


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1994/0173(CNS)	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Control system applicable to the common fisheries policy		
Subject 3.15.07 Fisheries inspectorate, surveillance of fishing vessels and areas		

Key players			
European Parliament			
Council of the European Union			
	Council configuration Fisheries	Meeting 1788	Date 28/09/1994

Key events			
12/07/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0309	Summary
28/09/1994	Debate in Council	1788	Summary
07/07/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
07/07/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
10/07/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
18/09/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
21/09/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/0173(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 163; EC before Amsterdam E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	PECH/4/06891

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(1994)0309 OJ C 247 03.09.1994, p. 0007	13/07/1994	EC	Summary

Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES1302/1994 OJ C 397 31.12.1994, p. 0019	23/11/1994	ESC	Summary
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Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Control system applicable to the common fisheries policy

In order to permit the integration of Spain and Portugal into the common fisheries policy, the Commission proposed amending Regulation (EEC) No 2847/93, given the need to supplement the current control system in order to integrate the rules concerning the monitoring and control of fishery activities subject to limits on the fishing effort. In order to strengthen Community regulations, the proposal provided for the surveillance of the movements of vessels and/or their catches. Various specific provisions were included in order to ensure control of and respect for the fishing days for vessels operating in regulated areas. Measures were also included to strengthen controls of fishing tackle on vessels so as to ensure that only equipment permitted within the framework of the fishing restrictions were used. Finally, the Member States should ensure that on the basis of the information they received from their fishermen, they put a stop to fishing in an area where the fishing effort had been achieved. The Commission proposed adopting the proposal at the latest in parallel with its proposal for a regulation establishing the conditions of access to certain Community fishing areas and resources. ?

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The Committee adopted by a small majority the report by Mr James PROVAN concerning the Commission proposal to improve the control system for monitoring fishing effort. The main amendments adopted in the report seek to distinguish between smaller vessels and those above 27 metres in length. For vessels between 15 and 27 metres the report calls for a simplified system based upon a 'black box', which would log the name of the vessel, the location, speed and activity and would be interpreted when the boat came back to port. According to the rapporteur, this would have the advantage of being much cheaper and less bureaucratic and would be sufficient considering that the majority of these vessels do not fish in distant waters. He estimated that to install satellite systems, for instance, in such boats could amount to a quarter of the value of the vessels themselves. For vessels over 27 metres in length, the report proposes the compulsory introduction of satellite monitoring equipment to keep track of the location and movement of all boats in this category. Reacting to the report, the Commission said that while it welcomed some of the ideas expressed in it, it was not able to accept the key amendments as it preferred to wait for the outcome of various pilot projects currently being conducted. ?

Control system applicable to the common fisheries policy

The rapporteur emphasised in particular the need to simplify the control measures proposed by the Commission. Underlining the complexity of this issue, Commissioner BONINO disagreed with the rapporteur that given the lack of experience in this area they should try to find empirical solutions. In relation to the new technologies, before requiring the compulsory installation of satellites (which was very costly) or a control system based on a black box, it would be appropriate to wait for the outcome of the pilot projects currently being conducted. Similarly, action should be taken before extending the application of the control system to the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. She therefore concluded by calling for the Commission proposal to be approved as it stood.