

Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) 2001/2032(COS)	Procedure completed
Developing countries: fisheries and poverty reduction	
Subject 3.15.04 Management of fisheries, fisheries, fishing grounds 4.10.05 Social inclusion, poverty, minimum income 6.40.12 Relations with developing countries in general	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	DEVE Development and Cooperation	V/ALE LANNOYE Paul A.A.J.G.	05/02/2001
European Parliament	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	PECH Fisheries	PPE-DE VARELA SUANZES-CARPEGNA Daniel	06/03/2001
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Development	2383	08/11/2001
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Development		

Key events			
08/11/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0724	Summary
28/02/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/10/2001	Vote in committee		
10/10/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0334/2001	
25/10/2001	Debate in Parliament		
25/10/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0581/2001	Summary
25/10/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
08/11/2001	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		Summary
09/05/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2032(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142; Rules of Procedure EP 050
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/5/14431

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2000)0724	08/11/2000	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0334/2001	10/10/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0581/2001 OJ C 112 09.05.2002, p. 0216-0353 E	25/10/2001	EP	Summary

Developing countries: fisheries and poverty reduction

PURPOSE : to present the communication on fisheries and poverty reduction. **CONTENT** : the Commission has analysed the importance of the fishery sector to developing country societies. The analysis provides valuable guidance for the future design of development programmes. It also points to a need to develop sector programmes in priority countries. Certain additional guidelines are needed for interventions in countries with whom the Community has signed a fishery agreement. This communication puts forward specific proposals for what the guidelines for targeting Community interventions should be. There are also important implications for other Community policies, in particular the Common Fishery Policy. It is understood that the implications for the CFP will be taken up in a more operational manner in a separate section in the CFP Green Book (due early 2001) leading up to the 2002 CFP review. Through this communication, the Commission also wishes to draw the attention of the Council and the European Parliament to those aspects of CFP reform which directly relate to poverty reduction in developing countries.?

Developing countries: fisheries and poverty reduction

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Mr Paul LANNOYE (Greens/EFA, B) calling for EU aid policy to be adjusted to help develop fisheries in developing countries. The resolution points out that Community fisheries agreements signed with developing countries are financially more lucrative than the fishing industry's entire development aid. It stresses the importance of consulting local people, like fishermen's organisations and women's groups, in the implementation of fisheries agreements in communities that depend on fishing for their livelihood. Furthermore, given that fish stocks are at risk of depletion in developing countries, it will be necessary to ensure that local people, who are dependent on fishing activities are guaranteed sustainable access. Taking this into account, the EU has approved a code of conduct to help maintain good management practice in its relations with developing countries. The initiative focuses on conservation, management and exploitation. It also looks at employment, income and food security, emphasising the protection of the rights of fishers and fishworkers. On the issue of financial compensation, the resolution suggests that large payments encourage fishing activity even where it would not help reduce poverty. It concludes therefore that fisheries agreements with developing countries should be in the interest of reducing poverty as well as sustaining development. ?

Developing countries: fisheries and poverty reduction

The Resolution adopted by the Council welcomes the communication submitted by the Commission and recognises the importance of fisheries and aquaculture for sustainable development in developing countries, their harmonious and gradual integration into the world economy and the fight against poverty. The council confirms that support for sustainable development in the fisheries sector in the developing countries and the taking into account of the situation of the poorest communities which are dependent on fishing are important topics, which form part of development policy. Consequently, the Council recommends a two-phase approach: 1) Short-term: the Council stresses that the political dialogue concerning development cooperation between the European Community and countries where the fisheries sector is important should place greater emphasis on this sector. The Council calls on the the Commission to assist, at their request, developing countries to implement the following policies and measures: - improving governance in the sustainable management of resources focused towards poverty reduction and the strengthening the participation of civil society; - supporting the implementation of national sector programmes (scientific knowledge, management of fishing activities, protection and valorisation of aquatic ecosystems, improvement of production, marketing and contribution to food security); - support for subregional and regional cooperation for promoting the conservation and the management of resources; - support national and regional efforts to combat non-controlled and non-recorded illegal fishing and particularly to abolish the flags of convenience. In those countries where communities which depend on bio-aquatic resources are amongst the most vulnerable, the Council recommends that the EC pay more attention to improving the living conditions of these communities in the framework of various "priority intervention fields". At

regional level, the Council invites the Commission to intensify its efforts to strengthen systems and capacities for the collection, processing and treatment and circulation of data relating to fish stocks, ecosystems, the economic and social role of the sector and the fishing effort. 2) Longer-term: political dialogue between the European Union and the developing countries (given tangible form by the establishment of Country Cooperation Strategy Papers) should form a joint framework based on the overarching objective of poverty reduction and taking into account the mutual interests of both sides.?