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(Non-legislative acts)

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

COUNCIL DECISION

of 3 June 2010

on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and on provisional application of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and Solomon Islands

(2010/397/EU)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43(2) in conjunction with Article 218(5) thereof,

Article 1

The signing of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and Solomon Islands is hereby approved on behalf of the Union, subject to its conclusion.

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

The text of the Agreement is attached to this Decision.

(1) The Union has negotiated with Solomon Islands a Fisheries Partnership Agreement providing Union vessels with fishing opportunities in the waters over which Solomon Islands has sovereignty or jurisdiction in respect of fisheries.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Union, subject to its conclusion.

(2) As a result of those negotiations, a new Fisheries Partnership Agreement was initialled on 26 September 2009.

(3) The Partnership Agreement between the European Community and Solomon Islands on fishing off Solomon Islands⁽¹⁾ is to be repealed and replaced by the new Fisheries Partnership Agreement.

Article 3

The Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the provisional application of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Union and Solomon Islands is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

(4) The new Fisheries Partnership Agreement should be signed on behalf of the Union.

(5) In order to guarantee the continuation of fishing activities by Union vessels, it is essential that the new Fisheries Partnership Agreement be applied as quickly as possible. Both parties have therefore initialled an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters providing for the provisional application of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement as from 9 October 2009 pending its entry into force.

The text of the said Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters is attached to this Decision.

(6) It is in the Union's interest to approve the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the provisional application of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement,

Article 4

The President of the Council is hereby authorised to designate the person(s) empowered to sign the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the provisional application of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement in order to bind the Union.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 105, 13.4.2006, p. 34.

Article 5

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Done at Luxembourg, 3 June 2010.

For the Council
The President
E. ESPINOSA
