

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Fisheries

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DRAFT REPORT

on the proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of the Russian Federation on cooperation in fisheries and the conservation of the living marine resources in the Baltic Sea
(COM(2006)0868 – C6-0052/2007 – 2006/0309(CNS))

Committee on Fisheries

Rapporteur: Philippe Morillon

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
majority of the votes cast
- **I Cooperation procedure (first reading)
majority of the votes cast
- **II Cooperation procedure (second reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position
majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend the common position
- *** Assent procedure
majority of Parliament's component Members except in cases covered by Articles 105, 107, 161 and 300 of the EC Treaty and Article 7 of the EU Treaty
- ***I Codecision procedure (first reading)
majority of the votes cast
- ***II Codecision procedure (second reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position
majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend the common position
- ***III Codecision procedure (third reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the joint text

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the Commission.)

Amendments to a legislative text

In amendments by Parliament, amended text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Highlighting in *normal italics* is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the legislative text for which a correction is proposed, to assist preparation of the final text (for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a given language version). These suggested corrections are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

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DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a Council regulation on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the Government of the Russian Federation on cooperation in fisheries and the conservation of the living marine resources in the Baltic Sea (COM(2006)0868 – C6-0052/2007 – 2006/0309(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal for a Council regulation (COM(2006)0868)¹,
 - having regard to Articles 37 and 300(2) of the EC Treaty,
 - having regard to Article 300(3), first subparagraph, of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Council consulted Parliament (C6-0052/2007),
 - having regard to Rules 51 and 83(7) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Fisheries (A6-0000/2007),
1. Approves the proposal for a Council regulation as amended and approves conclusion of the agreement;
 2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Russian Federation.

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendments by Parliament

Amendment 1
Article 2 a (new)

Article 2a

During the third year of application of the agreement and during the last year of its application, prior to the opening of negotiations on its possible renewal, the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament and to the Council general assessment reports analysing the impact of the agreement on the conservation of resources and the protection of the environment and the economic and social

¹ Not yet published in OJ.

repercussions of its application.

Justification

Prior to the conclusion of any new agreement, the Commission should ask the authorities of the State with which it is to open negotiations to provide information enabling it to submit a general assessment report to Parliament and the Council.

Amendment 2
Article 2 b (new)

Article 2b

On the basis of these reports, and in the light of the European Parliament's opinion, the Council shall authorise the Commission, if appropriate, to open negotiations on the conclusion of a new agreement.

Justification

Parliament and the Council should take decisions only the basis of the assessment report on the implementation of the fisheries agreement.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Between 10 and 12 July 2006 the European Community and the Russian Federation negotiated and concluded an agreement on cooperation in fisheries and the conservation of the living marine resources in the Baltic Sea, which was initialled by the Community on 28 July 2006 and by the Russian Federation on 7 August 2006. The agreement has been concluded for an initial period of six years.

The new framework agreement concerns only the Baltic Sea. Given that the Russian Federation is responsible for only some 5% of fishery resources in the Baltic Sea, in very small areas around Kaliningrad and St Petersburg, the scope of the agreement is relatively limited.

The objective of the new agreement is to ensure close cooperation between the parties on the basis of the principles of fairness and mutual benefit with a view to the conservation and the sustainable exploitation and management of all straddling, associated and dependent stocks in the Baltic Sea.

The agreement sets out provisions on joint management measures, licensing, compliance with conservation and management rules and other fisheries regulations, control and enforcement cooperation, inspections, arrest and detention of vessels, scientific cooperation and anadromous and catadromous species.