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SWD(2018) 193 final

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION

Accompanying the document

Recommendation for a

COUNCIL DECISION

**authorising the opening of negotiations with Cabo Verde for the conclusion of a Protocol
implementing the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Communities
and Cabo Verde**

{COM(2018) 299 final} - {SWD(2018) 194 final}

Sustainable Fisheries Agreements (SFPA) concluded between the European Union and third countries help to promote the objectives of the CFP internationally, particularly to promote sustainable fishing.¹

The Council conclusions on the external dimension (CFP) adopted on 19 March 2012, stipulate that an ex-post and ex-ante evaluation is carried out by the Commission before the negotiation of a new protocol.²

This staff working document (SWD) is built on the results of an external ex-post evaluation and ex-ante evaluation of the current Protocol (2014-2018) between the European Union and the Cabo Verde, which expires on 22 December 2018.^{3,4}

The new Protocol provides access to a maximum of 71 tuna vessels from the EU in return for an annual consideration of EUR 500 000 - 550 000.

On the basis of the evaluation criteria (effectiveness, efficiency, economy, coherence, relevance, EU added value and acceptability) analysed in section 5 of the staff working document, it can be concluded that this deal is very important for the EU and its fleet, as well as for Cabo Verde. It promotes the objectives of the CFP and to the development of the fisheries sector of Cabo Verde.

The Protocol is assessed as a relevant and efficient EU financial contribution commensurate with the fishing opportunities used. The Protocol is consistent with other EU interventions that are themselves in synergy with other donors. The added value of this Agreement allows the EU to establish a management and control framework of its fleets, consistent with the framework negotiated under other tuna agreements, while creating a platform of sectoral dialogue between the EU and Cabo Verde with a view to establishing sustainable fisheries.

However, a number of issues/points have been identified, the evaluation also makes some recommendations on fishing opportunities, the embarkation of seamen, training of observers, monitoring and surveillance capabilities, the communication strategy and support for maritime Blue Growth/ Ocean Governance policy of Cabo Verde.

In conclusion, the Commission supports the conclusions of the evaluation study and considers that the renewal of the Protocol to the Fisheries Partnership Agreement should be the preferred option. It also considers that the recommendations presented are relevant and should also take into account the operational constraints of the fleet and the regional context. Finally, considers it appropriate to explore ways to increase the impact of Protocol on the local economy (employment and value-added creation) and may also consider the option of supporting blue growth.

1 Overview of SFPA: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/international/agreements_fr

2 Doc. 7086/12 PECHE 66.

3 Evaluation study: <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/44beac2a-25a8-11e8-ac73-01aa75ed71a1/language-en/format-PDF/source-67475879>

4 [Council Decision \(EU\) 2014/334/EU of 19 May 2014 on the signing and provisional application of the Protocol \(OJ L168, 7.6.2014, p. 1\) and text of the Protocol \(OJ L 168, 7.6.2014, p. 3\); Council Decision \(EU\) 2015/239 of 10 February 2015 on conclusion \(OJ L 40, 16.2.2015, p. 4-6\);](#)