



Brussels, 17 September 2020  
(OR. en)

10717/20

LIMITE

PECHE 231

## OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	11 September 2020
To:	Delegations

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Subject:	Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy: I. UK accession to certain RFMOs II. IATTC Transposition Regulation III. NEAFC PECMAC IV. Autonomous Tariff Quotas 2021-2023 V. A.O.B.
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### I. UK accession to certain RFMOs

#### – *presentation by the Commission*

1. The Presidency recalled that the Working Party on the United Kingdom had been informed on 28 August 2020 about the Commission's intention to submit these proposals and was in principle favourable towards them. She equally informed delegations that the Working Party on the United Kingdom will examine the proposals later that day.
2. The Commission representative presented the proposals as set out in docs. ST 10522/20 PECHE 217 UK 32 and ST 10525/20 PECHE 218 UK 33.

3. The Council Legal Service intervened to suggest small amendments to the Council Decision on the position to be taken within NEAFC (doc. ST 10522/20).
4. Delegations generally welcomed the proposal and could agree on the texts. In this context, several delegations inquired about the methodology for this year's TAC and quota negotiations in December given the need for prior consultations with third countries including the UK.
5. DK entered a parliamentary scrutiny reservation.
6. The Presidency reassured delegations that they would inform them as soon as possible about the proceedings for the December negotiations. She then concluded that the Working Party had examined and agreed on the two proposals including the amendments suggested by the CLS. If the Working Party on the United Kingdom equally confirmed its agreement, the proposals would be submitted to Coreper on 16 September 2020 as I-items. The Council Implementing Decision, given its urgency, could then be adopted by written procedure while the Council Decision would be adopted at the AGRIFISH Council on 21 September 2020 as A-item.

II. Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Convention area and amending Council Regulation (EU) No 520/2007

– *Examination of the proposal*

1. The Presidency recalled that the Commission proposal was presented at the Working Party on 15 July 2020 and that delegations were invited to submit written comments on the proposal. No amendments to the text were requested by delegations.
2. DK entered a Parliamentary reservation.

3. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party approved the Commission proposal with the Parliamentary reservation of Denmark and that the proposal would be submitted to the Permanent Representatives Committee for an agreement on the Council's position.

III. NEAFC Permanent Committee on Monitoring and Compliance (PECMAC), 15-17 September 2020 (virtual meeting)

– *Preparation*

1. The Commission representative presented two EU proposals to be submitted to PECMAC for the meeting on 15-17 September 2020, concerning transshipments and sufficient inspection means. He explained that both proposals had been discussed in an EU coordination meeting on 10 September (virtual meeting) and that the Commission had modified the proposals in view of the comments made by Member States during that meeting. He noted that other items and documents on the agenda of the PECMAC meeting had also been addressed during the coordination meeting.
2. FR supported the proposals. The Council Legal Service welcomed the efforts by the Commission to ensure compliance with EU rules on the protection of personal data in NEAFC.
3. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party agreed with the two presented EU proposals and that the annual meeting of PECMAC was prepared.

IV. Proposal for a Council Regulation opening and providing for the management of autonomous Union tariff quotas for certain fishery products for the 2021-2023 period

– *Examination of the proposal*

1. The Working Party concluded examination of the tariff quotas included in the annex to the proposal (9548/20 ADD 1), taking note of explanations by the Commission representative as concerns the methodology used to establish each tariff quota.
2. Delegations generally confirmed comments made as they feature in docs 10218/20 + ADD 1-13, except as follows<sup>1</sup>:
  - PL supported IT and PT's request for a 55 000 t tariff quota for order no. 09.2790 (loins of tunas and skipjack);
  - PL supported the arguments made by DK and SE in support of a requested 7 000 t tariff quota for order no. 09.2794 (shrimps and prawns);
  - PL supported DK and SE's request for a 4 000 t tariff quota for order no. 09.2798 (shrimps and prawns);
  - PL supported DK and SE's request for a 3 000 t tariff quota for order no. 09.2800 (shrimps and prawns);
  - ES, supported by PL, requested a 55 000 t tariff quota for order no. 09.2802 (shrimps and prawns);
  - PL supported a request by other delegations to reintroduce a tariff quota for crayfish tails (order no. 09.2804);

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<sup>1</sup> Positions that had already been expressed by delegations in their written comments are not reproduced here.

- SE supported PL's request for new tariff quotas for flatfish and mackerel icefish;
  - CY supported EL's request for a new tariff quota for opalescent inshore squid.
3. The Presidency announced that it would prepare, in the light of the opinions and comments made, a compromise proposal for discussion at an informal Working Party videoconference meeting on 23 September 2020. She reminded delegations that trilaterals by videoconference had been tentatively scheduled for 28 September 2020.

V. Any other business

- *SFPAs for Mauritania and the Cook Islands (at the request of the Spanish delegation)*
1. ES asked for an update on the renewal of SFPA protocols with Mauritania and the Cook Islands, highlighting the need to avoid an interruption in fishing activities.
2. The Commission representative announced that procedures within the Commission were underway with a view to presenting at the end of the month proposals for the renewal of the two protocols. The expectation being that the necessary procedures should be completed in time as concerns Mauritania (the current protocol expires on 15 November), and maybe a few days late as regards the Cook Islands (the current protocol expires on 13 October).
3. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party had taken note of the information provided, and asked the Commission to keep it updated of further developments.
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