

Forced Labour

Proposal for adoption of two Council Decisions authorising Member States to adopt ILO protocols (social policy, cooperation in criminal matters)

Please click [here](#) to access a state of play on the Proposal for a Council Decision authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, of the International Labour Organisation with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, of the International Labour Organisation with regard to matters related to social policy.

At its plenary sessions on 8 September 2015 and 6 October 2015, the European Parliament gave its consent to the two draft Decisions, respectively, as set out in documents 6731/15 (criminal matters) and 6732/15 (social policy). The Permanent Representatives Committee is therefore invited to recommend that the Council adopts the draft Council Decision authorising Member States to adopt the two protocols.

<http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13005-2015-INIT/en/pdf>

Common Fisheries Policy

Hearing on the New External Dimension of the Reformed CFP – November 9 2015

On 9 November 2015 from 15.00 to 18.30, PECH Committee will hold a hearing on the new external dimension of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). The first of two panels will conduct discussion on Fisheries Partnership Agreements, with particular focus on evaluation of the benefits for both the local economy and the EU fisheries sector. The second panel will discuss rights and responsibilities of countries in the management of fisheries and fishing capacity.

Please click [here](#) to access the agenda of the hearing.

www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/pech/events-hearings.html?id=20151109CHE00161

Answer to Written Question on Developing the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

At its meeting on 3 September, the European Parliament's Committee on Fisheries discussed a delegated act relating to the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. At the meeting, the Commission representative stated that 14 countries had already submitted their operational plans to the Commission and it was hoped that the others would do so by the end of 2015.

That information has yet to be submitted by countries such as Spain, France, Italy and the United Kingdom.

Is the Commission sure that it will receive all the operational plans by the end of 2015?

Does it know what stage has been reached in drawing up those plans in the countries still to submit them?

The answer given by Mr Vella can be found here

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+WQ+E-2015-012574+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>

Third Country fishing

Agreement between the EU and the CCSBT concerning the membership of the Union in the Extended Commission of the Convention for the Conservation for Southern Bluefin Tuna

Please follow [the link](#) to access Information on the date of signature of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Union and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) concerning the membership of the Union in the Extended Commission of the Convention for the Conservation for Southern Bluefin Tuna.

URL: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2015.288.01.0001.01.ENG

Assuring food safety and quality in Europe - past, present and future : the parallel between EU and China” - China International Food Safety & Quality Conference - 4 November 2015

The Key speech can be found here

URL: http://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/andriukaitis/announcements/assuring-food-safety-and-quality-europe-past-present-and-future-parallel-between-eu-and-china-china_en

Question for written answer on ICCAT monitoring of the interaction between stocks of tuna and other fish species

The recovery plan for tuna is working more effectively than expected, could have negative consequences for fisheries of the species that tuna feed on.

Does the Commission know whether the scientific monitoring the ICCAT carries out on stocks of tuna, swordfish and large pelagic species in general covers aspects relating to the importance of the interaction between those predators and their prey species — such as pilchard (*Sardina pilchardus*), anchovies (*Engraulis encrasicolus*), mackerel (*Scomber* spp.) and horse mackerel (*Trachurus* spp.) — which are very important for other fisheries?

An answer was given by Mr Vella on behalf of the Commission. The full question and answer can be accessed here.

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+WQ+E-2015-012637+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=en>

Europêche to advocate increased TAC for bluefin tuna, management plans for sharks and recovery of Mediterranean swordfish at ICCAT’s annual meeting

Ahead of the 24th Session of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) which will take place in Malta from the 10th until 17th November 2015, Europêche has revealed its proposals for the different species of tuna, swordfish and sharks. In its capacity as observer, Europêche will defend the following considerations in order to ensure the sustainability of both the fish populations and the European fishing industry.

<http://us11.campaign-archive1.com/?u=115ac692cb27dc502449d72e3&id=1de70770ca&e=86e739cf8d>

Historical agreement on food safety cooperation between China, European Union and United States

The world's three biggest food trading partners adopted an agreement of cooperation on 2 November in Beijing. After several years of discussion, the text was finalised and endorsed during Commissioner Andriukaitis' visit.

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/docs/20151102_trilateral-food-safety_eu-china-usa.pdf

IUU

Agenda - Meeting of the Fisheries Control Experts Group on the implementation of the IUU Regulation of the fisheries control experts group - November 11 2015

The next ad hoc meeting on the implementation of the IUU Regulation of the Fisheries Control Experts Group will take place on November 11 2015, starting at 9.30.

The aim of the ad hoc meeting is to discuss the implementation of all chapters under the IUU Regulation (No 1005/2008).

Items on the agenda:

1. Opening and general state of play by the Commission
2. Non-cooperating countries - developments since July and way forward
3. State of play on the development of an electronic database for catch certificates
4. Denial of landings and imports - status by Member States and feedback from Commission
5. Replies to queries by Member States
6. Any Other Business

URL:

<http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetailDoc&id=20972&no=1>

Written Question on Commission action vis-à-vis the Member States on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

The fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is crucial in order to guarantee the sustainable management of marine resources. Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing was adopted for this purpose. What action is the Commission taking to ensure that Member States correctly carry out the checking, inspection and verification activities assigned to them by the Regulation?

Can the Commission guarantee that a consignment that has been refused at a Member State port will not be allowed to enter another Member State?

An answer will be available within 8 weeks

Food Fraud

One out of three fish served in Brussels is not what consumers pay for

DNA analysis conducted by Oceana shows widespread consumer deceit, including EU institutions' canteens in which 38% of seafood tested was mislabeled

Bluefin tuna, sole and cod are substituted by species up to 40% cheaper

Fact sheet: Seafood fraud in the heart of Europe

Update - Please note that during today's European Commission Midday Briefing a journalist asked more information regarding this report according to which 32 samples of fish found in EU Institutions canteens were mislabelled, and how is it possible for EU legislation to not be enforced in EU Institutions. The Commission replied that several private companies provide the supplies for the canteens and it is the Belgian Agence Fédérale pour la Sécurité de la Chaîne Alimentaire which responsible of conducting the checks against mislabelling, and as such the Commission cannot substitute itself to it. However, it will take this matter seriously and is already in contact with the national authority in question as well with the three private companies involved.

<http://eu.oceana.org/en/press-center/press-releases/one-out-three-fish-served-brussels-not-what-consumers-pay>

Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership Advisory Group meeting (November 10)

The Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership Advisory Group meeting will meet on November 10 2015.

Items on the [Agenda](#):

1. Update (11th round) and forward look to 2016
2. Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)

(<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1230#regulatorycooperation>)

3. Sustainable Development

(<http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1230#rules>)

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2015/november/tradoc_153926.pdf