



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 4 October 2012

Interinstitutional Files:
2012/0227 (NLE)
2012/0228 (NLE)
2012/0229 (NLE)

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PECHE 331
OC 477

ADDENDUM TO THE "I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: Working Party on External Fisheries Policy
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

Nos Cion props: 13208/12 PECHE 309 – COM(2012) 467 final
13210/12 PECHE 311 – COM(2012) 466 final
13209/12 PECHE 310 – COM(2012) 468 final

Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other
– Adoption

Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION on the allocation of fishing opportunities under the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other
– Adoption

COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community, on the one hand, and the Republic of Kiribati, on the other
– Request by the Council for the consent of the European Parliament

COMMON GUIDELINES
Consultation deadline: 3.10.2012

Statement by Sweden

Explanation of vote – Kiribati

Sweden has been involved for some time in ensuring that ex-ante and ex-post evaluations are completed in good time ahead of decisions on new Protocols. In May 2012, an ex-post evaluation of the existing Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the EU and the Republic of Kiribati was presented, along with an ex-ante evaluation which included an analysis of the future Protocol's effect on sustainability.

The evaluation describes the scientific assessment carried out by the regional fisheries organisation (WCPFC). According to the WCPFC assessment, stocks of yellowfin tuna are approaching their maximum level of exploitation and fishing for juvenile fish is under pressure. As for bigeye tuna, the WCPFC assessment shows that the species is being overfished and that current levels of fishing are not sustainable.

According to the Council conclusions of March 2012, fishing under the Fisheries Partnership Agreement should be directed exclusively at surplus resources, and overfishing of stocks should be prevented. Since it cannot be guaranteed that the EU's fishing activities will be directed at a documented surplus, Sweden cannot support the proposal for a new Protocol for the Republic of Kiribati. Sweden has no fishing interests of its own in the Pacific and therefore abstains from the vote.