



## **NGO Priorities on PECH Amendments to the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2011 / 0380 COD)**

BirdLife Europe, Greenpeace, OCEANA, OCEAN2012 and WWF work together for an ambitious reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), including in relation to the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). The EMFF should support the implementation of a CFP that:

- ends overfishing by restoring and maintaining fish stocks to healthy levels,
- incentivises environmentally sustainable fishing practices, and
- reduces damage to marine ecosystems.

These priorities are essential to delivering progress in rebuilding an economically and socially viable EU fishing sector, reinstating a fair and equitable management of marine resources and supplying Europe's consumers with a rich variety of locally-caught fish now and into the future. In short, they secure a future for the fish and fishermen.

Efforts to eliminate EU subsidies that incentivise and support overfishing and to instead shift funds to support sustainable fisheries play a crucial role in achieving these objectives. A failure to eliminate harmful subsidies undermines commitments made by governments at the 2002 World Summit of Sustainable Development, in the World Trade Organisation, at the 2010 conference of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya and again at the Rio+20 Summit in 2012.<sup>1</sup>

In February, during the Plenary vote on the Basic Regulation of the CFP, you voted for an ambitious target for the recovery of European fish stocks, strengthened fleet management, a discard ban, the provision of sufficient funding for data collection and making funding conditional on the implementation of the CFP and relevant environmental legislation. In taking a position on the EMFF, we urge you to ensure coherence and complementarity between the Parliament's vote on the Basic Regulation and the compromise amendments for the EMFF.

In your role as elected officials, representing the European public, we call on you to take a determined stance on reforming the EMFF by ensuring that public aid will be effectively used to help restore overexploited fish stocks and degraded marine ecosystems and to generate sustainable and equitable livelihoods in the fishing sector.

Key provisions worth highlighting include:

- 1. Ensure that the EMFF does not continue to drive overfishing; e.g. through the support of engine replacement, modernization of vessels, temporary cessation of activities, or the construction of new vessels. In times of global debt crisis, the perverse use of fisheries subsidies and the cost of overfishing are brought into sharp focus. The EU should not step back from its commitment to end subsidies that stimulate overcapacity and overfishing.**

Please **reject** amendments:

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<sup>1</sup> Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, paragraph 31(f); WTO (2005) Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, Annex D paragraph 9; Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, agreed by the Parties to CBD Nagoya (2010)

**48\*<sup>2</sup>** (Cadec on Art 6.2 point a a new)  
**54\*** (Cadec on art 13.1 point b)  
**55\*** (Cadec on art 13.1 point c)  
**75\*** (Cadec on 27.1)  
**88\***(Cadec on 32.1 introductory part)  
**116\*** (Cadec on art 39.1)  
**634** (Bilbao Barandica on art 6.1 point d a new)  
**717** (Sanchez Presedo on art 11)

**2. Use public aid for supporting public goods and services by:**

- **Shifting aid from structural measures to control and enforcement and data collection (Member States should have the flexibility to allocate more resources to control and enforcement measures and data collection)**
- **Providing funds on research for more selective and environmentally friendly gear**
- **Facilitating the participation of under-represented stakeholder and Member State co-operation in the development and implementation of multi-annual plans (MAPs) and ensuring a balanced representation and participation of stakeholders in Advisory Councils and other regional management processes.**

Please support amendments:

**103\*** (Cadec on art 35.1 new)  
**106\*** (Cadec on art 35.1 point b)  
**815\*, 817\*, 819 \*** (Rodust on art 15.2, 15.3 and 15.4)  
**833\*** (Girling on art 15.6)  
**1013\*** (Davies, Arsenis on art 29.1 point b a new)  
**1247\*** (Milana on art 34 a new)  
**1253\*** (Arsenis, Davies on art 35.1)  
**2194** (Gallagher on art 88.1 a new)  
**2212\*** (Patrão Neves on art 94.3 e)

**3. Prioritise EMFF funding for measures that aim to minimize and where possible eliminate impacts of fisheries and aquaculture on the marine environment, strengthen ecosystem-based fisheries management and conserve marine ecosystems. Ensure that the EMFF contributes to the objectives of achieving Good Environmental Status as defined in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and favourable conservation status of species and habitats protected under the Bird and Habitats Directives.**

Please support amendments:

**476\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 3.2 point 5a new)  
**532\*** (Arsenis & Davies on art 5.1 a)  
**658\*** (Arsenis & Davies on 6.1 point 4 a)  
**666\*** (Arsenis, Davies, Lövin on art 6.1 point 4 b)  
**886\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 19.1 point d a new) and **895\***  
**1031\*** (Rodust on art 30.1 aa new)  
**1259\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 35.1 point aa)

<sup>2</sup> \* indicates that there are a number of similar / identical amendments which NGOs also support or reject.

**1282\*** (Arsenis, Davies on art 36.1 point b)  
**1343\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 38.1 d)  
**1520\*** (Torvalds on art 44.1)  
**1534\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 44.2)  
**1560\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 46) as well as **1684, 1778**  
**1678\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 50.1 c)  
**2177** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 84 a new)

- 4. Strengthen the existing provisions to make EMFF funding conditional upon compliance with the CFP and IUU regulations. Also, EMFF investments should not increase the capacity of the vessel to catch fish. Access to fleet-related subsidies (e.g. aid for innovation, health and safety measure on board and mitigation of climate change) should be conditional upon completing adequate assessment and reporting on the fishing capacity of the fleet and efforts of Member States to achieve an effective balance between fishing capacity and available fishing opportunities.**

Please support amendments:

**69\*** (Cadec on art 20.1 d a new)  
**486\*** (Romeva etc. on art 3.2 point 6 a new)  
**605\*** (Arsenis, Davies on art 6.1 point 2 a)  
**664\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art Article 6.1 point 4 – point a a)  
**732** (Rodust on art 12.1 point c)  
**757\*** (Torvalds on art 13.1 a) and **1166, 1371, 1278**  
**804\*** (Rodust on art 13.1 point f a new) and **1172, 1440**  
**2123** (Torvalds on art 79 a new)  
**2347\*** (Girling, Stevenson, Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 117.3)  
**2352\*** (Girling, Stevenson, Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 119.1)  
**2442** (Rodust on Annex 3.2 - point 1 - table 1 - line 4 a new )

- 5. The EMFF should support innovative systems to allocate access to fishing opportunities, in line with the Parliament’s first reading position to provide preferential access to those operators that fish in the most environmentally and socially sustainable way. Also, it must be guaranteed that the funding is allocated in a transparent manner and that public access to information in fisheries is in line with the Århus Convention.**

Please support amendments:

**999** (Davies on art 28.2) and **1319**  
**1208\* 1215\* 1220\* 1226\* 1231\* 1237\*** (Romeva, Lövin, Besset on art 34 title, 34.1 point a, b, c, d)  
**1241\*** (Rosbach on art 34.2)  
**2443** (Davies on Annex 4 – part 1 – paragraph 1 – indent 12 a new) and **2444**

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