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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a multiannual plan for small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea and the fisheries exploiting these stocks <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation by the Commission- Exchange of views

1. On 24 February, the Commission submitted to the European Parliament and the Council a proposal for a multiannual plan for small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic and the fisheries exploiting these stocks.
2. The aim of this proposal is to implement in that geographical area key aspects of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy, namely the achievement of exploitation rates above maximum sustainable yield, the establishment of safeguards related to the state of biomass, the move towards long-term multi-species management, the implementation of the landing obligation and the use of regionalisation for regional technical measures.

3. The Permanent Representatives Committee prepared the presentation and exchange of views in the Council on the proposal on 1 March 2017. Delegations brought forward a number of concerns, in particular:
- the question of whether or not, and if yes to what extent, the Adriatic Plan should be aligned with the Baltic Plan;
 - the inclusion of target fishing mortalities ranges as the basis for setting annual catch limits in this area;
 - the need to take into consideration different fleet sizes and socio-economic impacts, in particular on small-scale fisheries;
 - the recognition of the efforts already made in terms of reducing fishing fleet capacity and fishing pressure;
 - the proportionality of measures put forward, including in terms of control, and the need to have prior impact assessments for such measures;
 - the inclusion of sub-area 18 into the scope of the proposal.
4. An exchange of views in the Council will give Ministers the opportunity to share their views on the proposal ahead of further examination in the Council's preparatory bodies.