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THE COUNCIL

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PECHE 256

12. Aug. 1996

ORIGINAL

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Working Party on External Fisheries Policy

on: 1 July 1996

No. prev. doc.: 7839/96 PECHE 220

Subject: Senegal
- Report on negotiations on a new Protocol
Dakar, 20 and 21 June 1996

1. The Commission representative presented the outcome of the first round of negotiations which took place in Dakar on 20 and 21 June 1996.
2. He stated that the two parties began their discussions by assessing the implementation of the current Protocol and the use which had been made of the various fishery categories. In addition, the Community party put forward points which it would like to incorporate into a new fisheries Protocol. Apart from a longer duration, these points fall into three categories:

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trawling opportunities: 10 000 GRT (13 000) ⁽¹⁾, including 4 000 GRT in coastal demersal opportunities and 6 000 GRT in deep demersal opportunities;

- tuna opportunities: 72 vessels (64);
 - pelagic opportunities: 22 vessels with special fishing conditions, namely charges of ECU 2 per RT/month/annual average and 3 seamen per vessel.
3. He also stated that it was important for the Commission that countries using the coastal demersal opportunities, namely Greece and Italy, should be able to obtain opportunities in this category in order to enable their fleet to remain in the zone. The Community side also requested the possibility for the Community fleet to receive monthly, quarterly and annual licences to ensure a better use of the opportunities allocated.
 4. At this initial stage, the Senegalese side stated that it had no availability for coastal demersal fishing, justifying this by the wish to guarantee the sustainability of its resources.
 5. With regard to the tuna fleet, it kept an open mind, asking in return for a raising of the level of compulsory landings by the Community fleet.

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⁽¹⁾ The figures in brackets represent the opportunities in the current Protocol.

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6. Concerning the pelagic requests, it showed a certain openness, but made it clear that the granting of such opportunities should be reflected in the level of overall financial compensation of the Protocol.

Reactions of the Member States

7. Welcoming the conduct of the first round, the delegations made a number of individual comments. In particular:
- the Portuguese delegation repeated its request for opportunities for selective bottom-line fishing of demersal species;
 - the French delegation asked for an additional tuna licence to be obtained;
 - the Spanish delegation repeated its request regarding the compulsory landing of tuna, namely for the same conditions to be maintained as in the existing Protocol;
 - the Greek and Italian delegations welcomed the Commission's efforts regarding opportunities for their fleets, and hoped these would be maintained;
 - the French, Netherlands and German delegations wanted the conditions governing the pelagic fleet to be the same as those agreed in the agreement with Mauritania. Regarding the opportunities for pelagic fishing, the Irish delegation expressed an interest, which it undertook to confirm with the Commission.

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8. Noting these comments, the Commission representative added that the two parties had not begun discussing financial compensation in exchange for opportunities obtained and that these discussions would take place during the second round of negotiations due to take place in Brussels on 11, 12 and possibly 13 July 1996.

