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Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

2013/0074(COD)

12.7.2013

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Transport and Tourism

on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council
establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal
management
(COM(2013)0133 – C7-0065/2013 – 2013/0074(COD))

Rapporteur: Mario Pirillo

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SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The development of a ‘blue economy’ in Europe for marine and maritime sustainable growth is an important part of the EU’s goal of becoming a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy by 2020. An integrated and coherent management of maritime space is required in order to secure sustainable growth and preserve coastal and marine ecosystems for future generations, by tackling the pressure on coastal and marine resources caused by their increasing use and by the effects of climate change, natural disasters and erosion.

The main purpose of the Commission proposal is to promote the sustainable growth of maritime and coastal activities and the sustainable use of coastal and marine resources by establishing a framework for the effective implementation of maritime spatial planning in EU waters and integrated coastal management in the coastal areas of Member States. This should cover all policy areas of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) which have an impact on coasts, seas and oceans.

The proposed framework will involve a systematic, coordinated, inclusive and trans-boundary approach to integrated maritime governance, in compliance with the national legislation of the Member States and with international law. The maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies should reflect, integrate and link the objectives defined by national or regional sectoral policies, identify measures to prevent or alleviate conflicts between different sectors and contribute to achieving the Union's objectives in marine and coastal related sectoral policies. The proposal requires Member State action to aim for consistent management across sea basins, through trans-boundary cooperation in the same marine region and relevant coastal zone.

Your rapporteur agrees with and endorses the aims and substance of the Commission proposal and believes that this is a major step towards the establishment of the ‘blue economy’ for the sustainable development of maritime space and EU coastal areas. The amendments proposed are designed to improve certain aspects of the proposal, in particular to clarify and strengthen the goals of sustainable development, safeguarding and protection of the environment and conservation of natural resources.

In order to manage resources properly, it is, for example, important for Member States to take into consideration not only gas and energy extraction (including shale gas), but also the relevant storage. In addition, your rapporteur considers it vital to manage coastal sediment in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner, with a view to balancing out problematic areas that are at greater risk due to climate change, erosion or sea ingression.

Full and effective public participation is needed at an early stage of the development of the plans, also as a tool for avoiding conflict on the use of natural resources. Lastly, it should be specified more clearly that the provisions of the directive must be applied in compliance with existing EU and national law.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Transport and Tourism, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a directive Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management should apply the ecosystem-based approach as referred to in Article 1(3) of Directive 2008/56/EC so as to ensure that the collective pressure of all activities is kept within levels compatible with the achievement of good environmental status and that the capacity of marine ecosystems to respond to human-induced changes is not compromised, while enabling the sustainable use of marine goods and services by present and future generations.

Amendment

(15) Maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management should apply ***a precautionary approach in addition to*** the ecosystem-based approach as referred to in Article 1(3) of Directive 2008/56/EC so as to ensure that the collective pressure of all activities is kept within levels compatible with the achievement of good environmental status ***and with the conservation of natural resources***, and that the capacity of marine ecosystems to respond to human-induced changes is not compromised, while enabling the sustainable use of marine goods and services by present and future generations.

Or. it

Amendment 2

Proposal for a directive Recital 21 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(21a) In order to adapt coastal areas to climate change, to combat erosion or excessive accretion, the risks of sea ingression, the deterioration of ecological status and the loss of biodiversity of

coastal ecosystems, it is extremely important that coastal sediment be managed in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner, with a view to balancing out problematic areas that are at greater risk. Submarine sediment deposits on the continental shelf can be used where there is a shortage of sediment in the coastal system.

Or. it

Amendment 3

Proposal for a directive Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) The management of maritime and coastal areas is complex and involves different levels of authorities, economic operators and other stakeholders. In order to guarantee sustainable development in an effective manner, it is essential that stakeholders, authorities and the public are consulted ***at an appropriate stage in the preparation*** of maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies under this Directive, in accordance with relevant EU legislation. A good example for public consultation provisions can be found in article 2(2) of Directive 2003/35.

Amendment

(22) The management of maritime and coastal areas is complex and involves different levels of authorities, economic operators and other stakeholders. In order to guarantee sustainable development in an effective manner, it is essential that stakeholders, authorities and the public are consulted ***at an early stage of the development of*** maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies under this Directive, in accordance with relevant EU legislation. A good example for public consultation provisions can be found in article 2(2) of Directive 2003/35 ***and in Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment¹.***

¹ OJ L 197, 21.7.2001, p. 30.

Or. it

Amendment 4

Proposal for a directive Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

(23) Through maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies Member States can reduce administrative burden and costs in support of their action to implement other relevant Union legislation. The timelines for maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies should therefore be coherent with the timetables set out in other relevant legislation, especially: Directive 2009/28/EC, which requires that Member State shall ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy in 2020 is at least 20 % and which identifies coordination of authorisation, certification and planning procedures, including spatial planning as an important contribution to achievement of the EU's renewable energy targets; Directive 2008/56/EC and Annex A(6) to Decision 2010/477/EU, which requires that Member States shall take the necessary measures to achieve or maintain good environmental status in the marine environment by 2020 and which identify maritime spatial planning as a tool to support the ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities in order to achieve good environmental status; Decision 884/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1692/96/EC on Community guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network which requires that the trans-European transport network shall be established by 2020 by integrating Europe's land, sea and air transport infrastructure networks.

Amendment

(23) Through maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies Member States can reduce administrative burden and costs in support of their action to implement other relevant Union legislation. The timelines for maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies should therefore be coherent with the timetables set out in other relevant legislation, especially: Directive 2009/28/EC, which requires that Member State shall ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy in 2020 is at least 20 % and which identifies coordination of authorisation, certification and planning procedures, including spatial planning as an important contribution to achievement of the EU's renewable energy targets; Directive 2008/56/EC and Annex A(6) to Decision 2010/477/EU, which requires that Member States shall take the necessary measures to achieve or maintain good environmental status in the marine environment by 2020 and which identify maritime spatial planning as a tool to support the ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities in order to achieve good environmental status; ***Directive 2008/56/EC; Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora¹; Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds²***; Decision 884/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1692/96/EC on Community guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network which requires that the trans-European transport network shall be

established by 2020 by integrating Europe's land, sea and air transport infrastructure networks.

¹ OJ L 206, 22.07.92, p. 7.

² OJ L 103, 25.04.79, p. 1.

Or. it

Amendment 5

Proposal for a directive Recital 25 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(25a) In order to support the widespread and coordinated implementation of this Directive throughout the EU, it would be advisable to find, among existing financial instruments, resources to support demonstration programmes and exchanges of good practices and virtuous processes in coastal management and spatial management strategies, plans and governance.

Or. it

Amendment 6

Proposal for a directive Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. This Directive establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management aiming at promoting the sustainable **growth** of maritime and coastal economies and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources.

1. This Directive establishes a framework for maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal management aiming at promoting the sustainable **development** of maritime and coastal economies and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources.

Or. it

Amendment 7

Proposal for a directive Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The provisions of this Directive shall apply to marine waters and coastal zones.

Amendment

1. The provisions of this Directive shall apply to marine waters and coastal zones, ***in compliance with existing Union and national legislation.***

Or. it

Amendment 8

Proposal for a directive Article 5 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies shall ***apply*** an ecosystem-based approach to facilitate the co-existence and prevent conflicts between competing sector activities in marine waters and coastal zones, and shall aim to contribute to:

Amendment

Maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies shall ***promote sustainable development through*** an ecosystem-based approach to facilitate the co-existence and prevent conflicts between competing sector activities in marine waters and coastal zones, ***with the full participation of all human stakeholders,*** and shall aim to contribute to:

Or. it

Amendment 9

Proposal for a directive Article 5 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) securing the energy supply of the Union ***by promoting*** the development of marine energy sources, the development of new and renewable forms of energy, the

Amendment

(a) securing the energy supply of the Union, ***improving the integration of the internal energy market and contributing to sustainable development and***

interconnection of energy networks, and energy efficiency;

environmental protection through the development of new and renewable forms of energy, the interconnection of energy networks, and energy efficiency;

Or. it

Amendment 10

Proposal for a directive Article 5 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) ***promoting*** the development of maritime transport and providing efficient and cost-effective shipping routes across Europe, including port accessibility and transport safety;

Amendment

(b) ***ensuring*** the ***sustainable*** development of maritime transport and providing efficient and cost-effective shipping routes across Europe, including port accessibility and transport safety;

Or. it

Amendment 11

Proposal for a directive Article 5 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) ensuring climate resilient coastal and marine areas.

Amendment

(e) ensuring ***that*** coastal and marine areas ***are more resilient to climate change impacts***.

Or. it

Amendment 12

Proposal for a directive Article 7 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

2. When establishing maritime spatial plans Member States shall take into consideration, at least, the following

Amendment

2. When establishing maritime spatial plans Member States shall take into consideration, at least, the following

activities:

elements:

Or. it

Amendment 13

Proposal for a directive

Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) oil and gas extraction sites and infrastructures;

Amendment

(b) oil and gas – ***including shale gas*** – extraction sites and infrastructures;

Or. it

Amendment 14

Proposal for a directive

Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ba) sites and infrastructure for the storage of carbon dioxide and natural gas;

Or. it

Amendment 15

Proposal for a directive

Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) submarine sediment deposits for coastal fill;

Or. it

Amendment 16

Proposal for a directive

Article 7 – paragraph 2 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) nature conservation sites.

Amendment

(g) nature ***and species protection and*** conservation sites, ***in accordance with Union and national legislation, and surrounding areas;***

Or. it

Amendment 17

Proposal for a directive

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) utilisation of specific natural resources including installations for the extraction of energy and the production of renewable energy;

Amendment

(a) utilisation of specific natural resources including installations for the extraction ***and storage*** of energy and the production of renewable energy;

Or. it

Amendment 18

Proposal for a directive

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) sustainable management of coastal sediment, including deposits in the vicinity of ports and defence systems;

Or. it

Amendment 19

Proposal for a directive

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) conservation, restoration and management of coastal ecosystems, ecosystem services and nature, coastal landscapes and islands;

Amendment

(e) **protection**, conservation, restoration and management of coastal ecosystems, **natural resources**, ecosystem services and nature, coastal landscapes and islands;

Or. it

Amendment 20

Proposal for a directive

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point f a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fa) reduction and control of human conflicts with regard to the use of natural resources;

Or. it

Amendment 21

Proposal for a directive

Article 9 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Member States shall establish means for the public participation of all interested parties at an early stage in the development of maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies.

1. Member States shall establish means for the public participation of all interested parties at an early stage in the development of maritime spatial plans and integrated coastal management strategies, **in compliance with their national legal systems**.

Or. it