

**UNEP and WWF, in collaboration with Oceana and ICTSD,
are hosting a Technical and Informal Workshop on:**

WTO DISCIPLINES ON FISHERIES SUBSIDIES: ELEMENTS OF THE CHAIR'S DRAFT

29 January 2008, 9h00-17h30
International Environment House II, The Rhin Room
7, Chemin de Balexert, Geneva, Switzerland

AGENDA

8h30-9h00 Registration and coffee

9h00-9h15 Welcome and Overview

Anja von Moltke, Economics and Trade Branch, UNEP
Gordon Shepherd, Director, Global and Regional Policy, WWF

This workshop is intended to provide a forum for informal technical discussion of the draft text on fisheries subsidies circulated by the chair of the Negotiating Group on Rules on 30 November 2007 (TN/RL/W/213). The purpose is to allow an elaboration and exploration of issues in a non-negotiating context.

9h15-10h45 SESSION I: The Prohibition and Exceptions Thereto

Article I of the Chair's draft text proposes a prohibition of certain fisheries subsidies, while Article II provides certain general exceptions thereto. This first session will review the relevant sections in the Chair's text (Article 1 and 2). It will examine the scope and content of the proposed ban, with focus on its practical implications.

9h15-9h20 Introduction by the Session Chair: Gordon Shepherd, WWF

9h20-9h30 Technical commentary: Eric Bilsky, Oceana

9h30-9h40 Technical commentary: Anthony Cox, OECD

9h40-10h45 Discussion- issues for possible inclusion include:

- Basic components of the proposed ban
- The prohibition on subsidies to certain processing activities
- The prohibition on subsidies to certain kinds of infrastructure
- Draft Article I.2 (regarding ' unequivocally over fished' stocks)
- Other elements of Article I of interest to workshop participants
- The Article II exceptions, scope and operation

10h45-11h00 *Coffee break*

11h00-13h00 Session 2: Disciplines and Conditions on Non-Prohibited Subsidies

Under the Chair's draft, non-prohibited subsidies are to be subject to certain general disciplines (Art IV), and to certain prerequisites relating to fisheries management (Art. V). Session 2 will focus on these provisions, with emphasis on Article V, in order to examine the nature and extent of the proposed requirements. Time will be dedicated both to elucidating the Chair's text and to discussing relevant issues of policy and practicality.

11h00-11h10 **Introduction by the Session Chair:** Anja Von Moltke, UNEP

11h10-11h20 **Technical commentary:** David Schorr, WWF

11h20-11h30 **Technical commentary:** Kevern Cochrane, FAO

11h30-13h00 **Discussion-** Issues for possible discussion include:

- Core elements of sustainability criteria within the draft text
- Balancing of practicality and effectiveness in setting criteria
- Treatment of international fisheries
- Defining adequate compliance
- Institutional considerations (including the 'peer review' concept)
- Draft Article IV and approaches to stock-related 'adverse effects'

13h00-14h15 *LUNCH (provided on site)*

14h15-17h15 SESSION 3: Special & Differential Treatment for Developing Countries

Article III of the Chair's draft sets out proposed provisions for S&DT. As this article is closely linked to Article V, Session 3 will allow some continued discussion of themes introduced in Session 2. In addition, technical issues of specific relevance to S&DT will be emphasised.

14h15-14h25 **Introduction by the Session Chair:** Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz, ICTSD

14h25-14h35 **Technical commentary:** Marcos Orellana, CIEL

14h35-14h45 **Technical commentary:** Papa Gora Ndiaye, ENDA Tiers Monde

14h45-16h00 **Discussion –** Issues for possible discussion include:

- Access-related subsidies
- 'Artisanal' and 'small scale' fisheries (including the vessel size issue)
- The territorial scope of S&DT (including the 'high seas' issue)
- Procedural issues relating to S&DT (including notification)

16h00-16h15 *Coffee break*

16h15-17h15 **Discussions (cont.)**

17h15-17h30 Closing remarks: Anja Von Moltke, UNEP

