



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 28 June 2012**

**11982/12**

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**Interinstitutional File:  
2012/0091 (NLE)**

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**PECHE 255  
OC 363**

**“I/A” ITEM NOTE**

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from:	General Secretariat
to:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council
No. Cion prop.:	9174/12 PECHE 136 + COR 1 - COM(2012) 182 final
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulations (EU) No 43/2012 and (EU) No 44/2012 as regards the protection of the species "giant manta ray" and certain fishing opportunities - Adoption <b>COMMON GUIDELINES</b> <b>Consultation deadline: 23.07.2012</b>

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1. The Commission submitted its proposal to the Council on 26 April 2012.
2. The Working Party on Internal Fisheries Policy examined the proposal at its meetings on 2 and 25 May and 27 June 2012.
3. DK, FR and UK entered Parliamentary scrutiny reserves.
4. At its meeting on 27 June 2012, the Working Party reached an agreement on the proposal as set out in the consolidated document 9965/1/12 REV1 + COR1.

5. While not opposing the adoption of the Regulation, FR, BE, PL and PT expressed concerns on the pilot projects on Fully Documented Fisheries (FDF) which in their views could undermine relative stability. FR is concerned about the possible negative effects of FDF trials on sensitive species such as hake. PL noted that the system is difficult to control and, as BE, considers that it does not guarantee a reduction in discards. BE sought guarantees that FDF projects will not result in increased fishing mortality and will not have adverse effects on fishermen that do not operate under these projects. The Presidency recalled that the pilot projects in question have been approved by STECF on a case-by-case basis. COM gave assurances that the FDF trials will be placed in the context of the CFP reform discussions. Data obtained from the trials will be an important element in the general debate on discards and there will be an ex-post evaluation of these trials.
6. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council to adopt the text as set out in document 11983/12 PECHE 256 OC 364 as finalised by the legal/linguistic experts, as an "A" item at one of its forthcoming meetings.
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