

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2003/2112(INI)	Procedure completed
The outermost islands and the fishing industry		
Subject		
3.15.06 Fishing industry and statistics, fishery products		
4.70.06 Outlying and outermost regions, overseas countries and territories		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	PECH Fisheries	PPE-DE SUDRE Margie	27/05/2003

Key events			
03/07/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/01/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
20/01/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0014/2004	
10/02/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0076/2004	Summary
10/02/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/2112(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/5/19719

Documentation gateway					
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0014/2004	20/01/2004	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0076/2004 OJ C 097 22.04.2004, p. 0033-0086 E	10/02/2004	EP	Summary

The outermost islands and the fishing industry

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Margie SUDRE (EPP-ED, F) on the outermost regions and the fishing industry. It said that the adaptation of the common fisheries policy (CFP) to the special requirements of the outermost regions (the French overseas departments, the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands) must be systematic and continuous but subject to regular adjustment. The report said that further financial help should be given to the scheme for compensation of the additional costs incurred in marketing certain fishery products from these regions. Moreover, implementation of the funds would be improved by allowing a greater flexibility between regions if it proves that the possibility of adjustment within regions belonging to the same Member State or between species has not led to full utilisation of the amounts available. MEPs also called for aid to be continued for the management of fleets beyond 2006 (the cut-off date for Community aid to fleets) and made a number of other recommendations: a fishing observatory should be established in each outermost region to monitor fish stocks and the environment; provision should be made for formal participation of the outermost regions in Regional Advisory Councils; the outermost regions must be supported in their efforts to control the increasingly serious problem of illegal fishing; the Commission should put forward a proposal to increase funding for the POSEI programmes, which are fundamental to the well-being of these regions and cover the different aspects of the CAP.?

The outermost islands and the fishing industry

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drafted by Margie SUDRE (EPP-ED, F). (Please see the summary of 20/01/04.) Parliament felt that the organisation of the market should be improved by the more active involvement of existing producers and by increasing the eligibility of new species of fish from the outermost regions to benefit from the instruments provided for by the Commission. It went on to state that, in order to ensure the sustainability of own resources, it is imperative to have a zone, in addition to territorial waters, specifically reserved for fishermen of the nations concerned, whose fleets from the outermost regions would have the sole right to exploit the resources in this zone. The outermost regions should also be favoured in negotiations with third countries which have geographical connections with the outermost regions. This should relate to fishing licences, landing facilities, and crewing where this involves boats from the outermost regions.?