

# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	2003/0202(CNS) Procedure completed
Marketing of fisheries products: scheme to compensate for additional costs resulting from the remoteness of the Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, Guyana, Réunion (2003-2006) Repealed by <a href="#">2011/0380(COD)</a>	
Subject 3.15.06 Fishing industry and statistics, fishery products 4.70.06 Outlying and outermost regions, overseas countries and territories	
Geographical area Portugal Spain France Réunion	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed	
	<b>PECH</b> Fisheries		09/09/2003	
		PPE-DE <a href="#">SUDRE Margie</a>		
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed	
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		07/10/2003	
		PSE <a href="#">DÜHRKOP DÜHRKOP Bárbara</a>		
	<b>JURI</b> Legal Affairs and Internal Market		20/10/2003	
		PSE <a href="#">ZIMERAY François</a>		
	<b>RETT</b> Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		10/09/2003	
		GUE/NGL <a href="#">PUERTA Alonso José</a>		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date	
	<a href="#">Environment</a>	<a href="#">2556</a>	22/12/2003	
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner		
	<a href="#">Maritime Affairs and Fisheries</a>			

Key events			
25/08/2003	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2003)0516</a>	Summary
22/09/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

24/11/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
24/11/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0411/2003</a>	
04/12/2003	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0536/2003</a>	Summary
22/12/2003	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/12/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/12/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

#### Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/0202(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Repealed by <a href="#">2011/0380(COD)</a>
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/5/20025

#### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2003)0516</a>	25/08/2003	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	<a href="#">CES1396/2003</a> <a href="#">OJ C 032 05.02.2004, p. 0064-0065</a>	29/10/2003	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0411/2003</a>	24/11/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T5-0536/2003</a> OJ C 089 14.04.2004, p. 0030-0098 E	04/12/2003	EP	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	<a href="#">SEC(2006)1528</a>	30/11/2006	EC	
Follow-up document	<a href="#">COM(2006)0734</a>	30/11/2006	EC	Summary

#### Additional information

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

<a href="#">Regulation 2003/2328</a> <a href="#">OJ L 345 31.12.2003, p. 0034-0042</a> Summary
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Marketing of fisheries products: scheme to compensate for additional costs resulting from the remoteness of the Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, Guyana, Réunion (2003-2006)

PURPOSE : to introduce a compensation scheme for the additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain fishery products from the Azores,

Madeira, the Canary Islands and the French departments of Guyana and Reunion as a result of the remoteness of those regions. CONTENT : The outermost regions of the Community are lagging behind in socio-economic terms. There are several significant factors contributing to the socio-economic situation in these regions: - a per capita GDP below the Community average; - high unemployment rates in some regions and situations of serious underemployment; - a primary sector still largely dependent on traditional industries and employing a large part of the population. Family firms dominate the fishing industry. - additional costs in relation to supplies and transport: the absence of nearby regional markets, the limitations of local markets and transport difficulties mean that there are permanent constraints on these economies as regards access to the outlets where their products are marketed. Council Decisions 89/686/EEC, 91/314/EEC and 91/315/EEC, have instituted programmes of specific options for addressing the remoteness and insularity of these regions. The programmes are designed to take account, in implementing Community policies, of the special characteristics and handicaps of these regions in connection with their remoteness, insularity, small size and difficult topography and climate. This proposal follows up on the measures already taken by adopting a legal instrument whereby a stable reference framework can be put in place for the economic operators concerned. The purpose of this proposal is to enable the scheme already in place to continue, given its considerable success. The existing arrangements have enabled the producers concerned to overcome the constraints of the additional costs in connection with transport to the continental market. On this aspect the proposal merely sets out to offset the additional costs arising from the disposal of the products concerned. The aim is to bring conditions into line with those prevailing on the mainland so that the sector can integrate into the single market. The measures proposed are designed to support the market in order to compensate for a permanent geographical handicap and involve no structural aspect or impact. For this reason, these measures are to be financed by the EAGGF Guarantee Section and cannot be charged to the FIFG (Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance) since the latter is by definition for financing structural measures. These measures cover a particularly important sector in these regions. They will help to improve the sector's competitiveness by compensating for the handicap of the isolation of the local fishery products industry within the framework of Community policy to assist the outermost regions. FINANCIAL STATEMENT: - Budget line: B1-3240 Fisheries programme for outermost regions. - Total allocation for action: EUR 59 981 648 (EUR 14 995 412 per year for four year period.) The Commission is proposing the scheme without a time limit starting in 2003, with the annual funding indicated above. The Council generally fixes a period of application of four years. - Impact on staff: 1 staff will be assigned.?

## Marketing of fisheries products: scheme to compensate for additional costs resulting from the remoteness of the Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, Guyana, Réunion (2003-2006)

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The committee adopted the report by Margie SUDRE (EPP-ED, F) amending the proposal under the consultation procedure: - Article 299(2) of the Treaty (on specific measures for the outermost regions) should be taken as the legal basis for the proposal rather than Article 37 (agricultural policy); - provision should be made for appropriations to be revised on an annual basis, taking account of the rates of utilisation of appropriations in each of the regions concerned, "without prejudice to the key for distributing the financial amounts available under this Regulation for the following years, and after verifying that the possibility for modulation within regions belonging to the same Member State, or among species, has not resulted in the full use of the amounts available"; - to keep administrative costs down and make the decision-making process as effective as possible, the Commission should be assisted by an advisory committee rather than a management committee; - given the exceptional nature of the proposed measures, the Commission should report to the budgetary authority by 1 May each year (i.e. before the first reading of the budget) on the progress made in the implementation of the scheme. ?

## Marketing of fisheries products: scheme to compensate for additional costs resulting from the remoteness of the Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, Guyana, Réunion (2003-2006)

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The European Parliament adopted by 450 votes in favour, 9 against and 42 abstentions a resolution drafted by Margie SUDRE (EPP-ED, F) making some amendments to the Commission's proposal. (Please see the summary dated 25/11/03).?

## Marketing of fisheries products: scheme to compensate for additional costs resulting from the remoteness of the Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, Guyana, Réunion (2003-2006)

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PURPOSE : to introduce a compensation scheme for the additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain fishery products from the Azores, Madeira, the Canary Islands and the French departments of Guyana and Reunion as a result of the remoteness of those regions.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Regulation 2328/2003/EC introducing a scheme to compensate for the additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain fishery products from the Azores, Madeira, the Canary Islands and the French departments of Guyana and Réunion, as a result of those regions' remoteness. CONTENT : the fisheries sector in the outermost regions of the Community faces difficulties, which are aggravated in particular by the cost of transporting fishery products to the markets as a result of their remoteness and isolation. The regions concerned are facing specific development problems, and in particular additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain products as a result of their remoteness. This Regulation introduces a scheme to compensate for the additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain fishery products from the Azores, Madeira, the Canary Islands and the French departments of Guyana and Reunion. The recipients of the compensation shall be the producers, the owners or operators of vessels registered in the ports of the regions referred to above and operating therein or associations of such operators, and the operators in the processing and marketing sector or associations of such operators, who incur the additional costs in marketing the products concerned as a result of the remoteness of those regions. In the case of the Azores, the compensation shall be payable for tuna, species for marketing fresh and small pelagics and deep-sea species. In the case of Madeira, the compensation shall be payable for tuna, black scabbardfish and aquaculture products. In the case of the Canary Islands, the compensation shall be payable for tuna, skipjack, pilchard, mackerel and aquaculture products. In the case of Guyana, the compensation shall be payable for shrimp and non-industrial white fish to be marketed fresh or frozen. In the case of Reunion, the compensation shall be payable for swordfish, tuna, marlin/makaira, shark, sailfish and Dolphinfish. ENTRY INTO FORCE : this Regulation shall enter into force on 31/12/2003. It shall apply from 01/01/2003 to 31/12/2006.?

## Marketing of fisheries products: scheme to compensate for additional costs resulting from the

## remoteness of the Azores, Madeira, Canary Islands, Guyana, Réunion (2003-2006)

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The present report has been prepared by the Commission in response to requirements set out in Regulation 2328/2003/EC introducing a scheme to compensate for additional costs incurred in the marketing of certain fishery products from the Azores, Madeira, the Canary Islands and the French departments of Guiana and Reunion as a result of those regions' remoteness.

The report is based on the findings of a study on the 'Structural aspects of the Common Fisheries Policy in the outermost regions', which was conducted by Ernst & Young and forwarded to the Commission in September 2006. The study's main objective is to analyse the specific problems and needs of the fisheries sector in the EU's outermost regions and to provide recommendations on how to maximise the Community's support programmes.

In its conclusions the Commission notes that, throughout its operations, the compensation scheme has brought lasting stability. The scheme has also contributed to the outermost regions' employment opportunities. The benefits these operators have derived from the scheme have enabled the various sectors concerned to maintain an adequate level of output and development.

In view of the need for a strategic vision for the fishery sectors, the Commission is proposing that the scheme should continue at the same level of funding for the period 2007-2013. Such an approach would be in line with the duration of measures set out by the European Regional Development Fund.

At the same time, a number of changes are being called for. The changes should:

- offer greater flexibility particularly as far as the specific marketing needs of the outermost regions are concerned. This could be achieved by firstly, allowing Member States to determine and adjust the eligible fishery products and their quantities, and secondly to fix the respective compensation amounts within an annual allocation of funds, based on current allocation schemes. It could also be achieved by basing compensation amounts on the additional costs arising from transport to the European mainland;
- introduce safeguards to avoid unjustified levels of compensation, in particular, by limiting compensation to a share of the transportation and other related costs and taking consideration of other types of public intervention;
- offer stricter definitions on eligibility conditions. This could be achieved by excluding support for products incompatible with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy or derived from imported products;
- ensure that compensation schemes will not adversely affect biologically sensitive stocks;
- concentrate support on economically viable recipients only;
- simplify administrative procedures;
- ensure improved accountability through the introduction of regular Member State reporting mechanisms.

The proposal for a Regulation, which accompanies this report sets out the details of the proposed amendments.