



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 7 February 2007 (08.02)
(OR. en,sv)**

**Interinstitutional File:
2005/0201 (CNS)**

**5852/07
ADD 4**

LIMITE

PECHE 21

NOTE

from : Swedish delegation
to : Working Party on Internal Fisheries Policy

No. Cion prop. : 13139/05 PECHE 203 - COM(2005) 472 final

Subject : Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel

Delegations will find attached written comments from the Swedish delegation on the subject mentioned above.

Written comments from the Swedish delegation concerning DS 52/07 LIMITE. Proposal for a Council Regulation establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel

Comments on the four points in DS 52/07 LIMITE.

II. A possible way forward

1. The proposal is acceptable on condition that, when national plans are assessed in this regard, care is taken to ensure that all Member States are treated alike and that there is no softening of the real purport of the target.

The reference period must be designed with the backing of scientific advice in which account is taken, for example, of the fact that eel migration has developed differently in different parts of Europe.

It is important that the target should be constantly monitored, and the need for an assessment time can be discussed.

2. Flexibility as to what measures should be taken in each Member State is a good thing, as it means that cost-effective methods can be chosen. However, it is important that timing aspects and the need for coordination between various measures should be taken into account, so as not to risk weakening the effectiveness of the measures, since the biological situation for eels is serious. Measures which are expected to have a rapid effect on spawning stock and recruitment should get under way promptly and in parallel with more long-term measures.

It is also important that the overall effect of all human activity affecting eels should be taken into account, so that some measures do not become meaningless because other measures are not being implemented at the same time.

3. SE welcomes the proposal.

4. Export measures are an indispensable ingredient. CITES listing should not exclude export restrictions also being considered in the framework of WTO rules when the Regulation has been adopted.