Amendment of the proposal for a Council Regulation introducing a tax on catches of salmon in the Baltic Sea by Community vessels (1)

(Submitted by the Commission to the Council pursuant to the second paragraph of Article 149 of the EEC Treaty on 21 December 1982)

1. The first recital shall be replaced by the following:

'Whereas the Council has concluded by Regulation (EEC) No 2210/80 of 27 June 1980 the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of Sweden relating to certain measures intended to promote the reproduction of salmon in the Baltic Sea (2);'

2. The third recital shall be replaced by the following:

'Whereas it is fair that all fishermen benefiting from the additional fishing opportunities provided by this Agreement should bear part of the cost entailed by these measures, proportionately to the catches made, through a tax levied on salmon landings on behalf of the Community, and intended to offset in part the Community's financial contribution towards the cost of measures implemented by Sweden,'

3. Article 1 shall be replaced by the following:

'Article 1

1. A tax is hereby introduced on catches of salmon in the Baltic Sea by fishing vessels flying the flag of a Member State or registered in a Member State.

2. The tax shall be paid by the owner of the fishing vessel to the competent authorities of the Member State whose flag the vessel is flying or in which the vessel is registered. Member States shall take appropriate measures for collecting the tax and for dealing with cases of failure to pay the tax.

3. The tax shall be paid at the time of landing.

4. Quantities landed outside Community territory or in another Member State than the one referred to in paragraph 2 shall be declared after each voyage by the skipper of the fishing vessel to the Member State whose flag his vessel is flying or in which his vessel is registered. The tax shall be paid not later than 15 days after the voyage.

5. The amount of the tax shall be fixed in ECU per kg each year, before 31 December for the coming year, by the Council acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission.

6. The amount of tax, in national currencies, shall be the equivalent of the amount of tax fixed in ECU calculated by using the representative rate applicable on the first day of the year for which the tax has been fixed.

7. The tax shall be fixed at a level which ensures that the anticipated product of the tax in a given year constitutes 50-75 % of the Community's financial contribution laid down for that year under the Agreement between the Community and Sweden on the reproduction of salmon in the Baltic Sea.

8. The Member States shall, within 30 days following the end of each quarter, pay over to the Commission the amounts collected during that quarter.'

4. The date '1 January 1981' in Article 2 shall be replaced by '1 January 1983'.

(1) OJ No C 280, 30. 10. 1980, p. 4.

(2) OJ No L 226, 29. 8. 1980, p. 7.