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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency  
To: Council

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Subject: Establishing the conditions for the implementation of Union support to the Common Fisheries Policy, the European Ocean Pact and of the Union maritime and aquaculture policy 2028-2034  
- Progress report

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**I. Introduction**

The Commission presented its proposal on the conditions for the implementation of the Union support to the Common Fisheries Policy, to the European Ocean Pact and of the Union's maritime and aquaculture policy on 16 July 2025.<sup>1</sup>

The proposal is part of the multiannual financial framework (MFF) package for the period 2028-2034 and aims to set out the specific rules for Union support to the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and related areas, in particular as regards the admissibility of applications and the eligibility of interventions. It complements the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for the period 2028-2034 and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 and Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 ('NRPP Regulation'), which

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1 ST11757/25 + COR 1 + COR 2 REV 1 + COR 3.

sets out the rules for programming, implementation, governance and monitoring, as well as the financial framework for, amongst others, the interventions relating to the CFP and its related areas.

The Agriculture and Fisheries Council held a policy debate on the proposal in its meeting of 22 September 2025<sup>2</sup>, dealt with the topic at its meeting of 17 November 2025 as part of two AOBs<sup>3</sup>, and received a progress report by the Danish Presidency in its meeting of 11-12 December 2025<sup>4</sup>.

## **II. Progress within the Council and its Preparatory Bodies**

The Working Party on Fisheries Policy examined the proposal between September 2025 and June 2026. The Cyprus Presidency presented six Presidency compromise proposals for discussion in the Working Party. In addition, the Permanent Representative Committee dealt with the file on 17 and 19 June 2026 and discussed two further compromise texts.

In its various compromise proposals, the Cyprus Presidency addressed key concerns of Member States by:

- ensuring a focus on support to the Common Fisheries Policy as central common policy of the Union, as well as highlighting the importance of funding for the aquaculture sector;
- stressing the importance of continued support for fisheries control and data collection, as this is a legal obligation for Member States under Union law and essential for sustainable fisheries;
- clarifying the rules of the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies adopted at the WTO's 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference in June 2022 and in force since 15 September 2025;
- clarifying the provisions on inadmissibility of applications as well as rules on recovery;
- adjusting rules for certain types of operations to align them with other policy fields and in view of facilitating generational renewal; and
- including rules for investments in fishing vessels.

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2 ST 12707/25.

3 ST 15256/25 and ST 15326/25.

4 ST 16147/25.

In all compromise texts, the Cyprus Presidency put particular emphasis on ensuring consistency with the proposed NRPP Regulation, for which the Council (General Affairs) reached a partial general approach on 16 June 2026, and coherence of the proposed architecture of EU funds.

Discussions showed that, amongst others, the topic of Union support for investments in Union fishing vessels, in particular in view of decarbonisation, requires further attention, also in light of provisions to be regulated in other legal acts.

