

Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	2002/0138(CNS) Procedure completed
Conservation of Antarctic marine living resources: technical measures to fishing	
Subject 3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity	
Geographical area Antarctica	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PECH Fisheries	PPE-DE STEVENSON Struan	12/09/2002
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2573	22/03/2004
European Commission	Commission DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	Commissioner	

Key events			
03/07/2002	Initial legislative proposal published	COM(2002)0355	Summary
02/09/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
01/07/2003	Legislative proposal published	COM(2003)0384	Summary
25/11/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
25/11/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0437/2003	
16/12/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0569/2003	Summary
22/03/2004	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/03/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
01/04/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2002/0138(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/5/20015

Documentation gateway					
Initial legislative proposal		COM(2002)0355 , OJ C 262 29.10.2002, p. 0295 E	03/07/2002	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal		COM(2003)0384 ,	01/07/2003	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES1592/2003 OJ C 080 30.03.2004, p. 0012-0016	10/11/2003	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0437/2003	25/11/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0569/2003 OJ C 091 15.04.2004, p. 0029-0089 E	16/12/2003	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 2004/600 OJ L 097 01.04.2004, p. 0001-0015 Summary

Conservation of Antarctic marine living resources: technical measures to fishing

PURPOSE : to establish technical measures concerning the activities of Community fishing vessels which take and keep on board marine organisms from the area covered by the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources ("the Convention"). **CONTENT** : The EC, as a Contracting Party to the Convention, is required to transpose measures adopted by the Convention's Commission ("the CCAMLR") into Community law. To date most of the relevant measures have been transposed by Council Regulations 66/98/EC and 3943/90/EC. These two instruments need to be updated to bring them into line with the amendments to the corresponding CCAMLR measures. Major changes have been made to measures on fishing gear, mesh sizes, scientific observation and the use of plastic packaging bands. The CCAMLR has also adopted, since 1998, new technical measures concerning fishing activities in the exploratory crab and squid fisheries, and the reduction of the incidental mortality of seabirds and marine mammals. Turning to the control system, the CCAMLR has introduced changes designed mainly to distinguish between inspection activities and scientific observation focusing on data collection with a view mainly to evaluating stocks. The scientific observation scheme falls within the technical rather than the control sphere. For that reason, the separation adopted by the CCAMLR is justified. The proposal is made up of five chapters : - general provisions, - fishing gear, - conduct of fishing activities, - scientific observation on board vessels operating in the Convention area, - final provisions. This proposal is presented at the same time as the draft regulation on control measures applicable to fishing activities in the Convention area (see CNS020137.) It should be noted that it contains rules for determining minimum mesh sizes which are normally included in the rules on the control of fishing activities. Their inclusion in this instrument reflects the fact that the concept of technical rules used in Community law comprises not only the technical specifications that must be met by products (in this case, gear) but also the procedures for checking the compliance of those products with the mandatory technical specifications. Moreover, implementation of this type of control is much broader in scope than that of inspections at sea and in port covered by the "control" proposal. Both proposals make use of the Committee procedures.?

Conservation of Antarctic marine living resources: technical measures to fishing

The present amended proposal, before the European Parliament's opinion, aims to take into consideration new technical measures applicable to fishing activities in the CCAMLR area introduced in 2002 and which were not taken into consideration in the previous version of the proposal. These measures concern in particular: - fishing gear (technical standards on the gears authorised in certain fisheries); - crab fishing in clearly defined fishing zone of the Antarctic; - specific provisions aiming at avoid the accidental death of sea birds, during longline fishing; - stricter provisions as regards Community vessels moving in relation to the level of their by-catches (it is particularly in the case of exploratory fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp); scientific observation on board vessels operating in the CCAMLR zone (in particular, arrangements on the placing of observers on board vessels); - the Reporting of information to the CCAMLR. Lastly, the new version of the text makes reference to certain decisions entered into force since the first proposal, concerning comitology (in particular Decision 1999/468/EC laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission). It should be noted that the annexes also include amendments which are similar to the amendments accepted in the body of the text.?

Conservation of Antarctic marine living resources: technical measures to fishing

The committee adopted the report by Struan STEVENSON (EPP-ED, UK) approving the proposal under the consultation procedure, subject to one drafting amendment aimed at making the text clearer. The amendment, which concerns the basic requirements constituting the conditions for the issue of a special fishing permit, is in line with the amendment proposed to Article 3(4)a of the regulation laying down certain control measures applicable to fishing in the area covered by the Convention.?

Conservation of Antarctic marine living resources: technical measures to fishing

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Struan STEVENSON (EPP-ED, United Kingdom) and made several amendments to the proposal. (Please refer to the document dated 25/11/03.) ?

Conservation of Antarctic marine living resources: technical measures to fishing

PURPOSE : to lay down technical measures concerning the activities of Community fishing vessels which take and keep on board marine organisms taken from marine living resources in the area covered by the CCAMLR Convention. LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Regulation 600/2004/EC laying down certain technical measures applicable to fishing activities in the area covered by the Convention on the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources. CONTENT : the Council unanimously adopted this Regulation laying down certain technical and control measures applicable to fishing activities in the area covered by the Convention on the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources (CCAMLR). As the adoption of conservation measures by CCAMLR is binding on the contracting parties, this Regulation includes, in Community law, the provisions for the control of fishing activities and technical rules, which apply to certain fishing activities. These provisions include among other, the banning of certain types of equipment regarded as harmful to environment, the use of specific fishing gear. As regard the control of fishing activities, they entail special fishing permits, data reporting system, inspection at sea and in port and infringement procedures. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 08/04/2004.?