



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Plenary sitting

12.12.2011

B7-0696/2011

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Question for Oral Answer B7-0671/2011

pursuant to Rule 115(5) of the Rules of Procedure

on the future protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial compensation provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco (2011/2949(RSP))

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on behalf of the S&D Group

B7-0696/2011

European Parliament resolution on the future protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial compensation provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco (2011/2949(RSP))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco (Council Regulation (EC) No 764/2006 of 22 May 2006¹),
 - having regard to the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and financial compensation provided for in the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco (0000/2011),
 - having regard to consent procedure pursuant to Article 43(2) and Article 218(6), second subparagraph, point (a), of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (C7-0000/2011),
 - having regard to the opinions of the Committee on Development and the Committee on Budgets (A7-0000/2011 and A7-0000/2011),
 - having regard to the explanatory memorandum of the recommendation of the Committee on Fisheries (A7-394/2011) outlining in shortcomings of the current one-year Protocol,
 - having regard to Rules 115(5) and 110(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas according to the external ex-post evaluation report which has been commissioned by the Commission the current Protocol has a clearly unsatisfactory cost-benefit ratio due to low utilisation of the fishing opportunities negotiated, unaddressed ecological and social aspects;
1. Calls on the Commission to advance the negotiations for a new Protocol in order to avoid any provisional application of the Protocol due to lacking consent by the European Parliament;
 2. Calls on the Commission to ensure that any future Protocol needs to be economically, ecologically and socially sustainable and mutually beneficial;
 3. Insists that any and all access negotiated for EU-flagged vessels to fish in Moroccan waters must be based on the principle of surplus stocks as described in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea; emphasises, in particular, that there must be a rigorous assessment of all stocks for which access is sought or which are likely to be caught by the EU fleet as a by-catch; stresses that any access granted to the EU must relate to those resources which are unable to be caught by the Moroccan fleet;

¹ OJ L 141, 29.5.2006, p. 1.

4. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the principle of EU vessels only gaining access to the surplus stock needs to be adhered to in all future Protocols;
5. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the future Protocol needs to have fishing opportunities adjusted to scientific advice and stock assessments as well as to the fishing sectors needs; further insists that technical measures and fishing opportunities be aligned with scientific advice in consultation with fishermen;
6. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the sectoral support is more efficiently utilised and monitoring must be more effective; believes that the FPA must include effective oversight mechanisms to ensure that funds earmarked for development, and in particular for infrastructure improvements in the fisheries sector, are used properly;
7. Calls on the Commission to undertake any steps in order to obtain the necessary data on the implementation of the Protocol and thus to allow for a most transparent legislative procedure;
8. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the future Protocol fully respects international law and benefits all affected local populations;
9. Calls on the Commission to provide the Parliament with a detailed written report in how far the requests of the Parliament have been respected in the future protocol;
10. Further calls on the Commission and to respect the inter-institutional framework and the European Parliament's role according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon;
11. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission.