



Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1999/0231(CNS)	Procedure completed
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, NAFO: control measures of vessels of non-contracting parties		
Subject 3.15.07 Fisheries inspectorate, surveillance of fishing vessels and areas		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Fisheries	PPE-DE VARELA SUANZES-CARPEGNA Daniel	27/01/2000
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Education, Youth, Culture and Sport	2270	08/06/2000
European Commission	Commission DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	Commissioner	

Key events			
09/11/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0570	Summary
21/01/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
03/04/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
03/04/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0101/2000	
19/05/2000	Debate in Parliament		
19/05/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0248/2000	Summary
08/06/2000	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
08/06/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/06/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/0231(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/5/12413

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1999)0570 OJ C 056 29.02.2000, p. 0001 E	09/11/1999	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0101/2000 OJ C 041 07.02.2001, p. 0004	03/04/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0248/2000 OJ C 059 23.02.2001, p. 0294-0314	19/05/2000	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Regulation 2000/1262 OJ L 144 17.06.2000, p. 0001 Summary
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Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, NAFO: control measures of vessels of non-contracting parties

PURPOSE : to lay down new means of control for ships flying the flag of non-contracting parties to the NAFO. CONTENT : the North West Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), of which the Community is a contracting party, has adopted very strict measures for the conservation of fish stocks within its purview. Key fish stocks have even been put under moratoria. Fisheries in the Regulatory Area of NAFO are for the most part multi-species fisheries such that it is not possible to target one species without a by-catch of other species. NAFO conservation measures, therefore, comprise very specific by-catch rules, gear restrictions and a series of other technical measures that seek to take into account this inter-relationship between the fish stocks concerned. Lately, the NAFO has observed a sustained and massive influx of vessels flying the flag of non-contracting parties and fishing in spite of the conservation measures laid down in its regulation zone. For many years, this organisation has undertaken a keen information campaign with respect to non-contracting parties in order to entice them either into joining the NAFO, or into applying the conservation measures that it has agreed. Given that the fishing vessels of these States have not ceased pursuing their activities, the contracting parties have agreed to take measures at the 19th Annual Meeting in 1997, in the form of programme seeking to promote the respect by the vessels of non-parties of the conservation measures and regulations adopted by NAFO. Essentially, this programme provides that when such a vessel is sighted active in the NAFO Regulatory Area, an obligatory inspection will be carried out on that vessel when it is voluntarily in the ports of Contracting Parties. In addition, there will also be, in the case of fishing of several species, a ban on of landing and the handing over of the catch, if in the course of the inspection it can be established that the catch has been taken in contravention of conservation and enforcement measures established by the NAFO. At the 20th and the 21st Annual Meetings (in 1998 and 1999 respectively), additional measures were added to this basic principle concerning at-sea transshipments and relevant sightings, as well as the way that stateless vessels should be treated. The objective of this proposal is to allow the Community to approve these various measures in order to transpose them into Community law.?

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, NAFO: control measures of vessels of non-contracting parties

The committee adopted the report (consultation procedure) by Daniel VARELA SUANZES-CARPEGNA (EPP/ED, E) approving the Commission proposal with just a few amendments aimed at improving the clarity of the text, bringing it into line with the terminology used by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and improving the supervisory measures designed to ensure responsible fishing in the NAFO area. The report pointed out, however, that the measures contained in the proposal were limited in scope for dealing with the problem caused by vessels flying a flag of convenience. ?

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, NAFO: control measures of vessels of non-contracting parties

The European Parliament adopted its report drafted by Daniel VARELA SUANZES-CARPEGNA (EPP/ED, Spain) with a few amendments. The main amendment states that fishing vessels of the Contracting Parties which operate in the North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) Regulatory Area may record sightings, which can be reported to the inspection vessels so that the latter are able to proceed to a formal sighting.?

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, NAFO: control measures of vessels of non-contracting parties

PURPOSE: to lay down new means of control for ships flying the flag of non-contracting parties to the North West Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO). COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation 1262/2000/EC laying down certain control measures in respect of vessels flying the flag of non-Contracting Parties to the NAFO. CONTENT: The Community is a contracting party to the NAFO Convention. The NAFO Convention provides a suitable framework for regional cooperation in the conservation and management of fishery resources through, inter alia, the setting up of an international organisation known as the NAFO, and the adoption of proposals for conservation and enforcement measures for the fishery resources of the NAFO regulatory area, which become binding upon the contracting parties. NAFO has consistently invited the non-contracting parties concerned either to become a member of NAFO or to agree to apply the conservation and enforcement measures established by NAFO with a view to fulfilling their responsibilities with regard to fishing vessels entitled to fly their flag. At its 19th annual meeting in September 1997, NAFO resolved to adopt a 'scheme to promote compliance by non-contracting party vessels with the conservation and enforcement measures established by NAFO', the objective of which is to ensure that the effectiveness of conservation and enforcement measures established by NAFO is not undermined by non-contracting vessels. This Scheme was subsequently revised in September 1998 and again in September 1999. Under the Treaty, the authority over internal waters and ports is exercised by the Member States. However, as regards access to port facilities in the Community by non-contracting party vessels which are sighted engaging in fishing activities in the NAFO regulatory area, it is necessary to enact additional uniform measures at Community level, which supplement the measures provided for in Council Regulation 2847/93/EEC of 12 October 1993 establishing a control system applicable to the common fisheries policy and ensure that the operation of such vessels in Community ports do not undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and enforcement measures established by NAFO. Against this background, the Council Regulation contains the following provisions: - When a non-contracting vessel to the NAFO scheme is sighted by a Community inspector, this information will be transmitted to the NAFO Secretariat and where possible, the non-contracting party vessel; - The above information on sighting will also be communicated to the Member States; - Community fishing vessels shall be prohibited from receiving transshipments of fish from non-contracting party vessels; - Member States shall ensure that each non-contracting party vessel which enters a designated port is inspected by their competent authorities and this inspection is subject to certain conditions; - Member States shall communicate to the Commission the results of each inspection and this will be communicated in turn to the Secretariat of NAFO. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 24.06.2000.?