



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 18.05.1998
COM(1998) 336 final

98/ 0033 (ACC)

Amended proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

**Prohibiting imports of Atlantic blue-fin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*)
Originating in Belize, Honduras and Panama**

(presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 189 a (2)
of the EC-Treaty)

Explanatory Memorandum

At its annual meeting in 1996, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) adopted a recommendation to prohibit the import of Atlantic blue-fin tuna by its Contracting Parties, in any form, from Panama, with effect from 1 January 1998.

Identical import restrictions for blue-fin tuna products have previously been proposed by the Commission in relation to Honduras and Belize – written procedure E/138/98.

The objective of this proposal is, therefore, to prohibit imports of Atlantic blue-fin tuna from Belize, Honduras and Panama in one single piece of legislation.

Amended proposal for a

Council Regulation (EC)
Prohibiting imports of Atlantic blue-fin tuna (Thunnus thynnus)
Originating in Belize, Honduras and Panama

The Commission has on 11 February 1998 forwarded to the Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union a proposal on the above subject (Commission document COM(98) 48 final) following binding recommendations from the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT).

The Council had a preliminary discussion of the proposal in the 113 Committee on 27 February 1998.

At the last annual meeting of ICCAT, it was confirmed that a recommendation from 1996 to prohibit from 1 January 1998 the importation of Atlantic blue-fin tuna, originating in Panama, be implemented. Therefore, the Commission finds it expedient and appropriate to include Panamanian products in the above proposal.

To that respect, the following modifications to the proposal in COM(98) 48 final should be introduced :

- the title should read :
“Council Regulation (EC) No. Prohibiting imports of Atlantic blue-fin tuna (Thunnus thynnus) originating in Belize, Honduras and Panama.”
- 4th. “Whereas” read :
“Whereas in 1995 ICCAT identified Belize, Honduras and Panama....”
- 6th. “Whereas” include :
“Panama” in the second line.
- Last part of Article 1 (1) should read :
“.... originating in Belize, Honduras and Panama is hereby prohibited.”

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