



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH
DIRECTORATE A
DIVISION FOR INTERNATIONAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

FACTSHEET

CYPRUS

Chapter 8 - Fisheries

1. The *acquis*¹

The *acquis* under this chapter consists of regulations, which do not require transposition into national legislation. However, the applicant countries are encouraged to introduce legislation before accession to prepare the administration and the operators in this sector for participation in the Common Fisheries Policy and to provide for implementation of the *acquis* on accession.

Although it does not prescribe a specific administrative structure, the *acquis* does lay down detailed requirements in terms of the tasks to be carried out and the ways and means to be used in the areas of market policy, conservation, inspection and control of resources, and fleet registration.

2. The negotiations

The negotiations have been closed with ten countries and provisionally closed with Bulgaria and Romania. Specific transitional arrangements have been requested by Latvia, Malta and Poland.

Chapter opened: April 1999

Status: Closed December 2002 (provisionally closed in April 2000)

Transitional arrangements: none - Cyprus committed itself to reduce the number of fishing vessels operating outside the Mediterranean Sea in accordance with agreed objectives and timetable.

¹ Information drawn largely from the European Commission, DG Enlargement
<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/negotiations/chapters/index.htm>

3. Latest Assessment by the European Commission¹

In its 1998 Regular Report, the Commission concluded that the alignment of legislation and administrative reforms in Cyprus should not pose major problems. However, reforms in the administrative structure had not been undertaken nor legislation adopted, in particular concerning fleet register, control policy and norms of commercialisation in order to ensure the implementation of the Common Fishery Policy. Control mechanisms on inspection facilities and infrastructure in the Department of Fisheries would have to be strengthened.

Since the 1998 Regular Report, Cyprus has progressed, notably in the area of administrative structures and in adopting legislation, including the fleet register. Cyprus has reached a reasonable level of legislative alignment. The administrative capacity is in place but needs further reinforcement.

Negotiations on this chapter have been provisionally closed. Cyprus has not requested any transitional arrangements in this area. Cyprus is meeting the majority of the commitments it has made in the accession negotiations in this field. However, delays have occurred in adopting legislation on structural actions and on the establishment of the Fishing Vessel Register. These issues must be addressed.

In order to complete preparations for membership, Cyprus's efforts now need to focus on the adoption of the outstanding legislation, as well as on further reinforcing its capacity for implementation and enforcement.

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¹ European Commission, Regular Report on Cyprus 2002, p. 72:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/report2002/cy_en.pdf