

Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1998/0355(CNS) Procedure completed
EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support See also 1997/0205(CNS) Repealed by 2009/0022(CNS)	
Subject 3.15.15.02 Fisheries agreements with African countries	
Geographical area Guinea-Bissau	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PECH Fisheries		19/09/2000
		PPE-DE CUNHA Arlindo	
	Former committee responsible		19/01/1999
	PECH Fisheries	UPE GIRÃO PEREIRA José	
Council of the European Union	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		14/09/2000
		PSE DÜHRKOP DÜHRKOP Bárbara	
	Former committee for opinion		17/02/1999
	BUDG Budgets	PSE JÖNS Karin	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2332	26/02/2001

Key events			
16/12/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0777	Summary
25/02/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
30/03/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
30/03/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0178/1999	
13/04/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0226/1999	Summary

10/07/2000	Formal reconsultation of Parliament		
10/07/2000	Amended legislative proposal for reconsultation published	08263/2000	
27/11/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
27/11/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary, reconsultation	A5-0367/2000	
16/01/2001	Debate in Parliament		
17/01/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0017/2001	Summary
26/02/2001	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
26/02/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
08/03/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0355(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
	See also 1997/0205(CNS) Repealed by 2009/0022(CNS)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2-a2; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/5/12945; PECH/5/12947

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0777 OJ C 022 27.01.1999, p. 0016	16/12/1998	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0178/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0008	30/03/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0226/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0020-0033	13/04/1999	EP	Summary
Amended legislative proposal for reconsultation	08263/2000	10/07/2000	CSL	
Committee final report tabled for plenary, reconsultation	A5-0367/2000 OJ C 232 17.08.2001, p. 0008	27/11/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament after reconsultation	T5-0017/2001 OJ C 262 18.09.2001, p. 0079-0139	17/01/2001	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support

OBJECTIVE: to provisionally suspend fishing activities and payment of financial compensation provided for by the fishing protocol concluded between the European Community and Guinea-Bissau. **CONTENT:** it is proposed that, with effect from 19 June 1998, the current fishing agreement and protocol between the European Community and Guinea-Bissau be suspended, as a result of the armed conflict which broke out in that country in June 1998. The suspension of the agreement is presented as a temporary measure, which will be ended as soon as the authorities in Guinea restore peace and normal fishing conditions for Community shipowners. The temporary suspension of fishing activities implies the suspension of payment of financial compensation for the second year of application of the protocol. However, in order to give a positive political signal to those involved in the conflict, it is proposed that the Commission will transfer the financial compensation due into a special account. Provision is further made for the lifting of the suspension of the Agreement (following a decision by the Council on a proposal from the Commission) and the fixing of the procedure for granting ad hoc financial support to Guinea-Bissau as soon as conditions are restored which allow normal fishing activities to resume. It should be noted that a decision may be taken to lift the suspension of the Agreement on a temporary basis.?

EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support

In the wake of the armed conflict which broke out in June 1998 in Guinea-Bissau, paralysing the country, the Commission was obliged to propose that the fisheries agreement with Guinea-Bissau and the financial compensation relating to the agreement be temporarily suspended. The Fisheries Committee, chaired by Carmen Fraga Estévez (EPP, E), has backed the Commission proposal by adopting the report by José Girão Pereira (UFE, P) which calls for the agreement to be suspended.?

EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support

Under consultation procedure, the European parliament adopted the legislative resolution by José Girão Pereira (UPE,PT), on the proposal for a Council decision suspending the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and the European Economic Community on fishing off the coast of Guinea-Bissau. Mr Girão Pereira's report approves the Commission proposal, subject to an amendment relating to the following areas: - that the Council's decision to terminate this suspension, as soon as conditions allow, should take account of the opinion of the European Parliament; - that, when fixing the details of financial assistance to the region aimed at restoring facilities in support of fishing activities, respect should be given to the interinstitutional agreements concluded in the sector of international fisheries agreements.?

EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support

The committee adopted the report by Arlindo CUNHA (EPP-ED, P) approving the proposal under the consultation procedure, subject to a few amendments. The committee felt that the clause stipulating that financial support would be granted for a maximum period of one year should be deleted as it would be difficult for the Guinea-Bissau Government to carry out its action programme within one year owing to the lack of organisation in the country's public services resulting from the armed conflict. For the same reasons, it also proposed that the deadline for submission by the government of the detailed report setting out its action programme should be extended to 31 May 2003 and that a deadline of 31 May 2001 be set for the first payment of the financial aid granted. Lastly, the committee wanted the budgetary authority to be informed of all financial and budgetary transactions arising from the proposal and to receive full explanations. It argued that the special character of the proposal and its history meant that the budgetary authority should monitor the implementation of the present action more closely than in the case of other fisheries agreements.?

EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support

The European Parliament approved the report by Mr Arlindo CUNHA (EPP/ED, P) which calls for a new fisheries agreement with Guinea-Bissau together with several non-binding amendments on the implementation of the agreement. One, for example, seeks to extend the deadline for the submission of an action programme by the Guinea-Bissau authorities from 31 May 2001 to 31 May 2003. Following the restoration of order in Guinea-Bissau, the Commission proposed a new fisheries agreement to provide for the allocation of some EUR 6.5 million to support local fishermen, help with monitoring and contribute towards rebuilding damaged facilities. ?

EC/Guinea-Bissau fisheries agreement: financial support

PURPOSE : to set the terms for financial support to Guinea-Bissau in the fisheries sector. **COMMUNITY MEASURE :** Council Decision 2001/179/EC setting the terms for financial support to Guinea-Bissau in the fisheries sector. **CONTENT :** by Regulation 2615/97/EC the Council approved a Protocol which sets out fishing possibilities and financial compensation for the period from 16 June 1997 to 15 June 2001.

As a result of the armed conflict which affected Guinea-Bissau from June 1998 until March 1999, the Government of Guinea-Bissau was not able to ensure the normal course of fishing activities. This exceptional situation endangered Community vessels and called for a temporary break in fishing as from June 1998 until April 1999. This Decision sets the terms for financial support to Guinea-Bissau up to a maximum of EUR 6 500 000 in order to facilitate the restoration of fishing activities by Community vessels. The financial support will cover the following activities in particular: - support for the management of the Ministry of Fishing and the rehabilitation of equipment and infrastructure in the fisheries department, - strengthening of the system for maritime monitoring and supervision; - revitalisation and reinforcement of the fisheries research programmes. Moreover, on the basis of the presentation of a programmes of activities by the Government of Guinea-Bissau, the Commission shall make available before 31 May 2001 to the Government of Guinea-Bissau, through the bank accounts notified by the Ministry of Fishing, an amount corresponding to 50% of the cost of the planned activities. The Commission will pay the balance of the funds, after acceptance of a detailed report which the Government of Guinea-Bissau shall send to the European Commission delegation, before 31 May 2003. This report will describe in detail the implementation of these activities and the results obtained. The Commission reserves the right to ask the Ministry of Fishing for any supplementary information, and to re-examine payments involved in the light of the effective implementation of these activities. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 26.02.2001.?