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PECHE 59

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NOTE

from : Lithuanian 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 received from the Lithuanian delegation on the subject mentioned above.

Document: 7300/07 PECHE 59

Comments:

Article 2

Clause 3

The objective of the Eel Management Plan to guarantee the escapement to the sea of 40 % of the biomass of adult eel is a long term objective; therefore it would be difficult to set a fixed date by which this objective should be achieved. In any case, the term for achieving this objective should not be less than 10 years.

Clause 10

The reference to the article 10 is irrelevant as the provisions set out in the Council Regulation No. 2847/93 said afore cannot be applied for inland waters. It is enough to indicate, that Member States should describe their national control and enforcement measures in the Eel Management Plan.

Article 6

It is essential to have a requirement, that no less than 75 % of eels less than 12 cm in length caught should be used in a restocking program.

Article 7

Clause 1

This clause should be applied only for specialized eel fishery in Community maritime waters. We would suggest indicating the reference period in clause 1 from 2004 to 2006, but it is also possible to have the reference period from 2000 to 2006.

Article 11

Clause 1

It would be difficult to implement the provisions regarding the information transmission on all the traders engaged in commercial eel trade, because in Lithuania there are no registered traders engaged only in specialized eel trade.

Usually, fishing vessels to catch eels in inland waters are not used; therefore it would be irrelevant to be obliged to provide with information on all the fishing vessels authorized to fish for eel in eel river basins. We would suggest Member States setting their own control system.

Article 12

It could be difficult to implement this provision, as the imported eel is usually received from the mediators, not from the producers directly.