


# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1997/0237(CNS) Procedure completed
Fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea: technical measures for the conservation (amend. Regulation (EC) No 1626/94)	
Subject 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources	
Geographical area Mediterranean Sea area	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries	PSE <a href="#">MCMAHON Hugh R.</a>	28/10/1997
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Social Affairs	<a href="#">2081</a>	07/04/1998

Key events			
19/09/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0459	Summary
20/10/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
03/02/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
03/02/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0045/1998</a>	
13/03/1998	Debate in Parliament		
13/03/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0170/1998	Summary
07/04/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
07/04/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
15/04/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/0237(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure

Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/4/09352

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(1997)0459</a> <a href="#">OJ C 337 07.11.1997, p. 0036</a>	19/09/1997	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		<a href="#">CES1399/1997</a> <a href="#">OJ C 073 09.03.1998, p. 0102</a>	10/12/1997	ESC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A4-0045/1998</a> <a href="#">OJ C 080 16.03.1998, p. 0004</a>	03/02/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0170/1998 <a href="#">OJ C 104 06.04.1998, p. 0264-0281</a>	13/03/1998	EP	Summary

### Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
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### Final act

<a href="#">Regulation 1998/782</a> <a href="#">OJ L 113 15.04.1998, p. 0006</a> Summary
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## Fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea: technical measures for the conservation (amend. Regulation (EC) No 1626/94)

OBJECTIVE : to amend Regulation (EC) No 1626/94, in order to avoid an excessive fishing pressure on bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean.  
SUBSTANCE: In view of the overexploitation of bluefin stocks in the Mediterranean, the Commission proposes that restrictive fisheries measures should be taken in line with the recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), with the aim of bringing the fishery back to long-term sustainable levels. It is proposed to: - restrict the use of airborne fish-finding equipment (which has produced a dramatic increase in fishing efficiency), - ban the use of purse seines for tuna fishing in August, in order to reduce fishing mortality of juveniles, - implement specific rules on minimum landing sizes of bluefin tuna: 1.8 kg with no tolerance levels. However, a numerical tolerance of 15% is authorized for the current minimum landing size of 6.4 kg.?

## Fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea: technical measures for the conservation (amend. Regulation (EC) No 1626/94)

The Committee approves the Commission proposal. ?

## Fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea: technical measures for the conservation (amend. Regulation (EC) No 1626/94)

The Committee adopted the report by Hugh McMAHON (PES, UK) on the proposed amendment to the regulation laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean (consultation procedure). The principal purpose of the Commission proposal is to incorporate into Community law the recommendations adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) on the management of fishing for bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean. The report highlights the problem of catches made by non-EU vessels (the measures are binding only on EU fishermen). In particular, it calls for transshipments on the high seas of protected species to be prohibited, so that the rules are not flouted.?

## Fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea: technical measures for the conservation (amend.

## Regulation (EC) No 1626/94

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In adopting the report by Hugh McMAHON (PSE, UK) on the conservation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean, the European Parliament called for the transshipment at sea of species regulated by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) between vessels which do not belong to that organization and Community vessels to be prohibited. This amendment reflects the existing situation whereby third-country vessels can catch protected fish in the area concerned, thereby evading legislation. Parliament also called on the Commission to submit without delay a proposal for a Regulation embodying the ICCAT recommendations concerning an embargo on tuna imports from Honduras, Belize and Panama, these recommendations already being applicable to all parties to ICCAT.?

## Fishery resources in the Mediterranean Sea: technical measures for the conservation (amend. Regulation (EC) No 1626/94)

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OBJECTIVE: to amend Regulation (EC) No 1626/94 to limit overexploitation of bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation (EC) No 782/98 amending Regulation (EC) No 1626/94 laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources in the Mediterranean. SUBSTANCE: In response to the overexploitation of stocks of bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean, the Regulation introduces new limits on fishing, based on the recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), the aim being to reduce fishing activity to levels which will be viable in the long term. In particular, the Regulation contains the following provisions: -it bans the use of aeroplanes or helicopters to detect the fish (a system which has dramatically improved the efficiency of fishing) between 1 and 30 June, -it bans the use of purse seines to fish for bluefin tuna in August, in order to reduce mortality among juveniles, -it applies specific rules on minimum landing sizes for bluefin tuna. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 16.04.1998.?