









Procedure file

Basic information		
NLE - Non-legislative enactments	2018/0267M(NLE)	Procedure completed
EC/Côte d'Ivoire Fisheries Partnership Agreement: implementation of the Agreement 2018-2024		
Accompanying procedure 2018/0267(NLE)		
Subject 3.15.15.02 Fisheries agreements with African countries		
Geographical area Côte d'Ivoire		

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Fisheries		Shadow rapporteur	
			 ITURGAIZ Carlos	
			 CORBETT Richard	
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Development			19/09/2018
			 THEOCHAROUS Eleni	
	 Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
Council of the European Union	Commission DG		Commissioner	
European Commission	Maritime Affairs and Fisheries		VELLA Karmenu	

Key events			
25/10/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/01/2019	Vote in committee		
28/01/2019	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0034/2019	Summary
11/02/2019	Debate in Parliament		
12/02/2019	Results of vote in Parliament		
12/02/2019	Decision by Parliament	T8-0064/2019	Summary

12/02/2019	End of procedure in Parliament		
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Technical information	
Procedure reference	2018/0267M(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Motion for a resolution under consent procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 105-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PECH/8/14683

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE629.695	07/11/2018	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE630.583	03/12/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE629.615	18/12/2018	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0034/2019	28/01/2019	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0064/2019	12/02/2019	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2019)327	17/07/2019	EC	

EC/Côte d'Ivoire Fisheries Partnership Agreement: implementation of the Agreement 2018-2024

The Committee on Fisheries adopted the report by João FERREIRA (GUE/NGL, PT) containing a motion for a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Members took the view that the EU-Côte d'Ivoire SFPA should pursue two equally important goals:

1. providing fishing opportunities for EU vessels in the Côte d'Ivoire EEZ, on the basis of the best available scientific advice and without interfering with conservation and management measures by the regional organisations to which Côte d'Ivoire belongs primarily the ICCAT or overrunning the available surplus;
2. promoting cooperation between the EU and Côte d'Ivoire with a view to a sustainable fisheries policy and sound exploitation of fishery resources in the Côte d'Ivoire fishing zone, and contributing to sustainable development of the Ivorian fisheries sector through economic, financial, technical, and scientific cooperation, without undermining Côte d'Ivoires sovereign options and strategies regarding that development.

Finding showed that the Protocol to the 2013-2018 SFPA had on the whole proved to be effective, efficient, appropriate to the interests involved, and consistent with the Ivorian sectoral policy and a high degree of acceptability to stakeholders, and which recommended the option of concluding a new protocol.

This new protocol should, inter alia:

- improve governance: drafting and validating legislation and building on management plans;
- tighten up control and surveillance in the Côte d'Ivoire EEZ;
- strengthen measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, including in inland waters;
- enable landing quays and ports to be constructed and/or renovated, including at but not limited to the Port of Abidjan;
- establish marine protected areas and improve the sustainability of marine resources overall.

Members considered that rules regarding the hiring of ACP seamen for EU fishing vessels, amounting to 20 % of the crew, could be more ambitious and called for ILO principles to be abided by.

They also stressed that the quantity and accuracy of data on all catches (target species and by-catches) and on the conservation status of fishery resources should be improved.

On a financial note, the Commission urged the Côte d'Ivoire to use the financial contribution provided by the protocol to sustainably strengthen its national fisheries industry, encouraging demand for local investment and industrial projects, and creating local jobs.

Parliament should be kept immediately and fully informed at every stage of the procedures relating to the Protocol and, if applicable, its renewal.

EC/Côte d'Ivoire Fisheries Partnership Agreement: implementation of the Agreement 2018-2024

The European Parliament adopted by 535 votes to 35, with 28 abstentions, a non-legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Members took the view that the EU-Côte-d'Ivoire SFPA should pursue two equally important goals:

(1) providing fishing opportunities for EU vessels in the Côte d'Ivoire EEZ, on the basis of the best available scientific advice and without interfering with conservation and management measures by the regional organisations to which Côte d'Ivoire belongs primarily the ICCAT or overrunning the available surplus;

(2) promoting cooperation between the EU and Côte d'Ivoire with a view to a sustainable fisheries policy and sound exploitation of fishery resources in the Côte d'Ivoire fishing zone, and contributing to sustainable development of the Ivorian fisheries sector through economic, financial, technical, and scientific cooperation, without undermining Côte d'Ivoires sovereign options and strategies regarding that development.

The conclusion of successive agreements between the Union and Côte d'Ivoire in the sustainable fisheries sector has contributed to Côte d'Ivoire's economy through the employment of local seamen, the use of the Abidjan port and canning facilities, the by-catches of EU tuna seiners have been turned to account, and local monitoring capacities have been strengthened.

Findings showed that the Protocol to the 2013-2018 SFPA had on the whole proved to be effective, efficient, appropriate to the interests involved, and consistent with the Ivorian sectoral policy and a high degree of acceptability to stakeholders, and which recommended the option of concluding a new protocol.

This new protocol should, inter alia:

- improve governance: drafting and validating legislation and building on management plans;
- tighten up control and surveillance in the Côte d'Ivoire EEZ;
- strengthen measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, including in inland waters;
- enable landing quays and ports to be constructed and/or renovated, including at but not limited to the Port of Abidjan;
- establish marine protected areas and improve the sustainability of marine resources overall.
- enable the reinforcement of organisations representing men and women in the fishing industry, especially those involved in artisanal fishing.

Parliament considered that rules regarding the hiring of ACP seamen for EU fishing vessels, amounting to 20 % of the crew, could be more ambitious and called for ILO principles to be abided by.

It also stressed that the quantity and accuracy of data on all catches (target species and by-catches) and on the conservation status of fishery resources should be improved.

On a financial note, the Commission urged the Côte d'Ivoire to use the financial contribution provided by the protocol to sustainably strengthen its national fisheries industry, encouraging demand for local investment and industrial projects, and creating local jobs.

Parliament should be kept immediately and fully informed at every stage of the procedures relating to the Protocol and, if applicable, its renewal.