

MSC HEARING

Place: Copenhagen, DGI. Klimaforum09 “Peoples Climate Summit”

Date: Wednesday 16 of December 2009

Time: 3.00 – 6.00 pm (15.00 – 18.00)

Organization: The Danish Society for a Living Sea, Denmark

Subject: Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and the Climate

Participants: People and organizations with interest in fishery and climate. All are invited. **Note!** The registration for testimony closes 3.00 pm (15.00) Wednesday 16 of December 2009.

Background

In 1995, The Danish Society for a Living Sea started to work with blue “organic” labeling of fisheries. After thorough discussions, it was clear to us that we had to focus on the industry, methods and environmental impact of the fisheries, rather on the individual fish caught: in order to label a fish “organic” or “ecological”, one must address the way it is caught and the fisheries impact on the environment and the climate.

Read more on the homepage

http://www.levendehav.dk/politik/oekologiske_fisk/okologisk-fiskeri.htm.



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our blog: coastalCOP15.blogspot.com
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In 1999, [“Marine Stewardship Council”](#) (MSC) stated its certification and labeling of fisheries. From day one of these efforts, however, Living Sea has criticizing MSC for having an acceptable focus on the biological sustainability but a weak environmental position without any energy criteria in their certification.

In connection with the UN Climate Summit, Living Sea, Denmark accuses MSC of gross irresponsibility, bordering on swindle. MSC is legitimizing unsustainable fisheries that have massive negative impact on the climate by giving the fish consumer a false eco-label for fish and fish products. MSC is therefore “not better than nothing”.

Living Sea’s prime focus in the global fisheries is the extreme use of fossil energy in the trawl fishery.

Living Sea will be present and active in the civil society’s alternative summit during the Copenhagen Climate Summit December 2009. One of our main focal points during the summit will be this hearing about MSC and the climate.

- **Question: All have to deliver to a better climate how can and will MSC fulfill its climate responsibilities in its ambition to Eco-labeling the global fisheries?**

For more information contact

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Form of the hearing

The hearing will summon five persons selected with the aim of securing objectivity and versatility in the discussions of the fishery industry and the market for fish. There will be a panel chairman. Three reporters will be responsible for minutes/reports from the hearing, and after the hearing a common report will be produced and signed by the panel before being published.

All possible interested parties and stakeholders will be invited to contribute with their testimony. There will be no debate or discussion under the hearing. The panel can ask the witness to clarify misunderstandings, but there will be no further exchanges on possible disagreements.

Each witness will be given minimum five minutes to state his or her case. (Depending on the number of participants, this minimum may be expanded). The Marine Stewardship Council will get the time needed to defend their case.

The hearing will be video recorded.