



Council of the
European Union

**Brussels, 2 July 2020
(OR. en)**

8848/20

PECHE 152

LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations for a new protocol to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the Cook Islands and for the possible prolongation of the current protocol to that Agreement

COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2020/...

of ...

**authorising the opening of negotiations for a new protocol
to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement
between the European Union and the Government of the Cook Islands and for the possible
prolongation of the current protocol to that Agreement**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43,
in conjunction with Article 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) The current Protocol on the implementation of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the Cook Islands¹ ("the current protocol") will expire on 13 October 2020.
- (2) Negotiations should be opened with a view to concluding a new protocol to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Government of the Cook Islands.
- (3) In case this is necessary to avoid a significant interruption of fishing activities, authorisation should also be given to the Commission to negotiate a limited prolongation of the current protocol,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

¹ OJ L 131, 20.5.2016, p. 10.

Article 1

1. The Commission is hereby authorised to open negotiations for a new protocol to the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Government of the Cook Islands ("the Agreement").

The Commission is also authorised to negotiate a limited prolongation of the current protocol to the Agreement in case this is necessary to avoid a significant interruption of fishing activities.

2. The negotiations shall be conducted on the basis of the negotiating directives of the Council set out in the addendum to this Decision.

Article 2

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the Council Working Party on External Fisheries Policy.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President
