1036/2001.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: the European Union has been a Contracting Party to the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (the ICCAT Convention) since 14 November 1997, following the adoption of Council Decision 86/238/EEC. The ICCAT Convention provides a **framework for regional cooperation in the conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species** in the Atlantic Ocean and its adjacent seas through the establishment of an International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the adoption by the latter of conservation and management measures which become binding on the contracting parties. In 1998, ICCAT adopted resolution 98-18 concerning the **unreported and unregulated catches of tuna** by large-scale longline vessels in the Convention area. That resolution established procedures for the identification of countries whose vessels had fished for tuna and tuna-like species in a manner which diminished the effectiveness of ICCAT conservation and management measures. It also specified measures to be taken, including if necessary **non-discriminatory trade restrictive measures**, in order to prevent those countries' vessels from continuing such fishing practices.

Following the adoption of resolution 98-18, ICCAT identified Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone as countries whose vessels fish Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in a manner which diminishes the effectiveness of its conservation and management measures, substantiating its findings with data concerning catches, trade and the activities of vessels. As a consequence, ICCAT recommended that Contracting Parties take appropriate measures, consistent with provisions of the 1998 Resolution, to the effect that **the import of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products in any form from the above mentioned countries be prohibited**. As a consequence, imports to the Union of Atlantic bigeye tuna originating from these countries were prohibited by Regulation (EC) No 827/2004. In 2004, ICCAT acknowledged the efforts made by Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone to address its concerns and adopted recommendations for the lifting of trade-restrictive measures against those three countries. As a consequence, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 was amended by Regulation (EC) No 919/2005, so that it continued prohibiting such imports only from Bolivia and Georgia.

At its 22nd regular annual meeting, ICCAT acknowledged the efforts made and actions taken by Bolivia and Georgia and adopted recommendation 11-19 lifting the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products which had been imposed on those two countries. Regulation (EC) No 827 /2004, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 919/2005 should therefore be repealed.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact assessment was undertaken.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 207(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

CONTENT: the lifting of the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products that were imposed on Bolivia and Georgia has been adopted by ICCAT, international body to which the European Union is a Contracting Party. In order to uphold its international commitments, the European Union should enact such decision into Union law and therefore repeal Regulation (EC) No 827/2004.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATION: there are no implications for the European Union's budget.

Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 20/12/2013 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Fisheries adopted the report by Raül ROMEVA i RUEDA (Greens/EFA, ES) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) N°827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) N°1036/2001.

The committee recommended that the Parliament's position adopted in first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the Commission proposal. The proposed key amendment sought to clarify that following the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) 14th Special Meeting in 2004, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 has been amended by Regulation (EC) No 919/2005, so that it continues prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products only from Bolivia and Georgia, whereas imports from Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone should be permitted again.

Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 05/02/2014 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 597 votes to 5, with 11 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1036/2001.

Parliament adopted its position at first reading following the ordinary legislative procedure. The amendments adopted in plenary are the result of an agreement reached between the European Parliament and the Council.

It is stated in a recital that at its 14th special meeting in 2004 the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Council Regulation (EC) No 919/2005 amended Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 to lift the prohibition on imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products from Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone into the Union. Following that amendment, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 only prohibits such imports from Bolivia and Georgia.

At its 22nd regular annual meeting in 2011, ICCAT acknowledged the actions taken by Bolivia and Georgia and adopted recommendation 11-19 lifting the prohibition on imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products that continued to apply to those two countries.

Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 should therefore be repealed.

Imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone

2013/0097(COD) - 26/02/2014 - Final act

PURPOSE: lifting restrictions on tuna imports from Bolivia and Georgia.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) No 249/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1036/2001.

CONTENT: the Regulation **repeals Regulation (EC) No 827/2004** which prohibits imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna originating in Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone into the Union.

In 1998, the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) adopted a resolution that identified Bolivia, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia and Sierra Leone as countries whose vessels fish Atlantic bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in a manner that diminishes the effectiveness of its conservation and management measures. That resolution led to the adoption of Council Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 prohibiting imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna from these countries.

In 2005, the Council amended Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 to lift the prohibition on imports of Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products **from Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea and Sierra Leone** into the Union after ICCAT acknowledged the efforts made by these three countries to address its concerns.

In 2011, ICCAT also acknowledged the efforts made and actions taken by **Bolivia and Georgia** and adopted a recommendation lifting the import prohibitions on Atlantic bigeye tuna and its products which had been imposed on those two countries.

Accordingly, Regulation (EC) No 827/2004 is repealed.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 27/03/2014.