

(2003/C 222 E/177)

**WRITTEN QUESTION E-0136/03****by Daniel Varela Suanzes-Carpegna (PPE-DE) to the Commission***(28 January 2003)**Subject:* EU-Comoros international fisheries agreement and development cooperation

In the context of the current EU-Comoros international fisheries agreement, can the Commission indicate:

1. how much the EU has earmarked for the development of the fisheries sector in the Comoros?
2. how much the EU pays by way of a financial contribution in exchange for fishing rights for the Community fleet?
3. how much Community shipowners have to pay in fees for fishing licences and fishing rights?

**Answer given by Mr Fischler on behalf of the Commission***(6 March 2003)*

1. Article 2 of the Protocol in force for the Fishery Agreement between the EEC and the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros<sup>(1)</sup> sets the financial contribution at EUR 350 250 per year. Of this EUR 210 250 is for financing action to develop the Comorian fisheries sector as indicated in Article 3 of the Protocol.
2. The above financial contribution is the amount paid in exchange for the fishing opportunities granted to the Community fleet. It covers a catch volume of 4 670 tonnes a year in Comorian waters. If the fleet's tuna catch exceeds this the contribution is raised in proportion.
3. The fees charged to shipowners are set in the Annex to the Protocol.

The licence fee is EUR 25 per tonne of tuna caught in Comorian waters. Licences are issued on advance payment to the Comoros of an annual sum of EUR 2 250 per tuna seiner, EUR 1 375 per surface longliner of more than 150 gross register tonnes (grt) and EUR 1 000 per surface longliner of 150 grt or less.

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 193, 17.7.2001.

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**WRITTEN QUESTION E-0140/03****by Daniel Varela Suanzes-Carpegna (PPE-DE) to the Commission***(28 January 2003)**Subject:* EU-Greenland international fisheries agreement and development cooperation

In the context of the current EU-Greenland international fisheries agreement, can the Commission indicate:

1. how much the EU has earmarked for the development of the fisheries sector in Greenland?
2. how much the EU pays by way of a financial contribution in exchange for fishing rights for the Community fleet?
3. how much Community shipowners have to pay in fees for fishing licences and fishing rights?

**Answer given by Mr Fischler on behalf of the Commission**

(6 March 2003)

1. The fisheries relations between the Community and Greenland are governed by a Fisheries Agreement<sup>(1)</sup> that entered into force on 1 February 1985, at the same time as the entry into force of the Treaty of withdrawal, or 'Greenland Treaty'<sup>(1)</sup>. Drawing upon the principles of the Greenland Treaty, which emphasises co-operation and development, the Fisheries Agreement is not confined to fisheries matters but that is also intended to support the development of Greenland.

Article 11 of the current Protocol to the fisheries agreement between the Community and Greenland<sup>(2)</sup> fixes the level of financial compensation at EUR 42 820 000 per year. The Protocol does not make a clear distinction between the amount due for obtaining catch quotas in Greenland waters and the amount intended to cover co-operation and development.

2. It is the Community's view that for the sake of transparency, the financial compensation should in the future be split into a fisheries component and a cooperation and development component. Negotiations will continue in 2003 under the review process aiming at achieving this financial transparency.

3. There are no licence fees for vessels fishing under the Protocol to the fisheries agreement with Greenland.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 29, 1.2.1985.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 209, 2.8.2001.

(2003/C 222 E/179)

**WRITTEN QUESTION E-0146/03**

**by Daniel Varela Suanzes-Carpegna (PPE-DE) to the Commission**

(28 January 2003)

*Subject:* EU-Seychelles international fisheries agreement and development cooperation

In the context of the current EU-Seychelles international fisheries agreement, can the Commission indicate:

1. how much the EU has earmarked for the development of the fisheries sector on the Seychelles?
2. how much the EU pays by way of a financial contribution in exchange for fishing rights for the Community fleet?
3. how much Community shipowners have to pay in fees for fishing licences and fishing rights?

**Answer given by Mr Fischler on behalf of the Commission**

(6 March 2003)

1. Article 2 of the current Protocol to the fisheries agreement between the Community and the Republic of Seychelles<sup>(1)</sup> fixes the level of financial compensation at EUR 3 460 000 per year. Of this, EUR 1 160 000 is used for the measures in support of the Seychelles fisheries sector specified in Article 3 of the Protocol.

2. The financial compensation of EUR 3 460,000 per year represents the amount that is paid in exchange for the fishing opportunities made available to the Community fleet.

3. The amounts paid by the vessel owners are fixed in the Annex to the Protocol. The licence fees are EUR 25 per tonne of tuna caught within Seychelles waters. The licences are delivered after advance payments of EUR 10 000 for tuna seiners, EUR 2 000 for surface longliners of more than 150 gross registered tonnage (GRT) and EUR 1 500 for surface longliners of 150 GRT or less. The amounts of the