II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 26 February 1980

concerning the conclusion of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters on the provisional application of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Guinea Bissau and the European Economic Community on fishing off the coast of Guinea Bissau and of the two exchanges of letters relating thereto

(80/255/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 103 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Guinea Bissau are to sign on 27 February 1980 an Agreement on fishing off the coast of Guinea Bissau and two exchanges of letters relating thereto ;

Whereas under this Agreement and the texts relating thereto the Government of Guinea Bissau authorizes Community fishermen to fish off the coast of Guinea Bissau ;

Whereas the year for fishing off the coast of Guinea Bissau is currently in operation and the interests of Community fishermen render imperative, in the absence of any alternative sufficient fishing prospects, that they have access to these waters ; whereas it is therefore vital that the Agreement with Guinea Bissau be applied at the earliest opportunity ;

Whereas, for this reason, the two parties have agreed on the provisional application of the Agreement and of the texts relating thereto by means of an exchange of letters to be effected on the date of signature of the Agreement ;

Whereas it is appropriate that approval be given to this Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters based on Article 103 of the Treaty, pending final approval of the Agreement on the basis of Article 43 of the Treaty,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS :

Article 1

The Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters on the provisional application of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Guinea Bissau and the European Economic Community on fishing off the coast of Guinea Bissau and of the two exchanges of letters relating thereto is hereby approved on behalf of the Community.

The text of the Agreement is annexed to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorized to designate the persons empowered to sign the Agreement in order to bind the Community.

Done at Brussels, 26 February 1980.

For the Council

The President

G. ZAMBERLETTI