



2015/2074(BUD)

18.6.2015

OPINION

of the Committee on Fisheries

for the Committee on Budgets

on the mandate for the trilogue on the 2016 draft budget
(2015/2074(BUD))

Rapporteur: Alain Cadec

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Fisheries calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that the multiannual financial framework (MFF) for the years 2014-2020 provides limited fiscal space for heading 2 and, in particular, the financing of the common fisheries policy (CFP) and the integrated maritime policy (IMP);
2. Points out that the ambitious objectives of the CFP can only be met if there is a sufficient budget; stresses that that budget is concentrated in Section III and Title 11, 'Maritime Affairs and Fisheries'; points out that the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) (11 06) and the compulsory contributions to regional fisheries management organisations and sustainable fisheries agreements (11 03) take up most of the budget;
3. Points out that the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) plays a fundamental role in coordinating and implementing the CFP, that EFCA can only perform that role if provided with sufficient technical, economic and financial resources and that this should be reflected in its budget;
4. Stresses the importance of the social and economic dimension of fishing and of the maritime economy for local communities and some maritime and coastal regions; expresses its concern that jobs are being lost in these sectors and that there is no scope for conversion; calls for the Youth Employment Initiative to be used to promote employment in this industry;
5. Stresses that fisheries resources require a specialised management approach to protect and recover fish stocks and marine ecosystems, prevent loss of biodiversity, which would have unwanted repercussions for future generations and on this sector of the economy itself; believes that the European Fund for Strategic Investments can play a key role in this respect;
6. Stresses the fundamental importance of funding for the collection of data, which are key to enabling rational decisions to be taken on fisheries policy issues;
7. Emphasises that the reformed CFP provides an ambitious legal framework to meet the challenges of responsible fishing which should be supported as regards both its regulatory and budgetary aspects;
8. Is concerned at the Member States' ability to mobilise the EMFF in full and meet the Europe 2020 and 'blue growth' objectives; notes that some countries have been delayed in validating their operational programmes, and that some of these programmes had not been validated by the end of the first quarter of 2015;
9. Calls on the Commission to ring-fence funding for the development of the blue economy;
10. Calls on the Member States to launch their programmes quickly with a view to making them fully operational by 2016; takes the view that under the 2016 budget, the use of appropriations under shared management should then be significantly faster; calls

therefore for an appropriate and sufficient level of EMFF and commitment and payment appropriations;

11. Recalls the difficulties encountered in previous financial years when appropriations were reduced; is of the view that any attempt to reduce appropriations under Title 11, in particular the EMFF, would be pointless and risky as such a move would undermine the objectives of the CFP, threaten the sustainability of what is a vulnerable sector and considerably weaken efforts to protect and restore marine habitats;
12. Points out that the new CFP was only implemented a few years ago, with all this entails in terms of the paradigm shift in fisheries management both for the Member States and for fishermen, as in the case of the landing obligation; points out that adapting to these fresh changes calls for additional effort by the EU in terms of communication, training and economic investment, so as to ensure their dissemination and correct assimilation;
13. Draws attention to the impact that sustainable fisheries agreements have on the budget and to the need to take into account Parliament's prerogatives so that an overall balance is maintained between the objectives of those agreements and their impact on the budget;
14. Will continue to keep a watchful eye on IMP financing and the development of synergies between fisheries and other maritime activities.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	17.6.2015
Result of final vote	+ : 20 - : 1 0 : 0
Members present for the final vote	Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Renata Briano, Alain Cadec, Richard Corbett, Diane Dodds, Linnéa Engström, João Ferreira, Raymond Finch, Ian Hudghton, Carlos Iturgaiz, Werner Kuhn, António Marinho e Pinto, Gabriel Mato, Norica Nicolai, Ulrike Rodust, Remo Sernagiotto, Ricardo Serrão Santos, Isabelle Thomas, Peter van Dalen, Jarosław Wałęsa
Substitutes present for the final vote	Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, José Blanco López, Marek Józef Gróbarczyk, Verónica Lope Fontagné, Francisco José Millán Mon
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Tim Aker