

Brussels, 4 December 2025
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PECHE 424

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council

On: 27 November 2025

To: Delegations

Subject: Working Party on Fisheries Policy of 27 November 2025

I. MAIN TACs & QUOTA REGULATION 2026-2027-2028

II. MED TACs 2026 REGULATION

III. SFPAs MOROCCO

IV. SFPAs NEGOCIATIONS

V. PRESIDENCY LETTERS TO EC & EP

I. Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2026, 2027 and 2028 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters

– *Examination of the second non-paper*

1. The Commission services representative presented the second non-paper.
2. Several delegations commented on shared stocks (in the scope of the non-paper) and expressed concerns about a lack of an agreement with third countries on some of shared stocks.
3. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party had examined the non-paper and taken note of the comments by delegations and the Commission. She asked delegations to send written comments by Friday, 28 November 2025, (noon).

II. **Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION fixing the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Mediterranean and Black Seas for 2026**

– *Examination of the Commission services non-paper*

1. The Commission services representative presented the non-paper on the proposed measures in the western Mediterranean.
2. Delegations concerned expressed opposition to the proposed fishing effort reduction. On the compensation mechanism, two delegations raised concerns over the geographic component of the compensation mechanism. On remedial measures, one delegation requested to maintain the voluntary nature of the choice of the used gear.
3. Several delegations entered scrutiny reservations on the non-paper, with one delegation raising the issue of its late arrival.

The Presidency concluded that the Working Party took note of the presentation by the Commission, as well as of comments made by delegations, and invited delegations to send in written comments by 28 November.

III. **Recommendation for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations on a sustainable fisheries partnership agreement and an implementing protocol thereto between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco**

– *Examination of Presidency compromise*

1. The Presidency outlined the changes to the Commission's proposal set out in its compromise text and explained that one additional modification would be made.
2. The Council Legal Service representative intervened to provide some comments on the Commission's recommendation and the Presidency compromise.
3. Numerous delegations took the floor to comment on the recommendation and compromise text and to ask about the next steps. A few delegations entered scrutiny reserves.
4. The Commission services representative responded to some questions of delegations.
5. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party had examined the Presidency compromise and taken note of the comments by delegations and the Commission. She asked delegations to send written comments by Monday, 1 December 2025, COB.

IV. Update from the Commission on SFPAs negotiations

– *Presentation by the Commission*

1. The Commission services representative updated on the state of play and future plans as regards the negotiations of various SFPAs with third countries.
2. Numerous delegations intervened to comment on the topic and to ask questions.
3. The Commission services representative responded to questions by delegations and informed about an expert group meeting to be held on 8 December, which would, amongst others, address the new generation of SFPAs.
4. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party has taken note of the presentation by the Commission as well as the interventions by delegations.

V. Letters to the Commission and the European Parliament regarding amendments of the multiannual plans for fisheries in the Baltic Sea, the North Sea, the Western Waters and in the Western Mediterranean

– *Examination*

1. The Presidency presented the above-mentioned draft letters and explained the context.
2. A large number of delegations intervened to support the initiative and draft texts. A few delegations asked for the possibility to make some adjustments and send written comments.
3. The Commission services representative commented on the initiative.
4. The Presidency concluded that the Working Party had examined the draft letters on the above-mentioned topic and taken note of the comments by delegations and the Commission. She asked delegations to send written comments by Monday, 1 December 2025, COB, and explained that the point would again be on the agenda of the next Working Party before submitting the letters to Coreper for approval.