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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)
Subject: Case before the Court of Justice of the European Union
– Case C-562/25 P - Appeal against the judgment of the General Court of
11 June 2025 in case T-681/22

**REDACTED DOCUMENT ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (12.11.2025). ONLY
MARGINAL PERSONAL DATA HAVE BEEN REDACTED.**

1. By application notified to the Council on 2 September 2025, the Kingdom of Spain lodged an appeal against the judgment of the General Court of 11 June 2025 in Case T-681/22 (Spain v Commission). In the judgment under appeal, the General Court rejected Spain's application for annulment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1614 of 15 September 2022 determining existing deep-sea fishing zones and establishing a list of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known to occur or are likely to occur and its plea of illegality of Article 9(6) and (9) of Council Regulation (EU) 2016/2336¹ (the basic regulation).

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/2336 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2016 establishing specific conditions for fishing for deep-sea stocks in the north-east Atlantic and provisions for fishing in international waters of the north-east Atlantic and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2347/2002 (OJ L 354, 23.12.2016, p. 1).

2. The appellant raises the following grounds in support of its appeal, claiming that the General Court erred in law:
- a) in the interpretation of the basic regulation and the principle of proportionality in relation to the impact of fixed gear;
 - b) in the interpretation of the basic regulation and the principle of proportionality in relation to the concept of vulnerable marine ecosystems and the significant adverse impact standard;
 - c) in the application of the Common Fisheries Policy rules.
3. The Director-General of the Council Legal Service has appointed **DELETED** **DELETED**, **DELETED** and **DELETED**, Legal Advisers in the Council Legal Service, as the Council's agents in this case.
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