

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 688 final

Brussels, 21 October 1982

Amendment
to the ~~proposal~~ proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery
resources

(submitted to the Council by the Commission in accordance with
Article 149, indent 2 of the EEC Treaty)

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Article 14 of the Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources concerns legislation on the use of beam trawls in the coastal waters of the Community. This legislation comprises a general scheme and a specific scheme applicable in the coastal waters of the United Kingdom. During the recent meetings of the Council the United Kingdom proposed to extend the general scheme to its coastal waters, except for a limited area on the South West coast of the United Kingdom. The Council could not agree on this proposal because of the impact it might have in terms of different treatment between the fishermen concerned, i.e. between the fishermen of the area concerned and Belgian fishermen.

Taking into account the conservation measures and the general interest of the Community, it is appropriate to generalize the use of the beam trawls in all regions of the Community, which is the subject of this modification.

Article 14 of the Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources of 4 February 1982 (COM(82)30 final) in the version of the Council Document 7895/82 of 23 June 1982 shall be amended to read as follows :

Article 14

1. Purse seines may not be used for the fishing of the species listed in Annex V, nor may they be used for the fishing of herring in ICES VII, divisions g) to k) (1), with the exception of Bantry Bay.
2. In the Kattegat, the use of beam trawls shall be prohibited.
3. Inside an area within 12 miles of the continental mainland coasts of Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, France, Ireland, the United Kingdom and the west of Denmark as far as the Hirtshals lighthouse, measured from the baselines from which the territorial waters are measured, no vessel exceeding 70 GRT or 300 bhp shall trawl for sole or plaice with any beam trawl.

The vessels referred to in the preceding subparagraph shall be prohibited from fishing for sole or plaice with other types of trawls which are specially designed for catching flatfish in growing areas situated within 12 miles of the continental mainland coasts of Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and the west of Denmark as far as the Hirtshals lighthouse, measured from the baselines from which the territorial waters are measured.

Notwithstanding subparagraphs 1 and 2, vessels covered by the ban and fishing for other species in the area may not retain on board sole and plaice in an amount exceeding 10 % by weight of the entire catch on board.

4. Vessels may not carry beam trawls or other trawls within the areas mentioned in this Article where such beam trawls or other trawls may not be used, unless they are properly lashed and stowed in such a way that they may not be readily used.

(1) Increased by the area bounded :

- in the north by latitude 52° 30' N,
- in the south by latitude 52° 00' N,
- in the west by the coast of Ireland,
- in the east by the coast of the United Kingdom.