Basic information

2022/0014(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EU/Mauritius Fisheries Partnership Agreement: fishing opportunities and financial contribution 2017-2021. Extension of the Protocol See also Decision 2018/754 2017/0223(NLE) **Subject** 3.15.15.03 Fisheries agreements with Indian Ocean countries **Geographical area** Mauritius	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	BILBAO BARANDICA Izaskun (Renew)	28/04/2022
	Shadow rapporteur SCHREIJER-PIERIK Annie (EPP) PIZARRO Manuel (S&D) D'AMATO Rosa (Greens /EFA) STANCANELLI Raffaele (ECR)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	GHEORGHE Vlad (Renew)	03/02/2022

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	SINKEVIČIUS Virginijus

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
25/01/2022	Preparatory document	COM(2022)0023	Summary
08/04/2022	Legislative proposal published	05657/2022	Summary
05/05/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/07/2022	Vote in committee		
19/07/2022	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0211/2022	
13/09/2022	Decision by Parliament	T9-0305/2022	Summary
13/09/2022	Results of vote in Parliament		
29/09/2022	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
04/10/2022	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2022/0014(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	See also Decision 2018/754 2017/0223(NLE)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 043-p2 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/9/08232

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE732.580	19/05/2022	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE731.799	30/06/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0211/2022	19/07/2022	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0305/2022	13/09/2022	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	05657/2022	08/04/2022	Summary

European Commission			
Document type	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Document attached to the procedure	COM(2022)0022	25/01/2022	
Preparatory document	COM(2022)0023	25/01/2022	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Decision 2022/1846 OJ L 256 04.10.2022, p. 0003

EU/Mauritius Fisheries Partnership Agreement: fishing opportunities and financial contribution 2017-2021. Extension of the Protocol

2022/0014(NLE) - 25/01/2022 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius on an extension of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: on 28 September 2021, the Council adopted a decision authorising the European Commission to open negotiations for a new protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and, if necessary, in order to avoid interruption of fishing activities, for a limited extension of the current 2017-2021 protocol to the Agreement, which expired on 7 December 2021.

The 2017-2021 Protocol allowed the EU fleet to fish for tuna and tuna-like species in Mauritian waters, up to an indicative level of annual fishing possibilities set at 4000 tonnes.

The two parties have agreed on an extension of the 2017-2021 Protocol for a maximum period of six months. This extension was established by an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters, initialled on 6 December 2021.

CONTENT: the purpose of the proposal for a decision is to authorise the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters **extending for a maximum period of six months the 2017-2021 Protocol** setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius.

Objectives

The aim of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters is to:

- continue granting fishing opportunities to European Union vessels in Mauritius waters in accordance with scientific advice and the recommendations of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), within the limits of the available surplus;

- continue strengthening cooperation between the European Union and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius, thereby creating a partnership framework within which to develop a sustainable fisheries policy and sound exploitation of fishery resources in the fishing zone of the Republic of Mauritius, in the interests of both parties.

The Agreement forms part of the EU's external action in relation to ACP countries and takes into account, in particular, EU objectives on respecting democratic principles and human rights.

Fishing opportunities and financial contribution

The Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters provides for indicative fishing opportunities of **2 000 tonnes** and a corresponding adjustment of the EU financial contribution for access.

The EU's financial contribution for six months is **EUR 287 500**, based on:

(a) an amount for access to fishery resources for the categories provided for in the Protocol, set at EUR 110 000 for the duration of the extension of the Protocol;

(b) support for the development of the Republic of Mauritius's sectoral fisheries policy amounting to EUR 110 000 for the duration of the extension of the Protocol. This support meets the objectives of the Republic of Mauritius's national policy on the sustainable management of their maritime fishery resources for the entire duration of the extension of the Protocol;

(c) support for the development of maritime policy and ocean economy amounting to EUR 67 500.

EU/Mauritius Fisheries Partnership Agreement: fishing opportunities and financial contribution 2017-2021. Extension of the Protocol

2022/0014(NLE) - 13/09/2022 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 555 votes to 25, with 40 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius on an extension of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius.

The Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) signed by the European Union and Mauritius on 21 December 2013 entered into force on 28 January 2014, for a period of 6 years, tacitly renewable for additional periods of 3 years. The last fisheries Protocol covered the period until 7 December 2021.

On 28 September 2021, the Council adopted a decision authorising the European Commission to open negotiations for a new Protocol to the FPA EU-Mauritius with the option of a limited prolongation of the current Protocol to avoid interruption of the fishing activities. When tourism collapsed, the country's economy relied on the activities of the tuna vessels, which continued to maintain their fishing and supply the local canneries despite the global crisis.

Furthermore, due to the restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic and the complex nature of the negotiations, both parties agreed to **extend the Protocol 2017-2021 for a maximum period of six months**, in line with the said Council decision. The extension was established by way of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters, which was initialled on 6 December 2021.

The Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters provides for indicative fishing opportunities of 2 000 tonnes and a corresponding adjustment of the EU financial contribution for access. The EU's financial contribution for six months is EUR 287 500.

The European Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the Agreement which aims to extend the current Protocol by six months under the same terms and conditions (*pro rata temporis*).

EU/Mauritius Fisheries Partnership Agreement: fishing opportunities and financial contribution 2017-2021. Extension of the Protocol

2022/0014(NLE) - 08/04/2022 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius on the extension of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius on the extension of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius, signed subject to its conclusion at a later date, must now be approved.

CONTENT: the draft Council Decision concerns the approval on behalf of the Union of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius on the extension of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Mauritius

The objectives of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters are to enable the Union and the Republic of Mauritius to continue to work together to promote a sustainable fisheries policy and responsible exploitation of fisheries resources in the waters of Mauritius and to allow Union vessels to engage in fishing activities in those waters.

The Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters provides for indicative fishing opportunities of 2 000 tonnes and a corresponding adjustment of the EU financial contribution for access. The EU’s financial contribution for six months is EUR 287 500.