

EUROPEAN UNION
THE COUNCIL

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Brussels, 24 July 1996

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09. Sep. 1996

PECHE 284

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

from : Working Party on External Fisheries Policy

dated : 15 July 1996

No. prev. doc. : 7277/96 PECHE 183

Subject : **Venezuela**
Report on second round of negotiations (Brussels, 18-19 June 1996)

1. The Commission representative reported on the outcome of the second round of negotiations in Brussels on 18-19 June 1996. This round had been inconclusive and mainly concentrated on the examination of a draft text. The Venezuelan party had not had a specific mandate and had expressed the wish for a third round of negotiations.
2. The Commission representative specified that an eventual Agreement with Venezuela would not be of the same importance as the current Agreement with Argentina given that the opportunities which are offered to the Community are not of the same importance.
3. The Venezuelan party had indicated that it was not interested in a system of classical licences for the tuna seiner category, wishing to exclude it from the Protocol to any future Agreement.
4. The French delegation expressed its concern at the risk of losing tuna possibilities and stressed the importance of an eventual Agreement with this country as far as its overseas territory of Guyana is concerned; it maintained its request for 15 tuna seiners.
5. The Commission representative indicated that the Venezuelan authorities would be examining certain types of fisheries and gear with the Guyana authorities.
6. The German delegation underlined the need for the Community to ascertain whether the Community had a real interest in concluding such an Agreement given its financial implications.
7. The Commission representative indicated that his Institution did not intend to resume discussions with Venezuela until the latter had more clearly defined the interests and needs of its fisheries sector.

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