



ALLIANCE FOR COMMON FISHERIES POLICY REFORM
*European associations from the
processing and trading, consumer co-operative and retail sectors, chefs and WWF*

**Plenary vote on October 23rd 2013
on the EU Maritime and Fisheries Fund
(A7-0282/2013 - 2011/0380(COD))
Rapporteur: Alain Cadec (EPP)**

AIPCE-CEP, EUROCOMMERCE, EURO COOP, EURO-TOQUES INTERNATIONAL and WWF have a shared vision for sustainable European fisheries and have been working together for an ambitious reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) as the *Alliance for Common Fisheries Policy Reform*. We follow closely the discussions on the future European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). We believe that this reform will only be successful if future fisheries subsidies are efficiently targeted to achieve the new CFP's objectives and to support its implementation.

In February 2013, the European Parliament facilitated the shift towards sustainable fisheries management with its historic vote in favour of a new CFP. The upcoming plenary vote on the EMFF is a unique opportunity for the European Parliament to ensure that this policy shift is substantiated with the right financial instrument, which provides for:

1. Increased funding for data collection and for control and enforcement

We are highly concerned by the fact that the proposed funds earmarked for data collection and control and enforcement are not sufficient to ensure a transition towards a long-term economic, social and environmental sustainable fishing sector in the EU. Effective implementation of the new CFP is highly dependent on both enhanced control and enforcement and data collection to gather solid knowledge of the ecosystem and fisheries activities.

We urge Members of the European Parliament to vote for an EMFF that provides for increased funding for measures that improve data collection, control and enforcement as these are vital preconditions for sustainable fisheries management and for providing a fair level playing field. Priority should also be given to research and measures which foster sustainable fishing practices such as improved gear selectivity.

2. Equal opportunities for all stakeholders to support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy

All stakeholders, including Member States, fishermen, industry, scientists, consumer and environmental interests, must be at the heart of the decision making process. **Advisory bodies should be composed of representatives of all interest groups affected by the Common Fisheries Policy.** To ensure a balanced representation and participation of stakeholders in regional management processes, **we urge Members of the European Parliament to vote for an EMFF that foresees support for the involvement and participation of all relevant stakeholders.**

The future EMFF should also support stakeholder involvement in the process of setting up Multiannual Management Plans for all European fisheries.

The Alliance for Common Fisheries Policy Reform are:

AIPCE-CEP is the EU Fish Processors and Traders Association representing 130,000 employees, 4,000 enterprises and a production value of around €23 billion.

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EUROCOMMERCE represents the retail, wholesale and international trade sectors in Europe. Its membership includes commerce federations in 31 countries, European and national associations representing specific commerce sectors and individual companies.

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EURO COOP or the European Community of Consumer Co-operatives represents the interests of the EU's consumer cooperatives, which have 450,000 employees, 36,000 points of sale and 30 million consumer-members across 19 countries.

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EURO-TOQUES INTERNATIONAL, the European Community of Cooks, is a pan-European organisation established in 1986 which represents over 2,000 chefs and cooks, with national branches in 17 European countries.

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WWF is one of the world's largest and most respected independent conservation organisations, with almost 5 million supporters and a global network active in over 100 countries.

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