

4.7.2 The EESC expresses concern regarding the escalation of attacks on merchant vessels and the proliferation of incidents of armed robbery and piracy at sea particularly in South East Asia and Africa. It urges EU action so that commercial vessels are escorted by naval forces in dangerous waters.

4.8 Shore Side Electricity

4.8.1 As a measure to reduce emissions of green house gases from ships at berth the Commission proposes the use of shore-side electricity (Action Plan). By using shore-side electricity ships

will not burn fuel and, thus, they will not emit pollutants (SO_x, NO_x, PM) and CO₂.

4.8.2 The EESC supports the above proposal; however, it draws the attention to the following concerns: a single solution may not be suitable for all types of ships; shore side electricity may be generated in power plants burning fuels and coal and, thus, producing additional CO₂ which may offset the benefit. That is why it prompts the Commission to take into account the above considerations in order to propose a sensible policy on a global basis.

Brussels, 22 April 2008.

The President
of the European Economic and Social Committee
Dimitris DIMITRIADIS

Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee on the ‘Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1172/98 on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road as regards the implementing powers conferred on the Commission’

COM(2007) 778 final — 2007/0269 (COD)

(2008/C 211/08)

On 27 February 2008 the Council decided to consult the European Economic and Social Committee, under Article 285(1) of the Treaty establishing the European Community, on the

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1172/98 on statistical returns in respect of the carriage of goods by road as regards the implementing powers conferred on the Commission.

Since the Committee unreservedly endorses the content of the proposal and feels that it requires no comment on its part, it decided, at its 444th plenary session of 22 and 23 April 2008 (meeting of 22 April), by 145 votes and 2 abstentions, to issue an opinion ⁽¹⁾ endorsing the proposed text.

Brussels, 22 April 2008

The President
of the European Economic and Social Committee
Dimitris DIMITRIADIS

⁽¹⁾ The opinion of the Committee on the regulatory procedure with scrutiny is currently under preparation [COM(2007) 741 final, COM(2007) 822 final, COM(2007) 824 final and COM(2008) 71 final].