### COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(94) 421 final

Brussels, 07.10.1994

#### STRUCTURAL FUNDS

#### ADAPTATION OF FISHERIES STRUCTURES

(OBJECTIVE 5a)

(COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL,
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS)

#### THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

#### informs

# the COUNCIL, the EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT and the COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

- of its decision of 17 June 1994 No 94/447/EC, published in OJ No L 183 of 19 July 1994, p. 50, establising the indicative allocation by Member State of the commitment appropriations from the Structural Funds for Objective 5 (a) (fisheries structures) for the period 1994-99
- this decision was notified to the Member States on 20 June 1994
- an explanatory note is attached for information.

#### STRUCTURAL FUNDS - ADAPTATION OF FISHERIES STRUCTURES (OBJECTIVE 5a)

#### ALLOCATION OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES BETWEEN MEMBER STATES

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#### INTRODUCTION

1. According to the terms of the regulations on Community assistance concerning the adaptation of fisheries structures<sup>(1)</sup>, all of the assistance must be subject to multiannual programmes in the context of the structural funds.

Since the programmes have a direct bearing on the financial aspects, it is important to fix the allowance for each Member State over the period of the Structural Fund programmes (1994 - 1999). There are two ways in which this can be done, depending on the status of the regions concerned with regard to Objective 1 of the Structural Funds:

- for the regions covered by Objective 1, the allowance under Objective 5a "fisheries" is fixed as part of a global envelope within the general context of the assistance programmes under Objective 1.
- for other regions, article 12.4 of the framework regulation of the structural funds (2) stipulates that "Objective 5(a) except for those fields covered by Objective 1 shall receive an allocation based principally on continuity related to the degree of utilization of resources during the preceding programming period and on the specific structural needs of agriculture and fisheries as they are perceived"
- 2. The Commission recently fixed the global financial envelope for Objective 5a "fisheries" outside Objective 1 at 858 million ecus at 1992 prices. It is this amount and only this amount which can now be allocated between the Member States concerned (3)
- 3. Concerning the first notion raised in article 12.4 of the framework regulation of the structural funds ("continuity related to the degree of utilization of resources during the preceding programming period") it should be noted that the legal basis previously in force for the adaptation of fisheries structures (4) were operational, in their definitive form, only during the period 1991 1993. Over this reference period it is the volume of aid granted which is of significance.
- 4. Concerning the second notion ("the specific structural needs of agriculture and fisheries as they are perceived"), two factors should be taken into account:
  - the relative importance of the fisheries sector in the Member States concerned in comparison to all the regions outside Objective 1,
  - the exact structural situation of the sector in each Member State. The first factor is easily quantified. On the other hand, the second factor can be correctly assessed only when the Member States arrive at their estimates, in other words when the services of the Commission have available the sector plans envisaged in article 3 of Regulation (EC) no. 3699/93.

<sup>(4)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) no. 4028/86 of 18 December 1986 and Council Regulation (EEC) no. 4042/89 of 19 December 1989, both repealed on 31.12.1993.



<sup>(1)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) no. 2080/93 of 20 July 1993 laying down provisions for implementing Regulation (EEC) no. 2052/88 as regards the financial instrument of fisheries guidance (OJ no. L193 of 31.7.1993, p.1) and Council Regulation (EC) no. 3699/93 of 21 December 1993 laying down the criteria and arrangements regarding Community structural assistance in the fisheries and aquaculture sector and the processing and marketing of its products (OJ no L 346 of 31.12.1993, p.1).

<sup>(2)</sup> Council Regulation (EEC) no. 2052/88 of 24 June 1988, last amended by Council Regulation (EEC) no. 2081/93 of 20 July 1993 (OJ no. L 193 of 31.7.1993, p.5).

<sup>(3)</sup> Greece, Ireland and Portugal, entirely covered by Objective no. 1, are not concerned; Luxembourg has no activity in the fisheries sector. This refers to the non-Objective 1 regions of the other Member States.

5. In the absence of sector plans it is thus not possible to completely assess the "specific structural needs as they are perceived"; the allocation which is the subject of the present communication can therefore be only partial.

This is why the Commission has decided, at this stage in the procedure, to allocate only 90% of the resources available. The remainder will ultimately be the subject of a reallocation, before the formal approval of the "Community programme for structural assistance in the sector" envisaged in article 4 of Regulation (EEC) no. 3699/93. This second allocation will allow, when the time comes, possible problems or specific circumstances to be taken into account which might justify certain corrections.

6. In application of the above the Commission has decided on the following allocation (all the amounts are expressed in MECU at 1994 prices):

Allowance for Objective no. 5a "fisheries"	A	= 908.62 <sup>(*)</sup>
To be deducted:	D = 900 of (A)	= 72.69
- contribution to the Community initiatives - actions under article 4	B = 8%  of (A)	= 72.09
of Regulation (EEC) No. 2080/93	C = 2%  of (A)	= 16.72 (***)
Available sum remaining	D = A - B - C	= 819.21
Sum available for the initial allocation between the Member States	E = 90%  of (D)	= 737.29
between the Member States	E = 90%  of  (D)	= 131.29

#### Suggested allocation:

В	(2.93%)	21.60
DK	(18.38%)	135.51
D	(8.92%)	65.77
EL	(0.00%)	0.00
E	(14.32%)	105.58
F	(23.15%)	170.69
IRL	(0.00%)	0.00
I	(16.09%)	118.63
NL	(5.59%)	41.21
L	(n/a)	(****)
P	(0.00%)	0.00
UK	(10.62%)	78.30
	(100.00%)	737.29

or 858 MECU in 1992 prices - see point 2 above

studies, pilot projects, provision of services, technical assistance

In view of possible actions in this Member State, it has been decided that 1 MECU should be reserved from the 10% which remains unallocated.

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## **DOCUMENTS**

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