



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Budgets

2012/0258(NLE)

5.3.2013

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for a period of two years (15777/2012 – C7-0419/2012 – 2012/0258(NLE))

Rapporteur: François Alfonsi

PA_Leg_Consent

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

On the basis of powers conferred on it by the Council, the Commission conducted negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Mauritania with a view to renewing the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. On 26 July 2012, at the end of those negotiations, a new Protocol was initialled. The new Protocol covers a period of two years from the date of its signature.

The main aim of the Protocol to the Agreement is to provide fishing opportunities for vessels of the European Union in the waters of Mauritania within the limits of the available surplus. The Commission has, among other things, taken account of the opinion of the Scientific Committee set up under the Agreement.

The general aim is to strengthen the cooperation between the European Union and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania with a view to establishing a sustainable fisheries policy and sound exploitation of fisheries resources in Mauritanian fishing zones, in the interests of both parties.

The overall financial contribution of EUR 140 million provided for by the Protocol over the entire period is made up of: a) a financial contribution of EUR 67 million for access to the fisheries resources, and b) EUR 3 million in development aid for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania's sectoral fisheries policy. This support meets the objectives of the national fisheries policy.

Type of expenditure	2012	2013	TOTAL
Preservation and management of natural resources	70 000 000€	70 000 000€	140 000 000€
TOTAL	70 000 000€	70 000 000€	140 000 000€

The BUDG Committee believes the following issues should be taken into account when implementing the agreement:

- an evaluation should be made each year to establish whether Member States whose vessels operate under the Protocol to the agreement have complied with catch reporting requirements; where the provisions are not complied with the Commission should refuse applications for fishing authorisation submitted by those countries for the following year;
- a report should be submitted each year to Parliament and the Council on the results of the multiannual sectoral programme described in Article 6 of the Protocol and on
- compliance by the Member States with the requirement to declare catches; an ex post evaluation of the Protocol, including a cost-benefit analysis, should be submitted to

Parliament and the Council before the Protocol expires or before negotiations for its possible replacement begin.

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to propose that Parliament give its consent.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	4.3.2013
Result of final vote	+: 23 -: 10 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Marta Andreasen, Richard Ashworth, Reimer Böge, Zuzana Brzobohatá, Jean-Luc Dehaene, Göran Färm, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazábal Rubial, Salvador Garriga Polledo, Jens Geier, Ivars Godmanis, Ingeborg Gräßle, Lucas Hartong, Jutta Haug, Monika Hohlmeier, Sidonia Elżbieta Jędrzejewska, Anne E. Jensen, Ivailo Kalfin, Jan Kozłowski, Giovanni La Via, Claudio Morganti, Vojtěch Mynář, Juan Andrés Naranjo Escobar, Dominique Riquet, László Surján, Helga Trüpel, Derek Vaughan, Angelika Werthmann
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	François Alfonsi, Edit Herczog, Jürgen Klute, María Muñoz De Urquiza, Georgios Stavrakakis, Nils Torvalds