



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat

To: Delegations

No. prev. doc.: 9171/3/12 PECHE 135 CODEC 1086 REV 3 + REV 3 COR 1 + REV 3 COR 2
10414/12 PECHE 191 CODEC 1444
11366/12 PECHE 229 CODEC 1666

No. Cion prop.: 12514/11 PECHE 187 CODEC 1166 - COM(2011) 425 final

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the
Common Fisheries Policy
- *General approach*

Delegations will please find attached the statements by the Council and by the Commission related to the outcome of proceedings¹ of the "Agriculture and Fisheries" Council meeting held on 12 June 2012.

¹ doc. 11322/12 PECHE 227 CODEC 1657

COUNCIL STATEMENTS

Ad Article 2(2)

Statement on MSY and shared stocks

The Council underlines the necessity to improve the performance of RFMOs in order to enable the MSY objective laid down in Article 2(2) to be achieved for stocks that are exploited by Union and third country vessels.

Ad Article 15(1)

Statement on landing obligation and fishing opportunities

In order to facilitate the introduction of landing obligations in Article 15(1) of the Basic Regulation of the CFP, an increase of related fishing opportunities is justified, subject to scientific advice on total fishing mortality. The Council notes with approval the Commission's intention to review, and where appropriate propose the removal of, associated control measures and technical measures in good time before landing obligations come into effect.

Ad Article 16

Statement on external exchange of fishing opportunities

The Council urges the Commission to submit to it a proposal aiming at authorising the Member States to undertake quota exchanges with third countries in cases where an RFMO measure allows for quota exchanges among the parties to the RFMO. The Commission is invited to submit such a proposal in the framework of the forthcoming amendment to the TACs and quotas regulation.

Ad Article 17

Statement on regionalisation

The Council welcomes a regionalised approach within the Common Fisheries Policy and invites the Member States having a direct management interest in a given geographical area (Member States concerned) to cooperate in order to agree joint recommendations. Joint recommendations should only be considered as such when they are unanimously agreed by all Member States concerned. The Council invites the Commission to contribute to formulating an approach that facilitates a practical implementation. To this end, the Council urges the Commission, when elaborating its proposals and acts, to take the utmost account of the unanimously agreed joint recommendation whenever it deems that such joint recommendation is compatible with the relevant conservation measures including a multiannual plan. Where no unanimously agreed recommendation exists, the Commission is invited to submit a proposal for a legislative act or for an act under Article 43(3) TFEU.

Ad Article 26a

Statement on new advisory council

The Council invites the Commission to study the feasibility and suitability of establishing a separate advisory council for the processing industry taking into account the roles of existing advisory bodies.

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION

Statement on discards

The Commission will facilitate further work with the Member States concerned in order to elaborate solutions that can bring about effective elimination of discards. The intention of elimination of discards is not to reduce fishing opportunities.