

Recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean *

European Parliament legislative resolution of 15 November 2007 on the proposal for a Council regulation establishing a multi-annual recovery plan for bluefin tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean (COM(2007)0169 – C6-0110/2007 – 2007/0058(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM(2007)0169),
- having regard to Article 37 of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Council consulted Parliament (C6-0110/2007),
- having regard to Rule 51 of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Fisheries (A6-0408/2007),
- 1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
- 2. Calls on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty;
- 3. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament if it intends to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
- 4. Asks the Council to consult Parliament again if it intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
- 5. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendments by Parliament

Amendment 1
Article 3 a (new)

Article 3a

At least one month before the list of vessels and traps which is referred to in Articles 12 and 13 is sent to the Commission, the Member States shall submit electronically to the Commission a fisheries plan indicating the number of vessels and traps for which fishing licences are to be requested, accompanied by information

concerning the expected fishing effort.

Each Member State shall ensure that the number of vessels and traps included in the fisheries plan is proportionate to the bluefin-tuna quota allocated to it.

Amendment 2

Article 4, paragraph 1

1. Each Member State may allocate its bluefin tuna quota to fishing vessels flying its flag and traps registered by it which are authorised to fish actively for bluefin tuna.

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Amendment 3

Article 4, paragraph 2 a (new)

2a. Each Member State shall take the necessary action to ensure that its fattening and farming capacity is consistent with the bluefin-tuna TACs in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean.

Amendment 4

Article 5, paragraph 1

1. Bluefin tuna fishing by large-scale pelagic longline vessels over 24 m shall be prohibited in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean, ***with the exception of the area delimited by West of 10°W and North of 42° N***, during the period from 1 June to 31 December.

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Amendment 5

Article 5, paragraph 4 a (new)

4a. Financial compensation from the European Fisheries Fund shall be paid to fishermen (both to crews and to shipowners) during the closed season, in accordance with the aims of the recovery plans referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2371/2002.

Amendment 6
Article 7, paragraph 2

2. By derogation from paragraph 1 and *deleted*
without prejudice to Article 10, a
minimum size for bluefin tuna (*Thunnus*
***thynnus*) of 8 kg shall apply for the**
following bluefin tunas:

(a) bluefin tuna caught in the Eastern
Atlantic by bait boats, trolling boats and
pelagic trawlers;

(b) bluefin tuna caught in the Adriatic
Sea for farming purposes.

Amendment 7
Article 12, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1 a (new)

The number of vessels on the list shall
reflect the terms and conditions and the
calculation of the fishing effort referred to
in the fisheries plan provided for in Article
3a.

Amendment 8
Article 13, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1 a (new)

The number of traps on the list shall reflect
the terms and conditions and the
calculation of the fishing effort referred to
in the fisheries plan provided for in Article
3a.

Amendment 9
Article 17, paragraph 5 a (new)

5a. The Commission shall ensure that
bluefin tuna fishery operations are
immediately shut down in those Member
States which do not meet the deadline for
supplying information referred to in
paragraph 5.

Amendment 10
Article 21, paragraph 2 a (new)

2a. On the basis of the catch data provided
by the traps and as an important source of
information for monitoring bluefin tuna,
the Commission in conjunction with the

ICCAT secretariat shall draw up a plan to reactivate traps in the Atlantic and to recover traps which are no longer active in the Mediterranean.

Amendment 11

Article 24, paragraph 4 a (new)

4a. Member States shall cooperate amongst themselves in order to harmonise their laws on implementation measures in respect of vessels flying their flag which are found to be in contravention of the requirements deriving from this Regulation.