Council Decision (EU) 2019/2218 of 24 October 2019 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community

# COUNCIL DECISION (EU) 2019/2218

### of 24 October 2019

on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community

### THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

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

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

#### Whereas:

- (1) On 23 July 2007 the Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 894/2007<sup>(1)</sup>, concluding the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community<sup>(2)</sup> ('the Agreement'). The Agreement entered into force on 29 August 2011 and remains in force.
- (2) On 18 December 2017 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe ('São Tomé and Príncipe') with a view to the conclusion of a new protocol to implement the Agreement.
- (3) The previous protocol to the Agreement expired on 22 May 2018.
- (4) The Commission has negotiated a new protocol on behalf of the Union. Following the conclusion of the negotiations, the new protocol was initialled on 17 April 2019.
- (5) The objective of the Protocol on the implementation of the Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community ('the Protocol') is to enable the Union and São Tomé and Príncipe to work together more closely in order to promote a sustainable fisheries policy and the sound exploitation of fisheries resources in São Tomé and Príncipe waters and to support efforts by São Tomé and Príncipe to develop its fisheries sector.
- (6) In order to ensure an expeditious start to the fishing activities of Union vessels, the Protocol should be applied on a provisional basis as from the signature thereof.
- (7) The Protocol should be signed and applied on a provisional basis, pending the completion of the procedures necessary for its entry into force,

## HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Council Decision (EU) 2019/2218. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

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- (1) Council Regulation (EC) No 894/2007 of 23 July 2007 on the conclusion of a Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the European Community (OJ L 205, 7.8.2007, p. 35).
- (2) OJ L 205, 7.8.2007, p. 36.

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