



2015/0152(NLE)

16.2.2016

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community on the one hand, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Rule Government of Greenland, on the other hand
(11634/2015 – C8-0377/2015 – 2015/0152(NLE))

Rapporteur: Tomáš Zdechovský

PA_Leg_Consent

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

On the basis of a mandate granted to it by the Council, the European Commission on behalf of the Union negotiated with the Government of Denmark and Government of Greenland in view of renewing the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and these two territorial entities. The current Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for by the Partnership Agreement expires on 31 December 2015. Following these negotiations, a new Protocol was initialled on 20 March 2015.

The new Protocol is in line with the objectives of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement, strengthens the cooperation between the Union and Greenland and promotes a partnership framework in which to develop a sustainable fisheries policy and responsible exploitation of fishery resources in the Greenlandic fishing zone in the interest of both Parties.

The Fishing Protocol would cover a period of five years from the date of provisional application – i.e. from the date of its signature and from 1 January 2016 at the earliest. The Protocol grants fishing opportunities to Union vessels in the fishing zone of Greenland, in line with relevant conservation and management measures and within the limits of the available surplus. To this effect, the protocol sets an indicative annual level of fishing opportunities granted by Greenland (in tonnes) to Union vessels.

The Protocol provides for a total annual financial contribution of EUR **17.799.978** per year for its duration. This amount corresponds to:

- EUR 13.168.978 per year for the access to the Greenlandic fishing zone;
- EUR 2.931.000 per year, corresponding to the additional envelope paid by the EU in support of Greenland's fisheries policy and
- EUR 1.700.000 as an annual reserve for additional and new fishing opportunities that may be accepted by the EU subject to scientific advice and surplus resources.

The two Parties have agreed to cooperate to implement Greenlandic sectorial fisheries policy and to that end shall continue the policy dialogue on the relevant programming. The specific provisions are made for the setting of principles for responsible fisheries management. Provision is also made for an experimental fisheries programme for species not included in the protocol, as well as scientific cooperation on sustainable fishery exploitation.

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to recommend that Parliament give its consent to the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community on the one hand, and the Government of Denmark and the Home Rule Government of Greenland, on the other hand.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	15.2.2016
Result of final vote	+ : 21 - : 1 0 : 2
Members present for the final vote	Jean Arthuis, Reimer Böge, Lefteris Christoforou, Gérard Deprez, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Jens Geier, Monika Hohlmeier, Bernd Kölmel, Vladimír Maňka, Clare Moody, Siegfried Mureşan, Liadh Ní Riada, Paul Rübig, Patricija Šulin, Eleftherios Synadinos, Indrek Tarand, Isabelle Thomas, Marco Zanni
Substitutes present for the final vote	Stanisław Ożóg, Andrej Plenković, Pavel Poc, Marco Valli, Tomáš Zdechovský
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Jarosław Wałęsa