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PECHE 102

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	7086/17 PECHE 95 + ADD 1 - COM(2017) 126 final
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION amending Regulation (EU) 2017/127 as regards certain fishing opportunities - <i>Adoption</i>

1. The Commission submitted its proposal on 14 March 2017 (doc. 7086/17 PECHE 95 + ADD 1), including the updates outlined in doc. 7213/17 PECHE 98.
2. The Working Party on Internal Fisheries Policy examined the proposal at its meeting on 16 March 2017, where a final agreement was found. Nevertheless, some delegations (IE, FR, BE) raised some concerns regarding the lack of prior consultation of the key stakeholders in the cod in VIIa fishery regarding the inclusion of a footnote (2) allowing for an additional TAC for carrying out a directed scientific fishery by common agreement of the relevant Member States. In this context, the IE delegation stated that before considering giving its agreement under the procedure foreseen in this footnote, it needs to conduct a scientific assessment of the implications of the footnote on this stock. The UK delegation and the Commission took note of this position and shared the understanding that such common agreement does not exist at the moment.

The Commission undertook to correct some potential factual errors signalled by the delegations, where needed. The FR delegation expressed its regrets that an adjustment to the seabass measures agreed in December was not included in this amendment.

3. UK entered a Parliamentary scrutiny reserve.
4. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council to adopt the text as set out in doc. 7286/17 PECHÉ 103 (as finalised by the legal/linguistic experts), as an "A" item at one of its forthcoming meetings.
