

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	2001/0170(CNS)	Procedure completed
Conservation of fishery resources: tuna tracking and verification system, dolphin conservation		
Subject 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PECH Fisheries	GUE/NGL JOVÉ PERES Salvador	13/09/2001
European Parliament	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2510	19/05/2003
European Commission	Commission DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	Commissioner	

Key events			
30/07/2001	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0406	Summary
19/09/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
28/11/2002	Legislative proposal published	14855/2002	Summary
20/02/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
20/02/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0045/2003	
27/03/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0107/2003	Summary
19/05/2003	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
19/05/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
23/05/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/0170(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/5/15033

Documentation gateway					
Initial legislative proposal		COM(2001)0406 OJ C 304 30.10.2001, p. 0212 E	30/07/2001	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		14855/2002	28/11/2002	CSL	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0045/2003	20/02/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0107/2003 OJ C 062 11.03.2004, p. 0018-0126 E	27/03/2003	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 2003/882 OJ L 127 23.05.2003, p. 0001-0008 Summary

Conservation of fishery resources: tuna tracking and verification system, dolphin conservation

PURPOSE: The establishment of a tuna tracking and verification system. **CONTENT:** As a member of the regional fisheries organisation (RFO), and with fishing interests in the Eastern Pacific, the EU is now seeking to join the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). In the interim period and prior to joining the IATTC the EU has decided to apply guidelines set out under the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Programme, AIDCP. Contracting parties to the AIDCP decided in July 1999 to establish a system to track and verify tuna caught in the Agreement's area of application, with a view to identifying tuna caught without any risk to dolphins. In order to apply this tuna tracking and verification system fully, the provisions of the AIDCP needs to be transposed into Community law by means of a Council Regulation. This proposal is in line with Community principles on transposing RFO recommendations and the practice resulting from the most recent transpositions adopted by the Council.?

Conservation of fishery resources: tuna tracking and verification system, dolphin conservation

The Working Party on External Fisheries Policy agreed on amendments to the Commission's proposal on the basis of a Presidency working paper. The proposed Regulation intends to lay down the general principles and conditions relating to the Community's application of the tuna tracking and verification system adopted by the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Programme (AIDCP). The proposed Regulation contains measures concerning : - Member States' obligations; - the obligations during Fishing Operations; - the unloading, transport, storage and processing operations; - data transmission.?

Conservation of fishery resources: tuna tracking and verification system, dolphin conservation

The committee adopted the report by Salvador JOVÉ PERES (EUL/NGL, E) amending the report under the consultation procedure. As it had done in recent reports on regional fisheries organisations (RFOs), it pointed out that the development of a genuine common fisheries policy demanded that the powers of monitoring fishing activity be assigned to the Commission, which represents the Community in these

organisations. MEPs argued that it followed from this that monitoring activities should be financed from the Community budget. In its amendments, the committee stressed that monitoring activities under the RFOs were currently delegated to the Member States on a transitional basis while the necessary human, material and budgetary resources were lacking in the Commission. In line with the principle of ensuring that the cost of taking part in such organisations was borne by the Community, it therefore proposed that Member States' expenditure on monitoring operations under the Regulation be reimbursed from the Community budget. Other amendments emphasised the Commission's responsibility for guaranteeing compliance with the commitments entered into and ensuring that the information submitted met the criteria of quality, accuracy and regularity. MEPs also wanted to ensure that Parliament was able to exercise its powers of scrutiny by being duly informed of the decisions taken. Lastly, the committee called for the scope of the Regulation to be expanded to include all tuna from the AIDCP Area circulating in the Community, which should be clearly identified as dolphin-safe or non-dolphin-safe as appropriate, until the time it is ready for retail sale. ?

Conservation of fishery resources: tuna tracking and verification system, dolphin conservation

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Salvador JOVE PERES (EUL/NGL, Spain) making some amendments to the Commission's proposal. (Please refer to the document dated 20/02/03). ?

Conservation of fishery resources: tuna tracking and verification system, dolphin conservation

PURPOSE : to establish a tuna tracking and verification system. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Regulation 882/2003/EC establishing a tuna tracking and verification system. CONTENT : this Regulation establishes a tuna tracking and verification system, following the signature by the Community of the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Programme (AIDCP). The purpose of this system is to enable dolphin-safe tuna to be distinguished from non-dolphin-safe tuna from the time it is caught to the time it is ready for retail sale. The system is based on the premise that dolphin-safe tuna shall, from the time of capture, during unloading, storage, transfer, and processing, be identified as dolphin-safe tuna. During the discussions at technical level and with regard to an amendment submitted by the European Parliament, the definition of " non-dolphin-safe tuna" was amended so that any tuna caught in sets in which dolphins were intentionally encircled by vessels without a Dolphin Mortality Limit (DML) or whose captain is not on the List of Qualified Captains maintained by the AIDCP Secretariat, shall not be considered dolphin-safe. The definition of the agreement area (waters of Eastern Pacific) has also been introduced in the text. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 24/05/2003. ?