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TEXTS ADOPTED

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**P8\_TA(2016)0493**

**EU-Norway Agreement on reciprocal access to fishing in the Skagerrak**

**European Parliament non-legislative resolution of 14 December 2016 on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on reciprocal access to fishing in the Skagerrak for vessels flying the flag of Denmark, Norway and Sweden (10711/2016 – C8-0332/2016 – 2016/0192(NLE) – 2016/2229(INI))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the draft Council decision (10711/2016),
  - having regard to the draft Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway on reciprocal access to fishing in the Skagerrak for vessels flying the flag of Denmark, Norway and Sweden (11692/2014),
  - having regard to the request for consent submitted by the Council in accordance with Article 43(2) and Article 218(6), second subparagraph, point (a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (C8-0332/2016),
  - having regard to its legislative resolution of 14 December 2016<sup>1</sup> on the draft Council decision,
  - having regard to Rule 99(1), second subparagraph, of its Rules of Procedure,
  - having regard to the report of the Committee on Fisheries (A8-0320/2016),
- A. whereas fishermen from Denmark, Norway and Sweden have always traditionally fished jointly in the Kattegat and Skagerrak;
- B. whereas the Agreement upholds the historical fishing rights of fishermen from Denmark, Norway and Sweden in the Kattegat and Skagerrak without prejudice to the rights of fishermen from other states, while also ensuring that suitable measures are taken for fisheries management and conservation in these waters;
- C. whereas the Agreement also supports the implementation of the reformed system for fisheries management in the EU put in place in line with the aims and basic principles

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<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P8\_TA(2016)0492.

of the new common fisheries policy (CFP), in particular the introduction of the landing obligation and compulsory measures to maintain stocks above sustainable fisheries limits;

1. Calls on the Commission to forward to Parliament the minutes and conclusions of any consultations held in accordance with Article 4 of the Agreement;
2. Calls on the Commission to submit to Parliament and the Council, within the last year of application of the agreement and before the opening of negotiations for its renewal, a full report on its implementation;
3. Calls on the Commission and the Council, acting within the limits of their respective powers, to keep Parliament immediately and fully informed at all stages of the procedures related to the agreement and its renewal, pursuant to Article 13(2) of the Treaty on European Union and Article 218(10) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
4. Emphasises that access to the internal market for any third country must build on reciprocity, and that in the case of Norway any customs duties on food products, including fisheries products, from the EU must be in conformity with the Agreement on the European Economic Area;
5. Stresses that the task of the Commission is to ensure that custom duties on food and fisheries products from the EU are not set in a way contrary to the principles of free trade in the area of food products, including fisheries products;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission, as well as to the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Kingdom of Norway.