

# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1999/0019(CNS) Procedure completed
Maritime pollution, Mediterranean Sea, 1995 Barcelona Convention: specially protected areas and biological diversity	
Subject 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity 3.70.05 Marine and coastal pollution, pollution from ships, oil pollution	
Geographical area Mediterranean Sea area	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Social Affairs	<a href="#">2208</a>	22/10/1999

Key events			
11/02/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0030	Summary
17/03/1999	Vote in committee		
12/04/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/04/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0273/1999	Summary
22/10/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/10/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/12/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/0019(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision

Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 174-p4; Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2-a1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/10868

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1999)0030	12/02/1999	EC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0273/1999 <a href="#">OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0170-0186</a>	14/04/1999	EP	Summary

### Additional information

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

<a href="#">Decision 1999/800</a> <a href="#">OJ L 322 14.12.1999, p. 0001</a> Summary
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## Maritime pollution, Mediterranean Sea, 1995 Barcelona Convention: specially protected areas and biological diversity

**PURPOSE:** on behalf of the Community, to conclude the protocol on specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean Sea, within the framework of the Barcelona Convention. **CONTENT:** the Community has been a contractual partner to the Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution (the aforementioned Barcelona Convention) since 1977 and has concluded a number of protocols within this framework, with a view to helping to prevent pollution in the marine environment. In 1995, within the framework of the revision and improvement of the legal instruments of the Action Plan for the Mediterranean (APM), the contractual partners (including the Community) adopted a new protocol to the Barcelona Convention, signed by 16 Mediterranean countries and the Community: namely, the protocol on specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean, which replaces an earlier version of this protocol. The purpose of this proposal is to allow the Community to approve this revised Protocol and its annexes, which set out the areas of Community competence with regard to the environment. Essentially, the amendments are designed to strengthen the mechanism for providing protection and to improve the Mediterranean's natural and cultural heritage by means of the creation of specially protected areas as well as the strengthening of measures to protect threatened areas. They are also designed to protect natural habitats and maintain biodiversity in the long term. The new protocol also contains an annex which sets out the common criteria to be used for selecting protected marine and coastal areas as well as an annex relating to areas which are endangered or threatened, or where exploitation is to be regulated. With a view to the effective achievement of the Community objectives with regard to the environment, it is important that the Community should accept amendments in line with the procedures set out in Article 228, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Treaty. Acceptance by the Community will be accompanied by a specific declaration, explaining that the Community is contributing to the implementation of the provisions of the annexes of the protocol through the creation of the "Natura 2000" Community network.?

## Maritime pollution, Mediterranean Sea, 1995 Barcelona Convention: specially protected areas and biological diversity

Under consultation procedure without report, the European Parliament approved the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion of the protocol on specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean, and on accepting the annexes to the said protocol (Barcelona Convention).?

## Maritime pollution, Mediterranean Sea, 1995 Barcelona Convention: specially protected areas and biological diversity

**PURPOSE :** to conclude the Protocol concerning specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean Sea in the framework of the Barcelona Convention. **COMMUNITY MEASURE :** Council Decision 1999/800/EC relating to the conclusion of the Protocol concerning specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean, as well as the acceptance of the annexes to that Protocol (Barcelona Convention). **CONTENT :** the Community is a Contracting Party to the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution since 1977 and it has concluded a number of protocols in the framework of seeking to reinforce the prevention of pollution in the marine environment. In the framework of the revision and the improvement of the legal instruments of the Action Plan for the Mediterranean,

the Contracting Parties (of which the Community is one) adopted a new Protocol in 1995 to the Barcelona Convention, signed by 16 Mediterranean countries and the Community. The Protocol relates to specially protected areas and biological diversity in the Mediterranean and replaces a previous version of this Protocol. The objective of the decision is to allow the Community to approve this revised protocol and its annexes covering the fields of Community competence in the environment. For the most part, the amendments aim to reinforce the protection measures provided for and to improve the state of the Mediterranean natural heritage and culture by the creation of specially protected areas, as well as reinforcing the conservation measures for endangered species. In addition, It also concerns protecting natural habitats and maintaining biological diversity on a long term basis. The new Protocol also has an annex on the common criteria that determine the selection of protected marine and coastal areas, as well as an annex relating to endangered or threatened species the exploitation of which will be regulated. In view of the effective realisation of Community environmental objectives, it is important that the Community accepts the amendments in line with the procedures laid down in the Treaty. The Community's acceptance is accompanied by a specific declaration that the Community is involved in the implementation of the provisions laid down in the annexes of the Protocol via the establishment of the Community's 'Nature 2000' network. ENTRY INTO FORCE : the decision shall take effect on 22.10.1999, the date of entry into force of the Protocol (and its annexes) requiring to be published at a later stage by the Secretariat General of the Council once all the necessary notifications to this effect have been completed.?