Basic information

2023/0147(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EC/Kiribati Fisheries Partnership Agreement (2023-2028). Implementation Protocol See also 2007/0062(CNS) See also 2012/0229(NLE) **Subject** 3.15.15.06 Fisheries agreements with Pacific countries **Geographical area** Kiribati	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
PECH Fisheries	PIMENTA LOPES João (The Left)	05/06/2023
	Shadow rapporteur SCHREIJER-PIERIK Annie (EPP) AGUILERA Clara (S&D) BILBAO BARANDICA Izaskun (Renew) KELLER Ska (Greens/EFA) RAFALSKA Elżbieta (ECR)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
DEVE Development	KEMPA Beata (ECR)	18/07/2023
BUDG Budgets	HERBST Niclas (EPP)	24/10/2023

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	SINKEVIČIUS Virginijus

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/05/2023	Preparatory document	COM(2023)0251	Summary
05/10/2023	Legislative proposal published	09862/2023	Summary
19/10/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/11/2023	Vote in committee		
30/11/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0380/2023	
12/12/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0452/2023	Summary
12/12/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
16/01/2024	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
24/01/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2023/0147(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	See also 2007/0062(CNS) See also 2012/0229(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/9/12058

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE752.754	21/09/2023	
Committee draft report		PE753.774	04/10/2023	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE755.002	16/11/2023	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0380/2023	30/11/2023	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0452/2023	12/12/2023	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	09862/2023	05/10/2023	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2023)0251	16/05/2023	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(2023)0253	16/05/2023	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2024/0396
OJ L 000 24.01.2024, p. 0000

EC/Kiribati Fisheries Partnership Agreement (2023-2028). Implementation Protocol

2023/0147(NLE) - 05/10/2023 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the Union, the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Kiribati, of the other part (2023-2028).

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 Protocol implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Kiribati, of the other part (2023-2028) has been signed. The Protocol should now be approved.

CONTENT: the draft Council Decision seeks to approve, on behalf of the Union, the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other (2023-2028).

The objective of the Protocol is to implement the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other so as to grant fishing opportunities to Union vessels in the fishing areas within Kiribati waters and to enable the Union and Kiribati to work more closely on promoting cooperation in the field of sustainable development of the oceans, in fishery policy and the blue economy, while contributing to decent working conditions in the fisheries sector.

The Protocol provides for fishing opportunities for Union vessels in the fishing areas within Kiribati waters, on the basis of the best available scientific advice and following the conservation and management measures adopted by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

The Joint Committee may approve certain amendments to the Protocol. To facilitate the approval of such amendments, the Commission should be empowered, subject to specific substantive and procedural conditions, to approve them on behalf of the Union under a simplified procedure.

The Union’s position on amendments that are proposed to the Protocol should be established by the Council. The proposed amendments should be approved unless a blocking minority objects to them.

This Decision should enter into force as soon as possible in view of the economic importance of Union fishing activities in Kiribati waters and the need to reduce as much as possible the time period before such activities can resume.

EC/Kiribati Fisheries Partnership Agreement (2023-2028). Implementation Protocol

2023/0147(NLE) - 12/12/2023 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 536 votes to 36, with 40 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other.

Parliament gave its **consent** to the conclusion of the protocol.

The Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other, was signed on 28 April 2008, and entered into force on 30 April 2008 for a duration of six years. The first Protocol on the implementation of the FPA expired on 15 September 2012. The second Protocol expired on 15 September 2015.

On 26 January 2015, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations for a new Protocol between the European Union and the Republic of Kiribati. Negotiations started in 2015 but were interrupted by the IUU yellow-carding process and the pandemic.

Following those negotiations, the new Protocol was signed by the negotiators on 18 December 2022. The new Protocol is in force for a period of five years from the date of its provisional application, i.e. the date of signature by both parties.

The aim of the new Protocol is to grant fishing opportunities to EU Member State vessels in the fishing areas within Kiribati waters in accordance with scientific advice and the recommendations of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

The new Protocol allows EU Member State vessels to fish tuna species in Kiribati waters and offers fishing opportunities to four tuna purse seiners, with access to Kiribati waters for 160 days per year. Additional days per year can be made available to EU Member State vessels on request.

The annual financial contribution from the Union is EUR 760 000, distributed as follows:

- an annual amount fixed at EUR 360 000 for the duration of the new Protocol to access fishery resources for the categories provided for in the Protocol;

- support for the development of Kiribati’s sectoral fisheries policy for an annual amount of EUR 400 000 for the duration of the new Protocol.

The Commission will be empowered to approve, on behalf of the EU, amendments to the Protocol adopted by the Joint Committee established by the Partnership Agreement.

EC/Kiribati Fisheries Partnership Agreement (2023-2028). Implementation Protocol

2023/0147(NLE) - 16/05/2023 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the Union, the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Kiribati, of the other part (2023-2028).

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 Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other, was signed on 28 April 2008 and entered into force on 30 April 2008 for a period of six years. The first Protocol implementing the FPA expired on 15 September 2012. The second such Protocol expired on 15 September 2015.

On 26 January 2015, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations for a new Protocol to the FPA between the European Union and the Republic of Kiribati. Following these negotiations, the new Protocol was initialled by the negotiators on 18 December 2022. The new protocol covers a period of five years from its date of provisional application, i.e. the date of signature by both parties.

The negotiation of the new Protocol implementing the FPA forms part of the EU's external action towards the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, and takes particular account of the EU's objectives regarding respect for democratic principles and human rights.

CONTENT: the purpose of the proposal is to seek the Council's authorisation for the conclusion of the new Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, of the one part, and the Republic of Kiribati, of the other part (2023-2028).

The objective of the Protocol is to implement the Fisheries Partnership Agreement so as to grant fishing opportunities to Union vessels in the fishing areas within Kiribati waters and to enable the Union and Kiribati to work more closely on promoting cooperation in the field of sustainable development of the oceans, fishery policy, while contributing to decent working conditions in the fisheries sector.

Fishing opportunities

The aim of the new Protocol is to grant fishing opportunities to EU vessels in the Kiribati fishing zones, in accordance with scientific advice and the recommendations of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

The new Protocol allows Union vessels to fish in Kiribati waters for tuna species and provides for the following fishing opportunities:

- 4 tuna purse seine vessels, with an access to Kiribati waters for 160 days per year;

- possible additional days per year can be made available to Union vessels, upon request.

Financial contribution

The annual financial contribution from the Union is EUR 760 000, based on:

- an annual amount for access to fishery resources for the categories provided for in the Protocol, set at EUR 360 000 for the duration of the new Protocol;

- support for the development of Kiribati's sectoral fisheries policy amounting to EUR 400 000 per year, for the duration of the new Protocol.

This support meets the objectives of Kiribati's policy on the sustainable management of their maritime fishery resources for the entire duration of the new Protocol.

The Commission will be empowered to approve, on behalf of the Union, amendments to the Protocol adopted by the Joint Committee set up by the Partnership Agreement.