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#### **'I/A' ITEM NOTE**

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

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Subject: Draft REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) No 1343/2011 on certain provisions for fishing in the GFCM (General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean) Agreement area **(first reading)**

- Adoption of the legislative act
- Statements

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#### **Statement by the Commission on recreational fisheries**

The Commission recalls that one of the objectives set up in the MedFish4Ever Ministerial Declaration adopted in March 2017 is to establish, as soon as possible and at the latest by 2020, a set of baseline rules to ensure an effective management of recreational fisheries across the Mediterranean.

In line with this objective, the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) mid-term Strategy 2017-2020 includes amongst the actions to be implemented in the GFCM area, the assessment of the impacts of recreational fisheries and the consideration of best management measures to regulate these activities. In this context, a working group for recreational fisheries has been established within the GFCM with a view to developing a harmonized regional methodology towards assessing recreational fisheries.

The Commission will continue its efforts within the GFCM in order to attain the objective set up in the MedFish4Ever Declaration.

### **Statement by the Commission on red coral**

The Commission recalls that the conservation measures adopted within the framework of the regional adaptive management plan for the exploitation of red coral in the Mediterranean Sea [Recommendation GFCM/41/2017/5] are temporary. These measures, which include the possibility to introduce catch limitations, will be assessed by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the GFCM in 2019 with a view to their revision by the GFCM at its 43<sup>rd</sup> annual session (November 2019).