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"I/A" ITEM NOTE

From:	Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
No. Cion doc.:	14367/14 PECHE 472 + ADD 1 - COM(2014) 628 final + Annex
Subject:	Council implementing Decision amending the list of non-cooperating third countries in fighting IUU fishing pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing <i>- Adoption</i>

1. The European Commission submitted the above proposal on 14 October 2014 to the Council.
2. The proposal aims at amending Council Implementing Decision of 24 March 2014¹ on the listing of certain countries as non-cooperating third countries in fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing). Such a listing has wide-ranging consequences for the bilateral fisheries relations with the respective countries (see Articles 33 and 38 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008).
3. With the above proposal, the Commission put forward that Sri Lanka should be added to the list in view of the huge discrepancy between the country's commitments to improve monitoring and control of fishing activities, and the actual action taken.

¹ OJ L 91, 27.3.2014, p.1, as modified on 15 December 2014 (Decision 2014/914/UE, OJ L 360, 17.12.2014, p.53.)

4. The United Kingdom and Danish delegations entered parliamentary scrutiny reserves, which they subsequently lifted.
 5. The Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy discussed the proposal on 29 October 2014 and 8 January 2015. In the meantime, the Commission had continued its dialogue with the country. There were hopes that the situation could improve, and some vessels had received monitoring equipment. However, the situation was far from sufficient and needed much more attention in practice.
 6. Under these circumstances, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to suggest that Council, at one of its forthcoming meetings, decide on adding Sri Lanka to the list of non-cooperating third countries, as set out in document 5035/15 PECHÉ 3 (lawyer-linguists' document).
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