



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 3 April 2012

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REV 2 ADD 1**

PECHE 104

ADDENDUM TO REVISED “I/A” ITEM NOTE

from: Working Party on External Fisheries Policy
to: Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

No. Cion prop.: 18203/10 PECHE 354 - SEC (2010) 1588 final

Subject: Recommendation from the Commission to the Council to authorise the Commission to open negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the renewal of the protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with Madagascar - Adoption of Council Decision

STATEMENT BY THE NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands will vote in favour of the mandate for the negotiations of the new protocol to the agreement between the EU and Madagascar.

Fishery Partnership Agreements should contribute to the development of sustainable fisheries world wide. The protocol must be in line with the conservation and management measures taken by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). In this regard the Netherlands stresses the importance of the development of adequate management plans for migrating species, like tuna, in the IOTC as relevant regional management organisation.

The partnership agreement can only be sustainable if both partners participating in the agreement are able to show their compliance with these measures in a fair and transparent manner.

STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION

The Commission does not consider it necessary that a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations indicates a substantive legal basis.

However, the Commission is not opposed to it in this case given the particular circumstances in the sector.
