

# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	<a href="#">2002/0189(CNS)</a>	Procedure completed
Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations		
Amending Regulation (EC) No 973/2001 <a href="#">2000/0149(CNS)</a>		
Subject		
3.15.01 Fish stocks, conservation of fishery resources		
3.15.15 Fisheries agreements and cooperation		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries		12/09/2002
		V/ALE <a href="#">PIÉTRASANTA Yves</a>	
	Former committee responsible		12/09/2002
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries		
		V/ALE <a href="#">PIÉTRASANTA Yves</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries</a>	<a href="#">2578</a>	26/04/2004
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	<a href="#">Maritime Affairs and Fisheries</a>		

Key events			
24/07/2002	Initial legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2002)0420</a>	Summary
05/09/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/01/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
23/01/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0015/2003</a>	
22/07/2003	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2003)0421</a>	Summary
01/09/2003	Report referred back to committee		
25/11/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
25/11/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0439/2003</a>	
13/01/2004	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0003/2004</a>	Summary

26/04/2004	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
26/04/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/04/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	2002/0189(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation (EC) No 973/2001 <a href="#">2000/0149(CNS)</a>
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/5/20057; PECH/5/16515

### Documentation gateway

Initial legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2002)0420</a> , <a href="#">OJ C 291 26.11.2002, p. 0210 E</a>	24/07/2002	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0015/2003</a>	23/01/2003	EP	
Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2003)0421</a>	22/07/2003	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0439/2003</a>	25/11/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T5-0003/2004</a> OJ C 092 16.04.2004, p. 0018-0067 E	13/01/2004	EP	Summary

### Additional information

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

<a href="#">Regulation 2004/831</a> <a href="#">OJ L 127 29.04.2004, p. 0033-0034</a> Summary
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## Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations

PURPOSE : to amend Regulation 973/2001/EC on technical measures for the conservation of stocks of highly migratory species. CONTENT : Since 14 November 1997, the EC has been a Contracting Party to the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (the ICCAT Convention.) The technical measures adopted by ICCAT were transposed by Council Regulation 973/2001/EC. At its 17th meeting, the ICCAT adopted new technical measures for certain stocks of highly migratory species in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. This proposal deals with the transposition of those recommendations into Community law by amending the above-mentioned Regulation.?

## Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations

The committee adopted the report by Yves PIÉTRASANTA (Greens/EFA, F) amending the proposal under the consultation procedure as follows: - the use of monofilament streamer lines on swivels, enabling live blue marlins and white marlins to be easily released, should be made compulsory (rather than merely being encouraged as originally proposed), on the grounds that this would also facilitate the release of live sharks as recommended by the ICCAT; - transshipments from vessels flying flags of convenience, which are engaged in fishing activities diminishing the effectiveness of measures adopted by the IOTC, should be prohibited; - as regards by-catches of undersized fish, the tolerance level for bluefin tuna should be 10% of the quantities landed, to reflect the new ICCAT recommendations concerning small bluefin. The committee added that it should be prohibited to retain on board, land or sell bluefin tuna under 4.8 kg in the Mediterranean; - Member States should develop and implement specific plans, in 2003 and 2004, for reducing the capture of juvenile bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean and eastern Atlantic. The plans should aim to reduce by at least 60% the number of fish caught that are below 6.4 kg.?

## Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations

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The Commission has submitted an amended proposal in order to take account of recent events: The EC has approved the Agreement establishing the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). Also, in 2001 the ICCAT adopted further technical measures for certain highly migratory stocks in the Atlantic and Mediterranean but the Council has not yet adopted the proposal for a Regulation amending Council Regulation 973/2001/EC in order to transpose these into Community law. At its 13th special meeting at Bilbao from 28 October to 4 November 2002 ICCAT adopted further technical measures for certain highly migratory Atlantic and Mediterranean stocks that also need to be transposed into Community law. The amended proposal therefore amends Regulation 973/2001/EC in order to transpose the 2001 and 2002 recommendations into Community law.?

## Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations

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The committee adopted the report by Yves PIÉTRASANTA (Greens/EFA, F) approving the proposal under the consultation procedure, subject to just one amendment. It said that the use of monofilament streamer lines on swivels, enabling live blue and white marlins to be easily released, should be required rather than merely encouraged. MEPs pointed out that both blue and white marlin are over-fished, according to ICCAT, and that the release of live sharks was a stated goal of ICCAT Resolution 2001-11.?

## Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations

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The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Yves PIETRASANTA (Greens/EFA, F) making one amendment to the proposal. (Please see the document dated 25/11/03.)?

## Technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species: regional fisheries organisations' recommendations

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PURPOSE : to incorporate certain technical measures recommended by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) into Community law. LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Regulation 831/2004/EC amending Regulation 973/2001/EC laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of certain stocks of highly migratory species. CONTENT : The main amendments to Regulation 973/2001/EC are as follows: - Fishing for bluefin tuna with encircling nets in the Mediterranean Sea is prohibited from 16 July to 15 August each year. - Member States must each year draw up a sampling programme for the estimation of the numbers-at-size of the bluefin tuna caught, inter alia, through scientific observers on board the vessels or at the farming sites. This programme must be sent to the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics for validation, and a copy to the Commission. Before 1 July each year, Member States must send to the Commission a report on the findings of the programmes executed in the previous year. - Member States must execute in 2003 and 2004 a plan to reduce the catches of juvenile bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean and ensure respect for the minimum bluefin tuna size as indicated. They must also execute in 2003 and 2004 a scientific programme to identify the various fisheries taking bluefin tuna and the size composition of their respective catches. Their estimates shall embrace the past data available. - the tolerance levels for certain species are amended. - Member States must do their utmost to encourage the release of live sharks caught accidentally, in particular juveniles. They must also encourage the reduction of discards of sharks. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 06/05/04.?