



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 3 November 2014
(OR. en)

14702/14

Interinstitutional File:
2014/0254 (NLE)

PECHE 496

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	12854/14 PECHE 405 + ADD 1 - COM(2014) 552 final + Annexes
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2015 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea and amending Regulation 43/2014 and Regulation 2280/2013 - Adoption

1. On 3 September 2014, the Commission submitted to the Council a proposal for a Council Regulation fixing for 2014 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks and groups of fish stocks applicable in the Baltic Sea.
2. The Working Party on Internal Fisheries Policy examined the proposal at its meetings on 17 and 24 September 2014. The Permanent Representatives Committee discussed the proposal on 1 and 10 October 2014.
3. On 13 October the Council reached an unanimous political agreement on the proposal.

4. In addition, as agreed at the Council on 13 October 2014, the Commission has sought the advice from ICES on the possible effects of extending the banking system to the stocks of Celtic Sea herring and western horse mackerel. The scientific body indicated that the proposed flexibility "is likely to have a slightly positive, but effectively negligible, impact on precautionary considerations". Therefore, the political agreement reached in the Council, as outlined in the Council and Commission statement on Article 7a of the Regulation on Baltic Fishing opportunities, was implemented, and the two stocks were included in the scope of this article.
5. It is therefore suggested that the Permanent Representatives Committee invites the Council to:
- adopt the text as set out in doc. 14539/14 PECHE 481 as finalised by the legal/linguistic experts, as an "A" item at one of its forthcoming meetings;
 - enter into the minutes of the Council adopting the Regulation the statements set out in the addendum to this note.
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