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WK 7994/2020 ADD 13

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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, and amending Council Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, and amending Council Regulations (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 1967/2006, (EC) No 1005/2008, and Regulations (EU) No 2016/1139 and (EU) 2017/2403 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards fisheries control - Revised Presidency compromise for blocks 1 and 2 - Documents ref.: WK 5173/2/2020 REV 2 and WK 5173/2/20 REV 2 ADD1 - Portuguese comments

Delegations will find attached written comments by the Portuguese delegation on the above-mentioned subject.

Dear all,

Please find below PT comments, regarding blocks 1 and 2 (WK 5173/2/2020 REV2 ADD1).

Article 13

The new wording has an effort to clarify and simplify/(flexibilization) the obligations of MS and operators, but alters a vital function of REM that is "... may include geopositioning systems...". PT considers that the inclusion of GPS data in the images collected is essential, under penalty of not having any use in the crossing of data and verification of fishing areas, namely for the purposes of landing obligations, therefore proposing the previous version "... using geopositioning systems...". If the amendment is accepted, PT is in favour of the new wording.

Article 15 _A

Whereas adherence to the system developed by the Commission is optional, PT has no objection, despite the need for common definitions.

Article 55

The rule that provided for the obligation of MS to create a system of licenses or registration of persons and vessels involved in recreational fishing was eliminated. PT considers this change to be a setback in the objective of controlling species and stocks that are subject to Union conservation measures, although it is expected that MS ensure that "natural and legal persons engaged in recreational fisheries for such species, stocks or groups of stocks record and report their catches by electronic means to the competent authorities".

PT considers that only the monitoring of the two obligations (reporting of catches and licensing or registration of fishermen) ensures adequate control. The setback may not help Member States, which already have these mechanisms in place, to step up measures in this area.

Best regards,

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