


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2003/2035(INI)	Procedure completed
EC/Greenland fisheries agreement, 4th protocol: mid term review		
Subject 3.15.15.08 Fisheries agreements with Northern and Baltic countries		
Geographical area Greenland		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PECH Fisheries		23/01/2003
		PSE MIGUÉLEZ RAMOS Rosa	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		25/03/2003
		PSE DÜHRKOP DÜHRKOP Bárbara	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2487	24/02/2003
	General Affairs	2474	10/12/2002
European Commission	Commission DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries	Commissioner	

Key events			
03/12/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2002)0697	Summary
10/12/2002	Debate in Council	2474	
24/02/2003	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
13/03/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/06/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
10/06/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0228/2003	
02/09/2003	Debate in Parliament		
03/09/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0363/2003	Summary

03/09/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
------------	--------------------------------	--	--

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/2035(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/5/19308

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2002)0697	03/12/2002	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SEC(2003)0570	13/05/2003	EC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0228/2003	10/06/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0363/2003 OJ C 076 25.03.2004, p. 0119-0169 E	03/09/2003	EP	Summary

EC/Greenland fisheries agreement, 4th protocol: mid term review

PURPOSE : to present the mid-term review of the fourth fisheries Protocol between the EU and Greenland. **CONTENT** : the fourth protocol of the fisheries agreement with Greenland entered into force in January 2001 and is subject to a mid-term review clause, according to which the Commission will have to submit proposals no later than the end of February 2003. The aim of the present communication is to explain why this review, far from being a routine operation, requires addressing now the political challenge facing the future of European Union - Greenland relations. It then lays down the main features of a political commitment between EU, Greenland and the Danish Kingdom, ensuring that after 2007, the relations will be based on a comprehensive partnership for sustainable development. Lastly, it sets out a framework for negotiation between the Commission and the Greenland authorities with the view of adjusting the fourth protocol on fisheries within the expected time schedule of the mid-term review. In the light of the present strategy for a long term relationship between the EU and Greenland, the Commission believes that the Greenland authorities should consider a significant modification of the 4 th fisheries protocol from 2003 onwards. Considering that the annual financial compensation foreseen by the protocol until the end of 2006 should remain unchanged, the Commission will propose to the Greenland authorities: - to agree on catch quotas that are in line with fishing possibilities estimated on the basis of scientific advice, even though this will accentuate the discrepancy between the value of fishing possibilities and the amount of the financial compensation; - to amend the protocol in order to earmark some of the financial compensation for the structural reform of Greenland's fisheries industry and to promote responsible fishing in its waters. The measures envisaged to do this would be programmed, implemented monitored by Greenland, which would produce an annual statement of the cost and benefits of the measures financed. It is also necessary to support the transition to a more articulated form of co-operation, to be outlined in a country strategy paper. During the transitional period, financial aid should continue to be provided along the lines of a budgetary support; thereafter, the most appropriate instrument will be used. As soon as possible and in any case 2005 at the latest, the specific needs and constraints of Greenland relating to human resources and institutional aspects should be assessed, with a view to ensuring that Community aid achieves the best possible efficiency and sound financial management, as it is normally done when the Community grants funds in this form.?

EC/Greenland fisheries agreement, 4th protocol: mid term review

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Rosa MIGUELEZ RAMOS (PES, E) on the Commission's communication on the mid-term review of the fourth fisheries protocol between the EU and Greenland. The central message of the report was that the agreement should be made more transparent, by separating the fisheries aspects from those linked to broader cooperation. While recognising the special relationship between the EU and Greenland, and the importance of EU assistance (which represents 4% of Greenland's GDP), the committee argued that all non-fisheries aspects should be financed from heading 4 of the Financial Perspective (external action) or through the European Development Fund, rather than from the already modest fisheries budget. The report also endorsed the Commission's suggestion that the catch quotas foreseen in the agreement should be updated in line with the latest scientific evidence. It drew attention to the low use of the fishing possibilities provided for in the protocol and the consequent waste of Community financial resources, and reiterated its request for the Commission to draw up a cost-benefit analysis of the agreement. Lastly, MEPs called on the Greenland authorities to acknowledge the desirability of incorporating the appropriate amendments to improve the protocol during the mid-term review, without needing to await its expiry. ?

EC/Greenland fisheries agreement, 4th protocol: mid term review

The European Parliament adopted the own-initiative report drafted by Rosa MIGUELEZ RAMOS (PES, Spain) on the Commission's mid-term review. (Please refer to the document of 10/06/03.) Members made the following additional points: - the Council and Commission should consider the need for sharing the cost of this agreement equitably between the Community and shipowners, in a similar way to the sharing of costs in the majority of international fisheries agreements; - the Commission is asked to boost the setting-up of joint ventures between the Community and Greenland and, in particular, temporary partnerships between undertakings. This might play an extremely important role in the development of the local economy and in increased utilisation of fishing rights. Some of the financial compensation should be earmarked for this purpose.?