

ORAL QUESTION H-0400/07

for Question Time at the part-session in June 2007
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Teresa Riera Madurell
to the Council

Subject: Red tuna in danger of extinction

The November 2006 ICATT meeting adopted a Recovery Plan for the red tuna; the Plan's transposition into Community law is still waiting for approval by the Council, due to the pressure brought to bear by certain Member States.

In the last few days, the President of the Cofradia de Formentera (Spain) had denounced the fact that since 2000, large tuna boats have been using light aircraft, equipped with the very latest technology, to spot tuna shoals. These tuna boats are, furthermore, damaging the sea bed and the local fishing industry's nets by caging their live catches, intended for fattening, these cages are then dragged, at depths of up to 35 metres, to their destination, in the process destroying the fishing lines and nets of the local small-scale fishermen.

When does the Council intend to adopt the red tuna Recovery Plan? Can it confirm whether the Plan covers the banning of tuna-shoal detection by means of light aircraft?

Tabled: 23.05.2007
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