



Plenary sitting

A10-0004/2025

30.1.2025

RECOMMENDATION

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (11267/2024 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE))

Committee on Fisheries

Rapporteur: Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
- *** Consent procedure
- ***I Ordinary legislative procedure (first reading)
- ***II Ordinary legislative procedure (second reading)
- ***III Ordinary legislative procedure (third reading)

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the draft act.)

CONTENTS

	Page
DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION	4
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	5
ANNEX: ENTITIES OR PERSONS FROM WHOM THE RAPPORTEUR HAS RECEIVED INPUT.....	6
BUDGETARY ASSESSMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS	7
OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT	14
PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE	19
FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE	20

DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (11267/2024 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE))

(Consent)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the draft Council decision (11267/2024),
 - having regard to the draft agreement (11026/2024),
 - having regard to the request for consent submitted by the Council in accordance with Article 43(2) and Article 218(6), second subparagraph, point (a)(v), and Article 218(7), of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (C10-0087/2024),
 - having regard to the budgetary assessment by the Committee on Budgets,
 - having regard to Rule 107(1) and (4), and Rule 117(7) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the opinion of the Committee on Development,
 - having regard to the recommendation of the Committee on Fisheries (A10-0004/2025),
1. Gives its consent to the conclusion of the agreement;
 2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and of the Republic of Cabo Verde.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Fisheries Partnership Agreement (FPA) between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (FPA) offers fishing opportunities for 56 EU vessels for tuna and related species in Cabo Verde's waters.

The new agreement covers a period of five years and will offer EU vessels the possibility to fish 7 000 tonnes of tuna and tuna-like species in Cabo Verde's waters. In return, the EU will pay Cabo Verde a financial contribution of 780 000€ per year (EUR 3 900 000 for the entire duration of the Protocol), from which 350 000€ is related to a reference tonnage of 7 000 tonnes, and 430 000€ to support for developing Cabo Verde's sectoral fisheries policy.

The rapporteur highlights the strategic importance of Cabo Verde, as a relevant player in the Atlantic Ocean, remembering that the EU and Cabo Verde have developed a cooperative relationship for more than four decades, with respect and political dialogue. Currently, Cabo Verde and the EU share common values such as democracy, respect for Human Rights and the Rule of Law, the promotion of multilateralism, and Cabo Verde is part of a regional group, called Macaronesia, which includes the Azores, Madeira, Canaries and Cabo Verde. The evolution of relations in these fields led to the creation of the EU-Cabo Verde Special Partnership in 2007, which continues to evolve.

The rapporteur stresses the importance of the EU-Cabo Verde SFPA for the EU fleet fishing for tuna and related species in the Atlantic Ocean, following strict EU criteria with regard to fisheries management, resource conservation and environmental sustainability, while at the same time strictly respecting the human rights and contributing for local socioeconomic development.

The rapporteur considers that this is a balanced Agreement, in which the remuneration for the fishing opportunities is lower than the EU contribution to support the development of Cabo Verde fisheries sector. This Protocol puts special emphasis on promoting decent working conditions for fishing activity, scientific capacity building, observation and management of the marine environment and marine protected areas. It promotes sustainable fisheries management, fisheries control and the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU). It also contains new provisions to improve vessel monitoring, the management of fishing authorizations and enhanced management measures for shark stocks. The Protocol responds to Cabo Verde's desire to strengthen the industrialization and competitiveness of its fishing sector.

In accordance with Article 218(6) TFEU, the consent of the European Parliament is required in order for the Council to adopt a decision on the conclusion of the Agreement.

In the light of the above, the Rapporteur recommends to Parliament to give its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement.

**ANNEX: ENTITIES OR PERSONS
FROM WHOM THE RAPPORTEUR HAS RECEIVED INPUT**

The rapporteur declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not receive input from any entity or person to be mentioned in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

22.11.2024

BUDGETARY ASSESSMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (COM(2024)0236 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE))

Rapporteur for budgetary assessment: Helder Sousa Silva

The Committee on Budgets has carried out a budgetary assessment of the proposal under Rule 58 of the Rules of Procedure and has reached the following conclusions:

- having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union¹,
 - having regard to the Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) of 16 December 2020 between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on budgetary discipline, on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management, as well as on new own resources, including a roadmap towards the introduction of new own resources², and in particular point 20 thereof,
- A. whereas the financial contribution for the entire duration of the Protocol is EUR 3 900 000 (i.e. EUR 780 000 per year), based on:
- (a) a reference tonnage of 7 000 tonnes, for which an annual amount linked to access has been set at EUR 350 000;
 - (b) support for developing Cabo Verde’s sectoral fisheries policy, amounting to EUR 430 000 per year;
- B. whereas the implementation of the Protocol requires the use of operational appropriations, as explained below:

EUR million (to three decimal places)

DG MARE			Year 2024	Year 2025	Year 2026	Year 2027	Year 2028	TOTAL
□ Operational appropriations								
Budget line 08.05.01	Commitments	(1a)	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	3.900
	Payments	(2 a)	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	3.900

- C. whereas the annual amount for commitment and payment appropriations is established during the annual budgetary procedure, including for the reserve line for protocols not yet having entered into force at the beginning of the year;
1. Notes that the support allocated to the Protocol should meet the objectives of cooperation in the fields of sustainable exploitation of fishery resources, aquaculture, sustainable development of the oceans, protection of the marine environment, and the blue economy; considers that this should be thoroughly scrutinised to ensure that this is done effectively during the implementation of the Protocol; notes that the support has a direct link to the principles of the Samoa Agreement³ reinforcing the Union’s external action towards African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and taking account, in particular, of the Union’s objectives with regard to democratic principles and human

¹ OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj>.

² OJ L 433 I, 22.12.2020, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_interinst/2020/1222/oj.

³ Partnership Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and the Members of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, of the other part (OJ L, 2023/2862, 28.12.2023, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_international/2023/2862/oj.)

- rights, strengthening EU presence in the region and the cooperation with an important strategic partner;
2. Recommends that, for future agreements, an impact assessment of the added value and socio-economic benefits derived from the previous agreement be taken into account; considers that this assessment should guide the negotiation and renewal of subsequent agreements to ensure that they align with the objectives of sustainable development and efficient use of the EU's financial resources;
 3. Notes that the Protocol implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with Cabo Verde had not yet entered into force at the beginning of this year;
 4. Recalls that the IIA requires that amounts provided for in the budget for the renewal of fisheries agreements that enter into force after 1 January of the financial year concerned be put in the reserve;
 5. Recalls that the use of the appropriations in the reserve requires a transfer in accordance with Article 31 of the Financial Regulation for the amount concerned from reserve line 30 02 02 to operational line 08 05 01;
 6. Recalls that the Financial Regulation requires the Commission to only sign a protocol with financial implications when appropriations are available on the operational line;
 7. Notes that the Protocol with Cabo Verde was signed on 23 July 2024;
 8. Expresses its concern that no request for a transfer was submitted to the Committee on Budgets before the signing of the Protocol;
 9. Takes note of the information from the Commission that for 2024 part of the unused appropriations for the implementation of the fisheries agreement with Greenland was available on operational line 08 05 01 and would be used for the implementation of the Protocol with Cabo Verde;
 10. Considers that this practice does not respect the provisions of the IIA; furthermore, maintains that appropriations are to be used for the purpose for which they have been entered into the budget;
 11. Notes the relatively small amount linked to the implementation of the Protocol with Cabo Verde, which might explain why the Commission has deviated from the required procedure; considers this to be a special situation that can be accepted by way of an exception;
 12. Demands that the Commission act in compliance with the provisions of the IIA for any future fisheries agreement regardless of the amount involved;
 13. Stresses that the financial programming of line 08 05 01 needs to be enough to cater for the financial obligations for 2025-2027, subject to the decision of the budgetary authority in the annual budgetary procedures; in this regard, notes that line 08 05 01 in the 2025 Draft Budget and in the Council Position on the 2025 Draft Budget includes an amount of EUR 150 560 000 in commitment appropriations and EUR 135 275 000 in

payment appropriations; calls for scrutiny regarding the financial programming of line 08 05 01 in the annual budgets of 2026 and 2027;

14. Concludes that the Committee on Budgets is in a position to advise the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to recommend approval of the proposal for a Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde.

**ANNEX: ENTITIES OR PERSONS
FROM WHOM THE RAPPOREUR FOR BUDGETARY ASSESSMENT HAS
RECEIVED INPUT**

The rapporteur for budgetary assessment declares under his exclusive responsibility that he did not receive input from any entity or person to be mentioned in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR BUDGETARY ASSESSMENT

Title	Conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde
References	11267/2024 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE)
Committee(s) responsible	PECH
Date announced in plenary	BUDG 19.9.2024
Rapporteur for budgetary assessment Date appointed	Hélder Sousa Silva 16.9.2024
Discussed in committee	14.10.2024
Date adopted	21.11.2024
Result of final vote	+: 26 –: 5 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Georgios Aftias, Isabel Benjumea Benjumea, Tomasz Buczek, Tamás Deutsch, Angéline Furet, Thomas Geisel, Jean-Marc Germain, Sandra Gómez López, Fabienne Keller, Janusz Lewandowski, Giuseppe Lupo, Ignazio Roberto Marino, Fernando Navarrete Rojas, Matjaž Nemeč, Danuše Nerudová, Ruggero Razza, Bogdan Rzońca, Hélder Sousa Silva, Nicolae Ștefănuță, Joachim Streit, Carla Tavares, Nils Ušakovs, Auke Zijlstra
Substitutes present for the final vote	Moritz Körner, Tiago Moreira de Sá
Members under Rule 216(7) present for the final vote	Christophe Bay, Udo Bullmann, Andrzej Buła, Gheorghe Falcă, Ștefan Mușoiu, Jan-Christoph Oetjen

**FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL
IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR BUDGETARY ASSESSMENT**

26	+
ECR	Ruggero Razza, Bogdan Rzońca
NI	Thomas Geisel
PPE	Georgios Aftias, Isabel Benjumea Benjumea, Andrzej Buła, Gheorghe Falcă, Janusz Lewandowski, Fernando Navarrete Rojas, Danuše Nerudová, Hélder Sousa Silva
PfE	Tiago Moreira de Sá
Renew	Fabienne Keller, Moritz Körner, Jan-Christoph Oetjen, Joachim Streit
S&D	Udo Bullmann, Jean-Marc Germain, Sandra Gómez López, Giuseppe Lupo, Ștefan Mușoiu, Matjaž Nemeč, Carla Tavares, Nils Ušakovs
Verts/ALE	Ignazio Roberto Marino, Nicolae Ștefănuță

5	-
PfE	Christophe Bay, Tomasz Buczek, Tamás Deutsch, Angéline Furet, Auke Zijlstra

0	0

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

5.12.2024

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT

for the Committee on Fisheries

on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (11267/2024 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE))

Rapporteur for opinion: Rosa Estaràs Ferragut

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (FPA) entered into force on 30 March 2007 for a period of 5 years, being tacitly renewable. A previous 5-year Protocol to the FPA entered into force on 20 May 2019 and expired on 19 May 2024.

With a view to adopt a new Protocol to the FPA, the European Commission conducted negotiations with the Republic of Cabo Verde. Following these negotiations, a new Protocol was initialled on 15 April 2024. This new Protocol covers a period of five years, allowing Union vessels to access Cabo Verde's fishing zone and to fish for tuna and associated species there, in compliance with the measures adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The aim is also to enhance cooperation between the EU and Cabo Verde, thereby creating a partnership framework within which to develop a sustainable fisheries policy and the responsible exploitation of fishery resources in Cabo Verde's waters, in the interest of both Parties.

The EU's financial contribution allocated to the Protocol is EUR 780 000 per year. This total is broken down into an annual amount of EUR 350 000 for access to fishery resources and another EUR 430 000 for the development of Cabo Verde's sectoral fisheries policy, which represents an increase for sectoral support in comparison with the previous protocol.

Cabo Verde's economy heavily relies on fisheries, which plays a crucial role in food security and employment for local communities. Artisanal fishing is vital for the livelihoods of many coastal communities. However, commercial fishing operations are also prominent targeting high-value species like tuna, which can affect local resources. Challenges such as overfishing, illegal fishing and climate change pose significant threats to fish stocks, marine ecosystems, and the livelihoods of local communities that depend on fishing. Furthermore, while women play a vital role in the fisheries sector of Cabo Verde, social norms and institutional barriers reinforce their marginalisation especially in rural areas. Overall, fisheries in Cabo Verde are a vital part of the economy and culture, and, therefore, there is a pressing need for sustainable management to ensure the long-term health of marine ecosystems and the communities that

depend on them.

Your rapporteur takes the view that the Protocol promotes the responsible and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources and the development of the national fisheries policy in Cabo Verde and is in the interest of both Parties. For this reason, your rapporteur is proposing that the protocol be approved.

The Committee on Development calls on the Committee on Fisheries, as the committee responsible, to recommend approval of the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde (2024-2029).

**ANNEX: ENTITIES OR PERSONS
FROM WHOM THE RAPPOREUR HAS RECEIVED INPUT**

The rapporteur for the opinion declares under her exclusive responsibility that she did not receive input from any entity or person to be mentioned in this Annex pursuant to Article 8 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde
References	11267/2024 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE)
Committee(s) responsible	PECH
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	DEVE 19.9.2024
Rapporteur for the opinion Date appointed	Rosa Estaràs Ferragut 15.10.2024
Date adopted	4.12.2024
Result of final vote	+: 15 –: 0 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Barry Andrews, Robert Biedroń, Udo Bullmann, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Niels Geuking, Charles Goerens, György Hölvényi, Murielle Laurent, Reinhold Lopatka, Isabella Lövin, Lukas Mandl, Tiago Moreira de Sá, Kristoffer Storm, Marco Tarquinio
Members under Rule 216(7) present for the final vote	Monika Hohlmeier

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

15	+
ECR	Kristoffer Storm
PPE	Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Niels Geuking, Monika Hohlmeier, Reinhold Lopatka, Lukas Mandl
PfE	György Hölvényi, Tiago Moreira de Sá
Renew	Barry Andrews, Charles Goerens
S&D	Robert Biedroń, Udo Bullmann, Murielle Laurent, Marco Tarquinio
Verts/ALE	Isabella Lövin

0	-

0	0

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

Title	Conclusion, on behalf of the Union, of the Protocol (2024-2029) implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Cabo Verde	
References	11267/2024 – C10-0087/2024 – 2024/0133(NLE)	
Date of consultation or request for consent	26.7.2024	
Committee(s) responsible	PECH	
Committees asked for opinions Date announced in plenary	DEVE 19.9.2024	
Rapporteurs Date appointed	Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral 19.9.2024	
Discussed in committee	4.9.2024	4.12.2024
Date adopted	28.1.2025	
	BUDG 21.11.2024	
Result of final vote	+: –: 0:	22 4 0
Members present for the final vote	Sakis Arnaoutoglou, Thomas Bajada, Stephen Nikola Bartulica, Asger Christensen, Carmen Crespo Díaz, Ton Diepeveen, Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral, Siegbert Frank Droese, Nicolás González Casares, Anja Hazekamp, France Jamet, Isabelle Le Callennec, Isabella Lövin, Giuseppe Milazzo, Francisco José Millán Mon, Jessica Polfjärd, André Rodrigues, Bert-Jan Ruissen, Sander Smit, António Tânger Corrêa, Emma Wiesner	
Substitutes present for the final vote	Oihane Agirregoitia Martínez, Mélissa Camara, Sofie Eriksson, Sebastian Everding	
Members under Rule 216(7) present for the final vote	Kinga Kollár	
Date tabled	30.1.2025	

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL BY THE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE

22	+
ECR	Stephen Nikola Bartulica, Giuseppe Milazzo, Bert-Jan Ruissen
PPE	Carmen Crespo Díaz, Paulo Do Nascimento Cabral, Kinga Kollár, Isabelle Le Callennec, Francisco José Millán Mon, Jessica Polfjärd, Sander Smit
PfE	Ton Diepeveen, António Tânger Corrêa
Renew	Oihane Agirregoitia Martínez, Asger Christensen, Emma Wiesner
S&D	Sakis Arnaoutoglou, Thomas Bajada, Sofie Eriksson, Nicolás González Casares, André Rodrigues
Verts/ALE	Mélissa Camara, Isabella Lövin

4	-
ESN	Siegbert Frank Droese
PfE	France Jamet
The Left	Sebastian Everding, Anja Hazekamp

0	0

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention