



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

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*Committee on Development*

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**2014/0319(NLE)**

2.6.2015

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Development

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Republic of Madagascar and the European Community (15225/2014 – C8-0002/2015 – 2014/0319(NLE))

Rapporteur: Louis Michel

PA\_Leg\_Consent

## SHORT JUSTIFICATION

This agreement and the protocol thereto must comply with the new regulation governing the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), which places emphasis on sustainable fisheries and good governance. The importance of policy consistency between the CFP and the EU's development cooperation objectives is acknowledged.

The partnership arrangements under the agreement are intended to promote the responsible exploitation of Madagascar's fishery resources, providing an opportunity to boost economic growth, improve the human rights situation and conditions for workers (and for women in particular) and eradicate illegal child labour in this area.

The EU ought to encourage its vessel operators to hire local fishermen and land their catches in Madagascar for processing. In line with good-governance and transparency rules, vessels must comply with annual-declaration requirements. A joint EU-Madagascar fisheries committee ought to consider the impact of the partnership arrangements.

The rapporteur welcomes the fact that EUR 700 000 is to be allocated annually by way of sectoral fisheries policy support. That amount ought to be used to support projects for scientific research, control and monitoring operations to combat illegal fishing, sustainable management of fish stocks and promotion of non-industrial fishing, which is essential for food security. Madagascar will need to step up efforts to ensure that the financial contribution is managed transparently.

The rapporteur regards the agreement as an opportunity for the EU to encourage Madagascar to abide by the Cotonou Agreement, and in particular Article 9 thereof on human rights, democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance.

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The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to recommend that Parliament give its consent to the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol setting out the fishing opportunities and the financial contribution provided for by the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Republic of Madagascar and the European Community.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	1.6.2015
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 24 -: 0 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea, Ignazio Corrao, Charles Goerens, Enrique Guerrero Salom, Heidi Hautala, Maria Heubuch, Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, Arne Lietz, Linda McAvan, Norbert Neuser, Maurice Ponga, Cristian Dan Preda, Elly Schlein, Pedro Silva Pereira, Davor Ivo Stier, Paavo Väyrynen, Bogdan Brunon Went, Anna Záborská
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Bernd Lucke, Louis-Joseph Manscour, Paul Rübig, Joachim Zeller
<b>Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote</b>	Miguel Urbán Crespo, Dennis de Jong