

Public Hearing on the CFP Reform: **Ways of securing the future of our fisheries resources**

Draft programme and list of participants

DATE: WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2011 15.00 > 18.30

**VENUE: European Parliament,
Rue Wiertz 60, 1047 Brussels,
Building A. SPINELLI, Room A3G-3
BELGIUM**

15.00: OPENING SESSION

- Opening by Mrs **Ulrike RODUST**, S& D Coordinator of Fisheries Committee
- Welcome words by Mr **Martin SCHULZ**, President of S&D group in European Parliament
- Opening speech by **Ms. Maria DAMANAKI**, Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

15.30: PANEL1 - OVERFISHING - TRUTH OR TALE?

- Mr **Jean Jacques MAGUIRE**, Chair of ICES Advisory Committee
- Mr **Kevern COCHRANE**, FAO, Senior Fisheries Resources Officer, Fisheries Resources Division
- Mr **Ettore IANI**, President of the Lega Pesca Union, (National association of fisheries cooperatives, IT)
- Mr **Chris FRID, Ph.D.**, Professor, University of Liverpool, Oceans and Ecosystems Research Cluster

DISCUSSION

PAUSE

16.45: PANEL 2 - WAYS OF REDUCING OR ELIMINATING DISCARDS

- Mr **Niels WICHMANN**, Chief Executive of the Danish Fishermen's Federation, Chairman of the North Sea RAC (check confirmation!)
- Dr **German JEUB**, Director of EU Policy and Fisheries, German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
- Ms **Indrani LUTCHMAN**, Head of the Sustainable Fisheries Programme, Institute for European Environmental Policy
- Dr **Eric L. GILMAN, Ph.D.**, Senior Fisheries Research Scientist, College of Natural and Computational Sciences, Hawaii Pacific University
- Mr **Victor BADIOLA**, President of the South Western Waters RAC, Managing Director of Organización de Productores de Pesca de Altura del Puerto de Ondárroa

DISCUSSION

18.15: CONCLUSIONS

Annex 1

Framework - panel 1 on overfishing

How many fish swim in our seas? Fishermen and scientists often disagree when it comes to this question. Scientists have a rather negative view on the state of our fish stocks. According to them 85% of stocks are overfished and could produce a higher yield when managed according to MSY principles. That's why scientific bodies, like the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), often recommend reducing catches.

As a matter of fact, reduced catches are not really appreciated by fishermen. Many fishermen struggle to make ends meet - further cuts could put a lot of businesses in real danger. In addition, fishermen often criticize that scientists do not make use of their long standing empirical experiences. It is incontestable that scientists often lack data for a lot of stocks, or there is a shortage of research or collaboration of researchers.

Politics are caught in the middle between these two positions as well as between the aim of a sustainable management of fish stocks and the will to keep the European fisheries alive.

In this panel the following questions shall be discussed:

- What is the real extent of overfishing in European and the world's seas?
- Could a management that follows the principles of MSY lead to a significant increase in catch opportunities?
- How do we manage to leave the "overfishing-trap" without ruining our fishermen?
- How could a better collaboration between scientists and fishermen be achieved?

Annex 2:

Framework - panel 2 by-catches and discards

One of the greatest challenges of the CFP is the vast amount of discards and by-catches in European fisheries. There is widespread consensus that this waste of resources should be stopped or at least minimised. However, there are many different and contradictory options how to achieve this goal, reaching from the introduction of individually transferable quotas, systems based on fishing effort or the introduction of real catching quotas (instead of landing quotas) and the strengthening of producer organisations.

This panel shall discuss the different options to learn about the basic character of each of the models that are being discussed. The panel should also discuss whether banning or minimising discards would be sufficient to stop wasting our fisheries resources or it is necessary to combine them with other measures to put an end to wasting.