



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

Brussels, 8.1.2018  
COM(2018) 1 final

ANNEX 1

## **ANNEX**

**to the**

### **Recommendation**

**for a Council decision to authorise the Commission to open negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the renewal of the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement with the Kingdom of Morocco**

{SWD(2018) 1 final} - {SWD(2018) 2 final}

## ANNEX

### Negotiation directives

- The objective of the negotiations is the conclusion of a Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Morocco in line with Regulation (EU) N° 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy and with the Council Conclusions of 19 March 2012 on the Commission Communication of 13 July 2011 on the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy.
- To promote sustainable and responsible fishing as well as contributing to the strict observance of international law, while ensuring mutual benefits for the EU and Morocco through this new Protocol, the Commission's negotiation objectives shall be based on the following:
  - Ensuring access to the waters falling within the sovereignty or jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Morocco as regards fishing – i.e., including waters south of 27°40' N - and the necessary authorisations for vessels of the EU fleet targeting small pelagic, demersal and highly migratory species to fish in those waters, thereby *inter alia* maintaining the network of Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements available to EU operators;
  - Taking into account the best available scientific advice and relevant management plans adopted by the relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO), in order to ensure the environmental sustainability of fishing activities and to promote ocean governance at the international scale. The fishing activities should be directed exclusively at available resources, taking into account the local fleet's fishing capacity, while paying special attention to the straddling or highly migratory nature of the stocks concerned;
  - Seeking an appropriate share of the fisheries resources, fully commensurate with the EU fleets' interests, when they also interest other foreign fleets as well as the application of the same technical conditions to all foreign fleets;
  - Ensuring that access to fisheries is based on the activity of the EU fleet in the region, in the light of the most updated and best available scientific assessments;
  - Establishing a dialogue to reinforce the sectoral policy with a view to encouraging the implementation of a responsible fisheries policy, in connection with the country's development objectives, in particular as regards the fisheries governance, the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, control, monitoring and surveillance of fishing activities and provision of scientific advice.
  - Including a clause on the consequences of violations of human rights and democratic principles;
  - Including appropriate mechanisms to ensure that the Commission is sufficiently informed and involved on the geographic distribution of the usage of the sectoral support received under the Protocol, in order to allow the Commission to reasonably ensure that the Protocol benefits to the people of the non-self-governing territory of the Western Sahara;
  - In particular, the Protocol should define:

- the fishing opportunities, by category, to be granted to European Union vessels;
  - the financial compensation and the conditions for its payment; and
  - the mechanisms for an effective implementation of sectoral support and its regular monitoring.
- In order to avoid interruption of fishing activities, the new Protocol should include a clause of provisional application.