Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

A major reform of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) is being negotiated, marking the first time the European Parliament acts as a co-legislator with the Council on the reform of the CFP. Policy Department B has provided a wide range of original studies intended to support informed decision on the legislative package, by addressing key issues of the reform discussions. FOCUS ON outlines the most relevant of these publications.

### Fishing overcapacity and the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

This study analyses the definition of the fishing capacity used in the CFP taking stock of possible means to improve its estimation. The study also describes overcapacity measures during the past reforms of the CFP, and attempts to identify fisheries affected by fishing overcapacity. It outlines possible principles for fishing capacity management in the context of the CFP reform.

### What kind of management for Mediterranean fisheries?

This note analyses the management tools for fishery management in the Mediterranean proposed by the amendment of the Parliament and their pro's and con's. Management tools currently available are discussed to learn lessons and consider possible drawbacks. Conclusions show that future policies should consider specific strategies for each fishing area and gear, by drawing specific management plans depending on whether resources are shared or not shared.

### Fisheries cooperation in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Cooperation in semi-enclosed seas is a mandate for States that are party to UNCLOS. There is a long tradition of regional cooperation in these waters with what can be considered to be pioneering instruments. At the same time, the complex political, social and economic circumstances are one of the difficulties for reaching a consensus in regional governance. This document investigates the issues that have a bearing on regional cooperation and the possibility of using bilateralism-based mechanisms.

### Establishment of Fish Stock Recovery Areas

This report examines a proposal to establish a network of 'fish stock recovery areas' to cover 10-20% of territorial seas of EU Member States. Such protected areas in Europe and elsewhere have produced rapid and long-lasting recovery of many commercially important species. They have also benefited surrounding fisheries through spillover and export of offspring from protected stocks. Fish stock recovery areas could make a major contribution to improving the status and productivity of fisheries, as well as safeguarding marine biodiversity.

### The Small-Scale Coastal Fleet in the Reform of the Common Fisheries Policy

This note analyses the definition of 'small-scale coastal fleet' in the CFP reform proposals. It examines the impact on various regions and it explores options for using additional criteria. Finally, it analyses the content of the specific regime proposed for the small-scale coastal fleet.
Right Based Fisheries Management in Iceland and Economic and Financial Crisis

An overview is given over the introduction and the development of the ITQ system in Iceland. It is shown how the economic and financial crisis affects the balance sheet of fishing firms. The gain in terms of increased pure profit (resource rent) in the fisheries post-crisis is also documented. Local communities are affected by redistribution of quotas, some of the initial effect is mitigated through inflation or deflation of real estate prices in these communities.

Perspectives for the new European Fisheries Fund

This report presents an independent evaluation of the EFF to highlight the challenges faced by Member States and the sector in implementing the regulation during the current programming period. Proposals for a future EEF are developed and a series of options are evaluated.

Characteristics of Small-Scale Coastal Fisheries in Europe

The study analyses the structure and economic performance of small-scale coastal fisheries (SSF) in Europe. Eighteen main clusters within SSF are identified and their distribution by NUTS-2 region is presented. The contribution of SSF in terms of income and employment to the economies of the NUTS-2 regions is also assessed. Some potential policy implications of the study’s findings are considered in light of the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Natura 2000 and the Common Fisheries Policy

This note identifies key issues in the relationship between Natura 2000 and fisheries, describes the Natura 2000 process and its implementation, and different solutions applied to solve management tasks. To date, no Member State has developed fully approved fisheries management plans. Defining principal areas for fisheries, and the development of a consistent management framework of fisheries to incorporate requirements not only from Natura 2000, but also from MSFD and OSPAR/HELCOM strategies, are identified as issues of a future CFP.

Tools for Fishing Fleet Management

This briefing document focuses on the basic principals of fleet capacity and capacity management and examines how fleet capacity is managed in a number of non-EU countries; Australia, New Zealand, Canada, United States of America, Norway and Iceland. It aims at providing a support tool for the Members of the EP’s Committee on Fisheries providing knowledge on instruments for fishing fleet management as used in different non-EU countries in comparison with the EU fishing fleet management scheme.

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