



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

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From: Presidency  
To: Council

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Subject: Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1139 as regards the introduction of capacity limits for Eastern Baltic cod, data collection and control measures in the Baltic Sea, and Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 as regards permanent cessation for fleets fishing for Eastern Baltic cod  
- Statement by Austria

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**Statement by Austria**

Austria understands that the exceptionally bad stock status of Eastern cod in the Baltic Sea requires measures for the fishers affected by loss of income. Austria recalls the statement of the European Commission and the Baltic Sea States from October 2019.

'The agreed objective is to support the recovery of the stocks towards sustainable levels, as envisaged in the Baltic Sea multi-annual management plan. However, a recovery cannot be expected for several years. This situation will therefore lead to redundant fishing fleet capacity and to adverse socio-economic consequences for communities and fishing businesses in the Member States that are affected. The Member States in the Baltic Sea and Commission therefore emphasise the importance of ensuring proper management of the crisis and effective control measures of fisheries to avoid spillover effects into fisheries of other species.'

Austria supports financial compensation for the fishers, but would insist at the same time on the importance of a proper management of the crisis and efficient control measures as they were envisaged in the original proposal by the European Commission.

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