



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 6 September 2013  
(OR. en)**

**13376/13**

**PECHE 362**

**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council

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Subject: Proposal for a Council Decision on the signature, on behalf of the European Union, and on the provisional application of the Protocol agreed between the European Union and the Gabonese Republic setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the two parties currently in force  
- adoption of the Croatian language version

Proposal for a Council Regulation on the allocation of the fishing opportunities under the Protocol agreed between the European Union and the Gabonese Republic setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the two Parties currently in force  
- adoption of the Croatian language version

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1. The European Commission submitted the above proposals to the Council on 1 July 2013.

2. At its sessions on 4 and 9 July 2013, the Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy reached an agreement on the text of the proposals regarding signature and provisional application as well as on allocation of fishing opportunities while deciding to further examine the proposal for a Council Decision on conclusion, notably its legal basis and Article 3, before asking for the consent of the European Parliament.
3. On 22 July 2013, the Council, subsequently, agreed, exceptionally and with unanimity, and in agreement with the Croatian delegation, not to adopt the Croatian version which is not yet available, because of the urgent need of signing the protocol so as to coincide with the beginning of the fishing season in Gabon<sup>1</sup>.
4. The Protocol was signed on 24 July 2013 in Libreville and applies provisionally from that date.
5. The Croatian language versions are now available. Consequently, COREPER is invited to suggest that the Council, at one of its forthcoming sessions:
  - adopts the Croatian language version of a Council Decision on the signature, on behalf of the European Union, and on the provisional application of the Protocol agreed between the European Union and the Gabonese Republic setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the two parties currently in force, as set out in doc 11874/13 (as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts).
  - adopts the Croatian language version of a Council Regulation on the allocation of the fishing opportunities under the Protocol agreed between the European Union and the Gabonese Republic setting out the fishing opportunities and financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the two Parties currently in force, as set out in doc. 11872/13 (as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts).

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<sup>1</sup> cf. doc. 12108/1/13 REV 1