



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 8 March 2013

6888/13

PECHE 74

“I/A” ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

No. Cion prop.: 6194/13 PECHE 49 RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED - COM(2013) 50 final

Subject: Recommendation for a Council decision to authorise the opening of negotiations on behalf of the European Union for a new Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Union of the Comores
- Adoption of Council Decision

1. On 7 February 2013, the Commission submitted to the Council the Recommendation for a Council Decision authorizing the Commission to open negotiations on an agreement between the European Union and the Union of the Comores on the renewals of the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement. The aim of the new Protocol will be to ensure continued access to the Union of the Comores EEZ since the current protocol will expire on 30 December 2013.
2. On 28 February 2013 the Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy reached an agreement on the proposal as set out in doc DS 1115/13, with a slight modification of the third bullet point in order to provide more flexibility.
3. The Commission makes a statement as set out in the addendum to this note.

4. The Danish and Netherlands delegations entered parliamentary scrutiny reserves. The Danish and Swedish delegations maintained their scrutiny reserves while examining the recently received evaluation report.

 5. COREPER is invited to confirm the agreement reached at the level of the Working Party and to suggest that the Council at one of its forthcoming sessions:
 - Adopt the draft Council Decision as set out in doc. 6890/13 PECHE 75;
 - Decide not to publish the Decision in accordance with Article 17(2)(b) of its Rules of Procedure;
 - Note that the European Parliament will be informed of the adoption of the above-mentioned decision in accordance with Article 218(10) TFUE; and
 - Include the statement in ADD 1 to this note in the minutes of the Council.
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