

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 1-1178/82

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc.1-1171/82) for a regulation concerning the management and control of certain catch quotas allocated for 1983 for vessels flying the flag of a Member State and fishing in the Regulatory Area defined in the NAFO Convention

Rapporteur: Mrs Jeanne PAUWELYN

By letter of 17 January 1983, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation concerning the management and control of certain catch quotas allocated for 1983 for vessels flying the flag of a Member State and fishing in the Regulatory Area defined in the NAFO Convention.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture as the committee responsible.

At its meeting of 18/19 January 1983, the Committee on Agriculture appointed Mrs Jeanne Paulwelyn rapporteur.

The committee considered the Commission's proposal and the draft report at its meeting of 18/19 January 1983 and decided unanimously to recommend to Parliament that it approve the Commission's proposal without amendment.

The committee then adopted unanimously the motion for a resolution as a whole.

The following took part in the vote: Mr Curry, chairman; Mr Colleselli, vice-chairman; Mrs Pauwelyn, rapporteur; Mr Clinton, Mr Cottrell (deputizing for Mr Battersby), Mrs Ewing (deputizing for Mr Davern), Mr Helms, Mr Hord, Mr Howell, Mrs Le Roux (deputizing for Mr Pranchère), Mr Ligios, Mr Lückner (deputizing for Mr Bocklet), Mr McCartin (deputizing for Mr Dalsass), Mr Maher, Mr Maffre-Baugé, Mr Mouchel, Mr d'Ormesson, Mr Provan, Ms Quin, Mr Stella (deputizing for Mr Diana), Mr J.D. Taylor (deputizing for Mr Kirk), Mr Tolman, Mr Vgenopoulos and Mr Wettig.

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
A MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION.....	5
B EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.....	6
Annex.....	7

The Committee on Agriculture hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement :

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation concerning the management and control of certain catch quotas allocated for 1983 for vessels flying the flag of a Member State and fishing in the Regulatory Area defined in the NAFO Convention

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council (COM(82) 825 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc.1-1171/82),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc.1-1178/82),
 - having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposal,
1. Approves the Commission's proposal;
 2. Requests the Council to consult the European Parliament on any modification to this regulation as did the Council on an amendment to the 1981 quotas, but which the Council failed to do for a similar amendment in 1982;
 3. Instructs its President to forward to the Council and Commission, as Parliament's opinion, the Commission's proposal as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution.

B

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The North-West Atlantic Fisheries Convention regulates fishing in the international waters beyond 200 miles of the Community (Greenland), Canada and the US. The Community has a tradition of fisheries in this area along with other signatories such as Norway, USSR, Spain, Portugal and a number of East European countries. The Community is a member of the Convention and as such participates directly in decisions to fix catch quotas, their distribution and other measures to regulate stocks.

The amounts fished by the Community are not considerable compared to catches in the nearby Canadian waters for example: 5,000 tonnes of Cod, Plaice, Flounder and Red fish, as compared to the 14/15,000 tonnes of Cod in Canadian waters, and the joint stocks regulated with the Canadians, around 19,000 tonnes of Greenland halibut, 7,000 tonnes of Round-nosed Grenadier and over 20,000 tonnes of Deepwater Prawns. There are considerable Squid fisheries, around 7 to 10,000 tonnes.

It is important however for the Community to participate in the NAFO Convention. The fisheries, though small, do provide an important additional source for vessels making the long and expensive voyage to Greenlandic and Canadian waters. It is really important to maintain cooperation and good relations with the Canadian authorities and the Convention does play an important role in the regulation and conservation of fish stocks.

The amounts proposed for the Community are the same as those granted in 1982, except for a very small reduction in the allocation of Yellow tailed Flounder, 380 tonnes as opposed to 430 tonnes. The Committee on Agriculture can therefore approve the proposal. It would, however, point out that on a proposal to modify the 1982 catch quotas (COM(82) 339 final) the Council had decided not to consult the European Parliament as it had done on a similar amendment for 1981, Regulation No 3366/81, OJ L340, 27/11/81, p. 1. The Committee requests therefore that the European Parliament be consulted on any modifications or amendments to the present proposal.

CATCH QUOTAS

Species	NAFO Division	(tonnes)		
		1981	1982	Proposed 1983
Cod	3 NO	210	210	210
	3 M	2405 (1470) ¹	Ger. 700	Ger. 700
			Fr. 300	Fr. 300
			UK 1405	UK 1405
American plaice	3 LNO	700	700	700
	3 M	500	500	500
Yellowtail flounder	3 LNO	400	430	380
Redfish	3 M	1200	1200	1200
	3 LN		150	150
Witch	3 NO	50	50	50
Squid (Illex)	3 + 4	7500	9750	9750
Capelin	3 LNO		0	0

¹
Original regulation No 2228/81, OJ L218, 4.8.81, p.1

