



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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ADD 3**

**LIMITE**

**PECHE 86**

**PUBLIC**

**NOTE**

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from : The Netherlands delegation

to : Permanent Representatives Committee

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

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

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Delegations will find attached a proposal from the Netherlands delegation to insert a new recital and to amend Articles 2 and 7 in the Addendum to document 7572/07 PECHE 71.

This was tabled as a room document in the Coreper meeting of 28 March 2007.

Text proposals re doc 7572/07 ADD 1 PECHE 71 - EEL RECOVERY

Insert new recital

Measures that have to be taken as an integral part for the recovery of the stock of the European eel, contained by the Eel Management Plan, shall have the maximum possible regard to aquaculture of eel.

Article 2, par. 3 and 4

Art. 2(3) For each eel river basin defined under paragraph 1, Member States shall prepare an Eel Management Plan. The objective of each Eel Management Plan shall be, to permit with high probability the escapement to the sea of at least 40 % of the biomass of silver eel relative to the best estimate of escapement **prior to the decline of the stocks**. The Eel Management Plan shall be prepared with the purpose of achieving this objective in the long term.

Art. 2(4) (a) use of data prior to 1980, **the time at which eel stocks started to decline**, provided these are available in sufficient quantity and quality. **On this basis, the 40% rate of escapement could be calculated using the average long-term escapement rate in the years prior to the decline.**

Article 2, par. 9

In the Eel Management Plan, each Member State shall implement appropriate measures as soon as possible to reduce the mortality caused on eel by factors outside the fishery, including hydroelectric turbines, pumps and predators, unless this is not necessary to obtain the objective of the plan. **These measures to reduce mortality on eel by factors outside the fisheries, should be linked to the timeframe of the Water Framework Directive.**

Article 7, par. 1

Where a Member State operates a fishery in Community maritime waters that catches eel, **either the annual fishing effort shall be reduced by at least 50 % relative to the average effort deployed from 2004 to 2006 or** the annual effort deployed in that fishery shall be reduced to ensure a reduction of eel catches by at least 50 % relative tot the average catch from 2004 to 2006. This reduction is to be achieved gradually over a period of 5 years, initially by steps of 15% per year in the first two years, **from 1 January 2009.**