



Increased Selectivity versus Balanced Harvest: How do we best meet ecosystem objectives in fisheries?

Thursday 8 November 2012

09:30 – 12:30

Room A5E2

European Parliament, Brussels

AGENDA

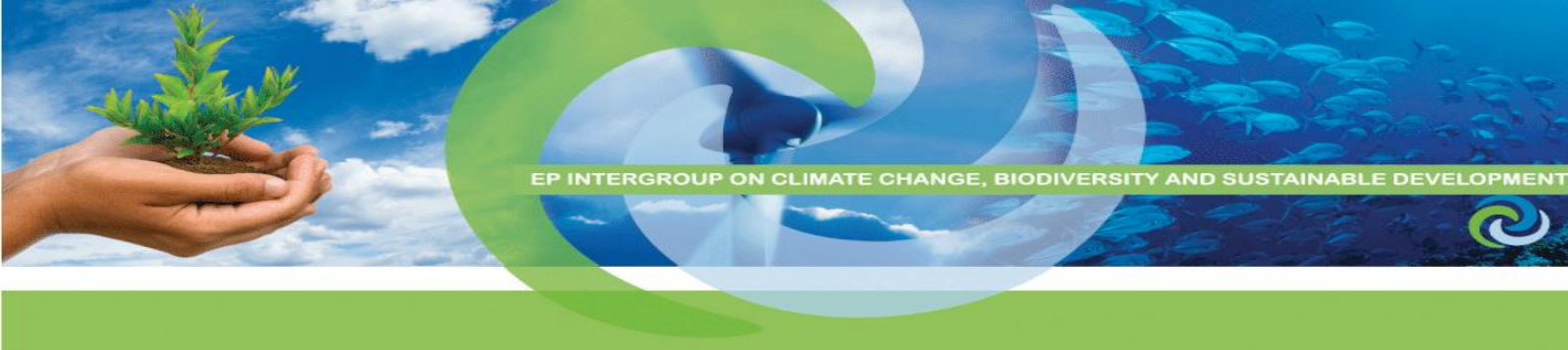
Chaired by MEP Struan Stevenson, Chair of the EP Intergroup “*Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development*”

In a stock-by-stock management framework and responding to a selective market, gear/vessel selectivity has been systematically promoted in order to: "optimize" yield per recruit, reduce by-catch, improve quota policies and protect charismatic species.

The Ecosystem Approach (EA) to Fisheries puts the problem under a radically different lighting. It has been shown that selectivity, as conventionally understood and implemented had often unpredictable and adverse ecological consequences on populations and ecosystems deeply modifying their structures and properties, thus involuntarily violating the first principle of the ecosystem approach adopted at FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation) and CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity).

Following the Scientific Workshop on *Selective Fishing and Balanced Harvest* organized by the IUCN/CEM/Fisheries Expert Group in Nagoya in 2010 and the resulting article published in Science on “*Reconsidering the consequences of selective fisheries*”, Balanced Harvest has been actively discussed in many scientific fora as an ecosystem-level alternative strategy reducing adverse effects while better addressing food security.

This new perspective and its implications will be presented and discussed in the workshop with key experts in the presence of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), the European Commission and Member States (MS) representatives, and stakeholders.



09.00-09.25 *Registration and tea and coffee*

Opening session

09.30-09.40 Welcoming remarks by MEP Struan Stevenson, Chair of the Intergroup

09.40-09.50 Introduction by Dr. Serge Garcia, Chair of IUCN/CEM/FEG

Presentations

09.50-10.20 *Balanced harvest: can it reconcile fisheries and conservation objectives?*
Dr. Jeppe Kolding, Member of IUCN/CEM/FEG

10.20-10.50 *The impacts of selectivity on marine ecosystems: results from dynamic size spectra*
Prof. Richard Law, University of York, UK

Panel discussion and exchange of views with the audience

10.50-12.20 Ernesto Peñas Lado, Director, DG MARE, European Commission
Serge Garcia, IUCN/CEM/FEG
Jeppe Kolding, IUCN/CEM/FEG
Richard Law, University of York, UK
Carl O'Brien, ICES

Closing Session

12.20-12.30 Conclusions by the Chair