


# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	<a href="#">1999/0163(CNS)</a>	Procedure completed
Common fisheries policy: closer dialogue with industry and groups concerned		
Subject 3.15 Fisheries policy		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries		01/09/1999
		PSE <a href="#">MIGUÉLEZ RAMOS Rosa</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		04/10/1999
		UEN <a href="#">GALLAGHER Pat the Cope</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)</a>	<a href="#">2251</a>	27/03/2000

Key events			
22/07/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0382	Summary
04/10/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
07/12/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
07/12/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0094/1999</a>	
21/01/2000	Debate in Parliament		
21/01/2000	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0029/2000</a>	Summary
27/03/2000	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
27/03/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/03/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information
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Procedure reference	1999/0163(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/5/12103

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(1999)0382</a> <a href="#">OJ C 274 28.09.1999, p. 0037 E</a>	22/07/1999	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0094/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 296 18.10.2000, p. 0008</a>	07/12/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T5-0029/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 304 24.10.2000, p. 0219-0225</a>	21/01/2000	EP	Summary

### Additional information

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

[Regulation 2000/657](#)  
[OJ L 080 31.03.2000, p. 0007](#) Summary

## Common fisheries policy: closer dialogue with industry and groups concerned

PURPOSE: encourage closer dialogue with the fishing industry and groups affected by the common fisheries policy. CONTENT: The relations between the Commission and the fishing industry, in particular within the Advisory Committee on Fisheries, are no longer satisfactory either to the Commission or to the industry. This observation has led the Commission to consider a reform of the Committee, whose role within the CFP needs to be upgraded. The objective of the reform is to create the conditions for responsible, transparent and well-informed dialogue with all those affected by the CFP by: - closer dialogue with the fishing and aquaculture industry; - widening the dialogue to association active in environmental and development fields. The purpose of this 2-way flow of communication is to improve, with the industry's help, the thrust, design and implementation of the CFP. The CFP is a highly integrated policy applying to widely diversified fishing activities spread over a large geographical area, now rendered even more complex to manage with the prospect of the Community's enlargement. The emergence of Europe-wide dialogue within the Advisory Committee on Fisheries calls for a reduction in the number of seats of each European organisation if the expression of national positions is to be avoided. Such a reduction is, however, likely to weaken the organisations by making it impossible for them to meet. It is, therefore, proposed to assist the European organisations by allowing them to meet to prepare for Committee meetings. Reforming the Advisory Committee would be insufficient on its own to improve dialogue with the industry substantially if the Commission were not at the same time to take steps to help the trade organisations on the Committee to carry out all their tasks (initiative, representation, coordination, information) and to ensure that exchanges between the Commission and the parties concerned were passed down to the grass roots. It is accordingly proposed that the reform of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and the adoption of measures to reinforce Europe's fisheries trade organisations be accompanied by measures to develop communication. Four measures are proposed to enhance the capacity of these organisations to take part in dialogue: - Giving preference to European organisations and associations; - Ensuring that European trade associations are freely accessible; - Clarifying the tasks and objectives of the organisations; - Financial support to improve European coordination. Commission action is going to focus on two main priorities: 1) Establishing ongoing contacts with existing trade and association networks to improve communication with and between these network, as well as producing and dissemination documents tailored to the special interests and needs of the various groups (written, audiovisual and electronic material); 2) Communication with all the groups concerned and putting in place instruments giving very wide access to data and explanatory material mainly concerning Commission proposals. this will involve developing a special Commission Website and a regular explanatory publication, with sections covering the various interests of the industry and the groups concerned. The budget needed to implement these measures will be covered partly by the Structural Funds where they are included in the tasks of the Funds. A significant proportion of them are not covered by the Funds and consequently warrant a special budget (dialogue and explanations on aspects of the common fisheries policy not connected with Structural Fund measures).?

## Common fisheries policy: closer dialogue with industry and groups concerned

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The committee adopted the report (consultation procedure) by Rosa MIGUELEZ RAMOS (PES, E) approving the Commission proposal subject to two amendments. The first of these sought to ensure greater precision in the text of the proposal regarding compliance with the conditions and performance of the tasks assigned to trade organisations within the framework of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries (ACF), stressing that the Commission would exercise financial control over payments made in connection with those tasks. The other amendment introduced a new provision whereby the Commission would report annually to Parliament and the Council on the substance and conclusion of debates held within the ACF. The committee felt that Parliament and Council needed to know what issues were raised in the dialogue between the Commission and the social partners so that they would be better able to determine the direction of the common fisheries policy. The report also noted that the means by which information on Community policy is to be disseminated should be chosen with the target group in mind. It cited small-scale coastal fishing as an example of a sector which existed in all EU countries, had difficulties in gaining access to information while nevertheless being in great need of such information, and yet was neither familiar with nor had access to new information technologies. The report concluded, therefore, that it would be prudent to give priority to information campaigns in those sectors using media which were accessible to them.

## Common fisheries policy: closer dialogue with industry and groups concerned

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In adopting the report by Mrs Miguélez Ramos (ESP, Sp), the European Parliament accepts the proposal for a Council regulation subject to a number of amendments. For example, the European Parliament calls on the Commission to: - ensure that meetings financed from the Community budget held by trade organisations within the framework of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture correspond to the purposes and tasks set out in Decision 1999/478/EC and exercise financial control over the payments made in connection with those tasks; - present an annual report to the European Parliament and the Council on the substance and conclusions of debates held within the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture and the working groups referred to in Article 7 of Decision 1999/478/EC.?

## Common fisheries policy: closer dialogue with industry and groups concerned

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PURPOSE : to reinforce the dialogue with the fishing sector and groups affected by the common fisheries policy. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Regulation 657/2000/EC on closer dialogue with the fishing sector and groups affected by the common fisheries policy. CONTENT : this Regulation aims at giving the representatives of the fishery products and aquaculture industry together with other groups concerned a greater role in the design, drafting and implementation of the CFP. To this effect, the European trade organisations will be given help in preparing the meetings of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture with a view to stimulating comprehensive study of the issues involved in the CFP and the impact of its measures, fostering initiatives from the industry. The industry shall be informed at a very early stage of the initiatives planned and the aims and details of the different CFP measures shall be explained to all the groups. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 07/04/2000. ?