



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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PECHE 233

ADDENDUM TO "I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
No. Cion prop.: 14236/07 PECHE 305 - COM(2007) 602 final
Subject: Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
– Adoption (LA + S)

STATEMENTS TO BE ENTERED INTO THE COUNCIL MINUTES

1. Commission Statement – Fishery products

The Commission undertakes to review annually, on the basis of information obtained during the implementation of the Regulation, the list of fishery products contained in Annex I of the Regulation. The revision of the Annex will seek to exclude from the scope of the Regulation fishery products with the following characteristics: minimal trade with the Community or low sensitivity to non compliance with conservation and management measures and absence of risk of their use for circumvention practices.

2. **Commission Statement – Guidelines for the implementation of the catch certification scheme**

In relation to Chapter III of this Regulation, the Commission undertakes to provide guidelines on the catch certification schemes within the deadline foreseen for its implementation in Article 57.

These guidelines shall be intended for use by the authorities and stakeholders in third countries and in Member States. The Commission undertakes to ensure a wide access to the guidelines for the public and all interested parties, including by their publication on its website.

3. **Commission Statement - EEA**

The Commission undertakes that no provisions of this Regulation prejudice established relations with third countries which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA).

The Commission undertakes to continue its close relations and cooperate administratively with the aforementioned countries and to strengthen the already preferential relationship between Member States of the EEA and of the European Union.

4. **Commission Statement – Use of electronic means**

In relation to Chapter III and related parts of this Regulation, the Commission undertakes to encourage the use of electronic means to ensure a smooth functioning of their implementation.

For this purpose, the Commission shall propose to third countries, in the framework of the cooperation set up in Article 20(4), that, where appropriate, the implementation of the catch certification scheme and the exchanges of information under the terms of this Regulation be supported by adequate electronic means.

5. **Commission Statement – Possible integration in existing electronic systems**

In relation to Chapter III and other relevant parts of this Regulation, the Commission undertakes to examine and support, in cooperation with the Member States, the ways for a possible integrated use of existing electronic systems to ensure their smooth functioning, in synergy with the implementation of other regulations applicable at the importation and the exportation of fishery products.

6. Commission Statement – Article 20(4) IUU Regulation

In relation to Article 20(4) of this Regulation, the Commission undertakes to cooperate administratively with and/or support third countries in the implementation of this Regulation.

In order for the Commission to prepare and assist third countries to comply efficiently with the Regulation, the entry into force of the Regulation will take place on 1 January 2010. The Commission shall complete the information already communicated to third countries on the Proposal and its possible implications, as soon as possible following the adoption of the Regulation.

The work in progress on the programme of action towards third countries shall also be finalised shortly after the adoption of the Regulation. It shall include appropriate actions at regional and bilateral level to ensure a smooth functioning and support in the implementation of the Regulation.

The Commission will pay special attention to the needs of and situation in developing countries in particular as regards their capacity to fulfil obligations arising from this Regulation.

7. Commission Statement – Financial contribution to the implementation of the Regulation

In the framework of the Council Regulation n° 861/2006, Article 8 a) and of the Commission Regulation n° 391/2007, the Commission undertakes to provide financial contribution to the Member States to support expenditures related to new control technologies used by their authorities to develop new means for checking, inspection and verification activities.

These measures will have to be included in the Member States annual fisheries control programmes which are to be sent to the Commission by 31 January of each year.