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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and and repealing Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 - <i>Bible</i>

Delegations will find attached written comments by the Maltese delegation on the above-mentioned document.

Malta's Comments on the bible of the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Article 3 - Definitions

With regard to paragraph 2(10) Malta considers that there might be overlaps with the security fund based on the description provided for 'maritime security and surveillance'. Thus, Malta is requesting a clarification on the potential interventions under EMFF to ensure a clear demarcation between the two.

Articles 40-45 - Implementation of the CFP, Promotion of clean and healthy seas, Market intelligence, Maritime policy and development of a sustainable blue economy, Maritime security and surveillance and International ocean governance

Malta believes that the word 'shall' is to be replaced with 'may' within articles 40-45 as follows, to allow for flexibility to address local needs:

Article 40:

The EMFF ~~shall~~ **may** support the implementation of the CFP through:

Article 41:

1. The EMFF ~~shall~~ **may** support the promotion of clean and healthy seas, including through actions to support the implementation of Directive 2008/56/EC and actions to ensure coherence with the achievement of good environmental status pursuant to Article 2(5)(j) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, and the implementation of the European strategy for plastics in a circular economy.
2. The support referred to in paragraph 1 ~~shall~~ **may** be coherent with the Union environmental legislation, in particular with the objective of achieving or maintaining a good environmental status as set out in Article 1(1) of Directive 2008/56/EC.

Article 42:

The EMFF ~~shall~~ **may** support the development and dissemination of market intelligence for fishery and aquaculture products by the Commission in accordance with Article 42 of Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013.

Article 43:

The EMFF ~~shall~~ **may** support the implementation of the maritime policy through:

Article 44:

The EMFF ~~shall~~ **may** support the promotion of maritime security and surveillance, including through data sharing, coastguard and agencies cooperation and fight against criminal and illegal activities at sea.

Article 45:

The EMFF ~~shall~~ **may** support the implementation of the international ocean governance policy through:

Article 47 - Blending operations

Malta believes that in order to ensure additional flexibility in the implementation of blending operations, this article should read as follows;

Where applicable, ~~blending~~ Blending operations under the EMFF shall be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU) No [Regulation on InvestEU] and Title X of Regulation (EU) No [Regulation on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union].

Annex III

The 100% aid intensity rate for operations related to small-scale coastal fishing should also be extended to investments in small-scale coastal fishing vessels.

Furthermore, the 30% aid intensity rate of 'Engine Replacement' is still very low and therefore, a higher aid intensity is required to reach tangible objectives within the sector.