



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 29 April 2014
(OR. en)**

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**Interinstitutional File:
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PECHE 211

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

No. prev. doc.: 16651/13 PECHE 553
No. Cion doc.: COM(2013) 767

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Seychelles
- Adoption

1. The European Commission submitted the above proposal to the Council on 7 November 2013.
2. Following an examination of the Protocol at the level of the Working Party for Fisheries Policy¹, the Council decided on 16 December 2013 to sign the protocol².
3. The Protocol was signed on 18 December 2013 and applies provisionally since 18 January 2014.

¹ Cf. doc. 16277/13 PECHE 538.

² doc. 16796/13 PECHE 563 + ADD 1.

4. The Council decided on 16 December 2013 to request the consent of the Parliament to conclude the Protocol, following its unanimous decision to amend the legal basis to refer to Article 43 in conjunction with Article 218(6)(a) and (7) of TFEU.
5. The European Parliament gave its consent on 16 April 2014.
6. The United Kingdom and Danish delegations expressed their concerns about the non-binding reference to IOTC measures in the protocol³ (Article 4). The United Kingdom delegation questioned also the amount of licences for long liners. The Netherlands delegation missed protection of shark species in the protocol. Both delegations intend to abstain and the Netherlands delegation makes the statement in the addendum to this note.
7. Consequently, COREPER is invited to suggest that Council:
 - unanimously adopts the Decision as set out in doc. 16651/13 PECHE 553 (as finalised by the legal-linguistic experts); and
 - enters its minutes the statements made in the addendum to this note.

³ doc. 16648/13 PECHE 551.