



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 18 March 2016
(OR. en)

7278/16

PECHE 97

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

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

No. Cion doc.: 13422/15 + ADD 1 - COM(2015) 520 final + Annex

Subject: Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the Republic of Poland, in the interest of the European Union, to open negotiations for an amendment to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea that would allow Regional Economic Integration Organisations, such as the European Union, to become party to the Convention

- *Adoption of the Council Decision*

1. The European Commission submitted the above Recommendation¹ to the Council on 27 October 2015.²
2. The Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy examined the recommendation at its meeting on 17 March 2016, and an agreement was reached on a draft Council Decision together with negotiating directives.³

¹ Cf. docs. 13422/15 PECHE 389 + ADD 1.

² The same day, the Commission presented a related Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for the accession of the European Union to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea. Cf. docs. 13490/15 PECHE 395 + ADD 1 (this recommendation will be dealt with at a later stage as necessary).

³ Cf. doc. 7130/16 PECHE 86.

3. During the examination the Commission representative recalled that the Commission does not consider it necessary to mention in the Council Decision a substantial legal basis (Article 43 TFEU). The Commission intends to make a statement to the minutes of the Council.
 4. Consequently, COREPER is invited to confirm the agreement reached at the level of the Working Party and to suggest that the Council, at a forthcoming session:
 - adopts the Decision on opening negotiations as well as the negotiating directives as set out in doc. 7277/16 PECHE 96;
 - decides not to publish the Decision in accordance with Article 17(2)(b) of its Rules of Procedure;
 - notes that the European Parliament will be informed in accordance with Article 218(10) TFEU, and therefore a paper copy of the Decision including the negotiating directives, as well as a copy of the statement, will be transmitted to the Parliament;
 - enters the statement in the Addendum to this note in the minutes of the Council.
-