



2019/0090(NLE)

26.11.2019

OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (2019-2024)
(08928/2019 – C9-0011/2019 – 2019/0090(NLE))

Rapporteur for opinion: José Manuel Fernandes

PA_Leg_Consent

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau¹ entered into force on 15 April 2008. The Commission conducted negotiations with the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau resulting in a new protocol which was initialled on 15 November 2018 and repeals the previous protocol, which had expired on 23 November 2017.

The new Protocol provides fishing opportunities for Union vessels in Guinea-Bissau waters, on the basis of the best available scientific advice and following the recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). This new Protocol takes into account the results of an evaluation of the previous Protocol (2014-2017) and of a forward-looking assessment of whether a new Protocol should be concluded. Both were carried out by external experts. The Protocol will also enable the European Union and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau to work more closely on promoting sound exploitation of fishery resources in Guinea-Bissau waters and to support efforts by Guinea-Bissau to develop its blue economy, in the interests of both parties.

The Protocol provides for fishing opportunities in the following categories:

- (a) shrimp freezer trawlers;
- (b) fin-fish and cephalopod freezer trawlers;
- (c) small pelagic trawlers;
- (d) tuna freezer seiners and longliners;
- (e) pole-and-line tuna vessels.

For the first three categories, fishing opportunities are expressed in terms of fishing effort for the first two years and in terms of catch limit for the last three years.

The negotiation of a new protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with Guinea-Bissau forms part of the Union's external action in relation to ACP countries and takes into account, in particular, Union objectives on respecting democratic principles and human rights. The Protocol covers a period of five years from the date of its provisional application.

The annual financial contribution from the European Union is EUR 15 600 000, based on:

- an annual amount for access to fishery resources for the categories provided for in the Protocol, set at EUR 11 600 000 per year for the entire duration of the Protocol;
- support for the development of the sectoral fisheries policy and the blue economy of Guinea-Bissau for an amount of EUR 4 000 000 per year for the entire duration of the Protocol. This support meets the objectives of Guinea-Bissau's national policy on the sustainable management of its continental and maritime fishery resources for the entire duration of the Protocol.

This shall contribute to the implementation of the national strategy for fisheries and the blue economy. It aims to support the sustainable management of fishery resources and the development of the sector, in particular by: - strengthening: (i) the monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities (including by putting in place the Electronic Reporting

¹ OJ L 342, 17.12.2007, p. 5.

System ERS and ensuring it is operational); (ii) the collection and processing of data for scientific purposes and the capacity to analyse and assess fishery resources and fisheries; (iii) the capacity of operators in the fisheries sector; (iv) international cooperation; - supporting small-scale fishing; improving the conditions for exporting fishery products and promoting investment in the sector; developing infrastructure relevant to fisheries; supporting the blue economy and developing aquaculture.

The annual amount for commitment and payment appropriations is established during the annual budgetary procedure, including for the reserve line for protocols not having entered into force at the beginning of the year².

The Commission would be authorised to approve, on behalf of the Union, the amendments to the Protocol to be adopted by the Joint Committee set up under the Partnership Agreement.

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to recommend that Parliament give its consent to the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and of the Protocol on the implementation of that Partnership Agreement.

² In accordance with the Interinstitutional Agreement on cooperation in budgetary matters (2013/C 373/01).

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (2019-2024)						
References	08928/2019 – C9-0011/2019 – 2019/0090(NLE)						
Committee responsible	PECH						
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	BUDG 15.7.2019						
Rapporteur Date appointed	José Manuel Fernandes 23.7.2019						
Discussed in committee	6.11.2019						
Date adopted	25.11.2019						
Result of final vote	<table> <tr> <td>+: </td><td>24</td></tr> <tr> <td>–: </td><td>5</td></tr> <tr> <td>0: </td><td>3</td></tr> </table>	+:	24	–:	5	0:	3
+:	24						
–:	5						
0:	3						
Members present for the final vote	Rasmus Andresen, Clotilde Armand, Robert Biedroń, Olivier Chastel, Lefteris Christoforou, David Cormand, Paolo De Castro, José Manuel Fernandes, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Valentino Grant, Francisco Guerreiro, Valerie Hayer, Niclas Herbst, John Howarth, Mislav Kolakušić, Moritz Körner, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Hélène Laporte, Pierre Larrousurou, Janusz Lewandowski, Margarida Marques, Siegfried Mureşan, Jan Olbrycht, Karlo Ressler, Nicolae Ştefănuţă, Nils Ušakovs, Angelika Winzig						
Substitutes present for the final vote	Matteo Adinolfi, Derk Jan Eppink, Henrike Hahn, Eero Heinäluoma, Younous Omarjee						

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

24	+
ECR	Derk Jan Eppink, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk
NI	Mislav Kolakušić
PPE	Lefteris Christoforou, José Manuel Fernandes, Niclas Herbst, Janusz Lewandowski, Siegfried Mureşan, Jan Olbrycht, Karlo Ressler, Angelika Winzig
RENEW	Clotilde Armand, Olivier Chastel, Valerie Hayer, Moritz Körner, Nicolae Ştefănuţă
S&D	Robert Biedroń, Paolo De Castro, Eider Gardiazabal Rubial, Eero Heinäluoma, John Howarth, Pierre Larroustourou, Margarida Marques, Nils Ušakovs

5	-
GUE/NGL	Younous Omarjee
VERTS/ALE	Rasmus Andresen, David Cormand, Francisco Guerreiro, Henrike Hahn

3	0
ID	Matteo Adinolfi, Valentino Grant, Hélène Laporte

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention