



COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



PRESS RELEASE

11310/83 (Presse 221)

896th meeting of the Council

- Fisheries -

Brussels, 14 December 1983

President: Mr Constantinos SIMITIS,
Minister for Agriculture
of the Hellenic Republic

The Governments of the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Paul de KEERSMAEKER State Secretary for European
Affairs and Agriculture

Denmark:

Mr Henning GROVE Minister for Fisheries
Mr Lars Emil JOHANSEN Minister in the Government of
Greenland

Germany:

Mr Hans-Jürgen ROHR State Secretary, Federal Ministry
of Food, Agriculture and Forestry
Mr Wolfgang von GELDERN Parliamentary State Secretary,
Federal Ministry of Food,
Agriculture and Forestry

Greece:

Mr Constantinos SIMITIS Minister for Agriculture
Mr Panayiotis KATSAROS State Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture

France:

Mr Guy LENGAGNE State Secretary,
Ministry of the Sea

Ireland:

Mr Patrick O'TOOLE Minister for Fisheries

Italy:

Mr Giuseppe CERAMI State Secretary for the Merchant Navy

Luxembourg:

Mr Jean FEYDER Deputy Permanent Representative

AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES

The Council reached overall agreement on:

- the allocation of herring fishing possibilities in the North Sea;
- the TACs and QUOTAS for 1983;
- the Fisheries Agreement with Canada ⁽¹⁾ and the Regulations implementing the results of the consultations with Norway on fishing activities in 1984.

Formal adoption of the instruments necessary to give these agreements legal shape will take place rapidly once the texts have been finalized.

HERRING FISHING

The Council agreed on the allocation of herring fishing possibilities for the Member States in the North Sea ⁽¹⁾.

It will be remembered that herring was the only major species not covered by the agreement of 25 January 1983.

Today's agreement provides that in future herring catch possibilities will be allocated in accordance with the following scale which will apply as from 1 January 1984.

	D	F	NL	B	UK	DK
Given a TAC of 155 000 t	13,3%	13,8%	27,6%	7,000t	24,15%	21,15%
Given a TAC of 251 000 t	15,0%	12,0%	27,0%	6,000t + 1%	23,0%	22,0 %
Quantities above 251 000 t to be divided	17,5%	8,5%	20,5%	1,0%	17,5%	35,0%

For TACs of between 155 000t and 251 000 t distribution would correspond to points on straight-line graphs in each case.

⁽¹⁾ Denmark agreed to the Fisheries Agreement with Canada subject to confirmation, as did Germany in the case of the agreement on herring fishing.

Pending a decision on the specific herring TACs and QUOTAS for 1984 the Council agreed to extend the present arrangements until 31 December 1983. After consultations with Norway the Commission will submit before that date a proposal for provisional allocation of herring catch possibilities in the North Sea during the first months of 1984, based on the above scale.

1983 TACs AND QUOTAS

Pursuant to the general rules adopted on 25 January 1983 implementing the new common fisheries policy the Council agreed on the total allowable catches (TACs) for 1983 for all the species covered by the agreement of 25 January 1983, the share available to the Community and the allocation between Member States (quotas).

1984 TACs AND QUOTAS

The Council held an initial exchange of views on the Commission proposals fixing for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks occurring in the Community's fishing zone provisional total allowable catches for 1984, the provisional share of these catches available to the Community, the allocation of that share between Member States and the conditions under which the total allowable catches may be fished.

It welcomed the fact that the Commission was submitting these proposals for the 1984 TACs and quotas before the end of 1983. All delegations said that the proposals were a sound basis for future discussions and ought to enable the Council rapidly to reach a decision for 1984. The Council will discuss the proposals at its next meeting on 31.1.1984.

Until such time as it is able to take a decision on the Commission proposals for the 1984 TACs and quotas the Council agreed as a provisional measure on a roll-over decision governing fishing in the waters of the Member States of the Community until its next meeting on 31 January 1984.

EXTERNAL ASPECTS

The Council approved the Agreement with Canada (¹) on the arrangements for implementing the EEC-Canada Fisheries Agreement concluded in 1981.

As regards Norway, the Council approved two Regulations laying down for 1984 certain measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway and allocating certain catch quotas between the Member States for vessels fishing in Norway's economic zone and in the fishing zone around Jan Mayen. These Regulations reflect the results of the consultations with Norway for 1984.

These texts will enter into force on 1 January 1984.

The Council also took stock of fisheries relations with various third countries, as follows:

- the Faroe Islands: the Commission has presented the results of the consultations which were completed on 14 December and the Permanent Representatives Committee was instructed to examine them;
- Sweden/Norway: the Commission reported on the consultations with these countries on the fishing in the Skagerrak/Kattegat;
- Senegal: the Commission reported on progress in the negotiations on a new fisheries agreement;
- Seychelles: the Council asked the Commission to submit a proposal for directives for the negotiations of a fisheries agreement on tunny;
- Tunisia: the Council noted that the Commission was still prepared to enter into negotiations on a fisheries agreement.

(¹) See footnote on page 4.

MISCELLANEOUS DECISIONS

Further decision on fisheries

The Council adopted in the official languages of the Communities a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 104/76 laying down common marketing standards for shrimps of the genus "Crangon" spp.

Commercial policy and customs union

The Council adopted, in the official languages of the Communities, Regulations:

- imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of certain glass textile fibres (rovings) originating in the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia;
- increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1983 by Regulation (EEC) No 3425/82 for newsprint falling within sub-heading 48.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff (increase of 180 000 tonnes, broken down as follows: Benelux 12 350 tonnes, Denmark 9 720 tonnes, Germany 44 625 tonnes, Greece 9 290 tonnes, France 14 370 tonnes, United Kingdom 84 645 tonnes, reserve 5 000 tonnes).

