



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 16 February 2012

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PECHE 50

“I/A” ITEM NOTE

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

No. Cion prop.: 15110/11 PECHE 270 - COM(2011) 603 final

Subject: Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion of the Protocol agreed between the European Union and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau setting out fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the two parties currently in force
- Adoption of Council Decision

1. The Commission submitted the above proposal to Council on 3 October 2011.
2. The Working Party on Internal and External Fishery Policy on 6 October 2011 reached agreement on the text¹ whereby the French, United Kingdom and Danish delegations entered parliamentary scrutiny reservations. Subsequently, the Netherlands delegation has indicated its intention to abstain.
3. The Netherlands delegation makes a unilateral statement as set out in the addendum to this note.

¹ Cf. doc. 15316/11 PECHE 283.

4. At its Plenary meeting on 14 February 2012, the European Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement.
5. Consequently, COREPER is invited to confirm the agreement reached by the Working Party and could suggest that Council, at a forthcoming session:
 - (a) adopts the Decision as set out in doc. 15178/11 PECHE 277 (as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts)
 - (b) inserts the unilateral declaration of the Netherlands in the minutes of the Council.
