



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 7 February 2023  
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LIMITE

PECHE 27

#### 'I/A' ITEM NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
Subject:	Commission's intention to join on behalf of the EU the IUU Fishing Action Alliance Pledge - Approval of a non-binding instrument

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1. The IUU Fishing Action Alliance Pledge is a political declaration, initially agreed between three countries (the UK, the US and Canada), supporting the international fight against IUU fishing. The EU has been approached by the US and UK to support the Pledge. The Our Ocean Conference in Panama in March 2023 will provide an occasion to do so. The Pledge aims to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing, in particular, by:
  - supporting the effective regulation and sustainable management of fisheries;
  - urging all flag States to effectively monitor and regulate their fishing vessels;
  - encouraging international fisheries organisations, multilateral bodies, and States to expand existing efforts to address IUU fishing.
2. On 16 January 2023 the European Commission has informed the Council of its intention to enter, on behalf of the European Union, the IUU Fishing Action Alliance Pledge<sup>1</sup> which would constitute a non-binding instrument. The European Commission informed the Council that the content of the Pledge was final.
3. On 19 January 2023, the Working Party on Fisheries Policy examined the IUU Fishing Action Alliance Pledge and, on 25 January 2023, through a written consultation, confirmed

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<sup>1</sup> Doc. 5312/23 ADD 1

its support for the Commission's intention to enter the Pledge on behalf of the European Union.

4. Consequently, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited:

- to confirm the approval of the Pledge reached at the level of the Working Party;
- to suggest that the Council at one of its forthcoming sessions approves the instrument as set out in doc. 5312/23 ADD 1.

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