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To: MARE CFP CONSULTATION
Subject: Contribution to the consultation - Citizen

The decline of fish stocks (as opposed to the slight decline of fish harvest) is a pure mathematical and political problem. At the source is the world demand for protein and the belief that no one owns the oceans, that it is public domain. So, if there is no agreement on whose resource is being depleted there is only public sentiment raising the issue of the inconvenient and fishy truth.

Agreement:

- fishing technology improves by at least 25% each year
- each year more of the scarce resource are being caught
- global fish stocks are down at least 70% from 1900
- global large fish stocks are down at least 90%
- few of the most desired species are able to replace what is caught each year
- population growth is exponential, people need food
- there is more desperate disregard for sea-based fish stocks
- few if any politicians are willing to legislate against their citizens further depleting stocks when international harvesting will continue
- fish is central to the dietary tradition of most European countries
- soy and other plant products are not yet widely acceptable protein substitutes
- freshwater and saltwater farming is growing but has suffered from several negative chemical and biologic misuses.

- THERE IS ONLY ONE SOLUTION TO STABILIZE AND INCREASE FISH STOCKS - REDUCE FISHING

Winston Churchill made a comment really identifies a persistent global fault "The Americans (and I say all political species) will always do the right thing after they have exhausted all the alternatives,"

Winston Churchill

There are not alternatives.