Committee on Budgets

2012/0229(NLE)

23.1.2013

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol between the European Union and the Republic of Kiribati, setting out opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other
(COM(2012)0468 – C7 0000/2012– 2012/0229(NLE))

Rapporteur: François Alfonsi

PA_NonLeg

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

On the basis of relevant Council mandate, the Commission on behalf of the European Union negotiated with the Republic of Kiribati in view of renewing the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Kiribati. Following these negotiations, a new Protocol was initialled on 3 June 2012, which covers a period of three years starting from 16 September 2012.

Under Articles 43(2) and 218(6)(a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the European Parliament can either consent or decline to consent.

The new Protocol is in line with the objectives of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement aiming at strengthening the cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Kiribati and promoting a partnership framework in which to develop a sustainable fisheries policy and responsible exploitation of fishery resources in the Kiribati's EEZ in the interests of both Parties.

The two Parties have agreed to cooperate with a view to implementing Kiribati's sectoral fisheries policy and to that end shall continue the policy dialogue on the relevant programming.

The new Protocol provides for a total financial contribution of EUR 4.428.000 which amounts to EUR 1.456.000 and EUR 1.516.000 respectively per year for the whole period. This amount corresponds to: a) EUR 975.000 per year for the access to the Kiribati's EEZ, and b) EUR 350.000 per year, corresponding to the additional envelop paid by the EU to support of Kiribati's fisheries policy.

Type of expenditure	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
Preservation and management of natural resources	1 325 000€	1 325 000€	1 325 000€	3 975 000€
Administrative expenditure	131 000€	131 000€	191 000€	453 000€
TOTAL	1 456 000€	1 456 000€	1 516 000€	**4 428 000€**

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The Committee on Budgets reiterates its earlier calls for the Commission to:

- check every year whether Member States whose vessels operate under the Protocol to the Agreement have complied with reporting requirements. Where this is not the case, the Commission should refuse to grant their requests for fishing licences for the following year;

- report annually to Parliament and the Council on the results of the multiannual sectoral programme described in Article 7 of the Protocol, as well as on compliance by the Member States with reporting requirements;

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- submit, before the Protocol expires or before negotiations for its possible replacement begin, to Parliament and the Council an ex post evaluation of the Protocol, including a cost-benefit analysis.

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

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RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	23.1.2013
Result of final vote	+: 31 −: 2 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Marta Andreasen, Zuzana Brzobohatá, Jean-Luc Dehaene, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazábal Rubial, Salvador Garriga Polledo, Ingeborg Gräßle, Lucas Hartong, Monika Hohlmeier, Anne E. Jensen, Ivailo Kalfin, Sergej Kozlík, Jan Kozłowski, Alain Lamassoure, Giovanni La Via, Claudio Morganti, Jan Mulder, Juan Andrés Naranjo Escobar, Nadezhda Neynsky, Dominique Riquet, Potito Salatto, Alda Sousa, László Surján, Derek Vaughan, Angelika Werthmann
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	François Alfonsi, Edit Herczog, Paul Rübig, Peter Šťastný, Georgios Stavrakakis, Theodor Dumitru Stolojan, Gianluca Susta, Nils Torvalds

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