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Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the
European Communities to the Council (Doc. 106/78-VI)
for a regulation on a ~~common~~ interim measure for
restructuring the inshore fishing industry

Rapporteur : Mr E. ANDERSEN

PE 53.443/fin.

1.2.1

The President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation on a common interim measure for restructuring the inshore fishing industry.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Budgets for its opinion.

The Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr ANDERSEN rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 8 May 1978 and unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution.

Present : Mr Kofoed, chairman; Mr Andersen, rapporteur; Mr Bersani (deputizing for Mr L'Estrange); Mr Bourdellès, Mr Brégégère, Mr Dewulf, Mr Früh, Mr Herbert, Mr Klinker and Mr Tolman.

The explanatory statement will be presented orally by the rapporteur.

The opinion of the Committee on Budgets is attached.

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

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation on a common interim measure for restructuring the inshore fishing industry.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(78) 170 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the Treaty establishing the EEC (Doc. 106/78 - VI),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (Doc. 115/78),
 - having regard to the earlier report by the Committee on Agriculture on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 438/75) for a regulation on a programme for restructuring the non-industrial inshore fishing industry,
 - having regard to the Council resolutions of 3 November 1976 on certain external and internal aspects of the common fisheries policy,
 - having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 101/76¹ laying down a common structural policy for the fishing industry and in particular Article 9 thereof, which lays down an action programme for such restructuring measures,
1. Regrets that the Council has not yet adopted definitive measures for this sector, which is vital to the economies of certain peripheral regions of the Community;
 2. Welcomes therefore the Commission's initiative in proposing interim measures for this sector pending implementation of a definitive programme.

Measures to finance the acquisition of fishing vessels

3. Approves the financing of fishing vessels in regions where the fishing potential is such that the industry can be expanded;

¹ OJ No. L 20, 28.1.1976, p. 19

4. Welcomes in particular the derogations provided for in the case of Greenland, the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and the Mezzogiorno in order to help these less-favoured regions to increase their fishing potential, which will thus contribute to their economic development;
5. Feels that the measures finally adopted by the Council to aid the inshore fishing industry should take account of the conservation of fishery resources so that the survival of the fishermen is not jeopardized by measures leading to overcapitalization or excessive prices;

Measures to aid aquaculture

6. Approves also the measures to encourage the development of aquaculture in regions particularly suitable to it;
7. Regrets nevertheless that no special measures have been taken to help in particular oyster farmers and shellfish breeders in Brittany, which was badly hit by the Amoco Cadiz disaster;
8. Considers that the development of aquaculture would be a valid alternative to inshore fishing in this peripheral region of the Community;
9. Recalls therefore its resolutions of 14 April 1978 calling for special measures to help the Breton population¹;
10. Recalls the importance it attaches to the promotion of aquaculture as a means of developing the economies of the Community's coastal regions and safeguarding and ensuring the continuity of the Community's supplies of fish and other seafoods;
11. Hopes therefore that, in the definitive measures for restructuring the inshore fishing industry which the Commission will be proposing to the Council, it will include vigorous measures to encourage research into aquaculture, to set up relevant pilot projects and to allow this new activity to be developed on an industrial scale;
12. Requests the Commission to incorporate the following amendment in its proposal, pursuant to Article 149, second paragraph, of the EEC Treaty.

¹ Resolution tabled on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture on the Amoco Cadiz disaster (Doc. 37/78/rev.);
Resolution tabled on behalf of all the political groups on shipping regulations (Doc. 55/78)

Preamble and recitals unchanged

Articles 1 - 5

unchanged

Article 6

Article 6

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

unchanged
unchanged
unchanged

4. The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament, shall adopt by a qualified majority the measures needed to help coastal regions, hit by natural disasters or disasters caused by human agency and whose inshore fishing industries suffer serious losses as a result, to develop new activities to exploit marine resources, particularly in the field of aquaculture.

For such projects, the Community shall finance 50% of the total investments needed.

Articles 7 to 13

unchanged

¹For complete text see Doc. 106/78 - VI

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Mr N. A. KOFOED, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture

Strasbourg, 9 May 1978

Dear Mr Kofoed,

At its meeting of 8 May 1978 the Committee on Budgets considered the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(78) 170 final) for a regulation on a common interim measure for restructuring the inshore fishing industry.

It is intended to facilitate the implementation in 1978 of investment projects aimed at restructuring the inshore fishing industry.

The Commission has announced that it will shortly be submitting to the budgetary authority a proposal for the transfer of the necessary appropriations, at present entered in Chapter 100.

In anticipation of this transfer, the Committee on Budgets approves the proposal for a regulation.

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(sgd.) Erwin LANGE

Present : Mr Lange, chairman; Mr Van Aerssen, Lord Bruce of Donington, Mr Caro, Mrs Dahlerup, Mr Dankert, Mr Notenboom, Mr Radoux, Mr Ripamonti and Mr Spinelli