



SEAS AT RISK

Conference Invitation

21st October 2009, Brussels, Belgium

Towards sustainable European fisheries:

The double challenge of restructuring
and reducing the fishing fleet

Seas At Risk, the European association of environmental organisations working to protect and restore to health the marine environment of European seas, has the pleasure of inviting you to a one day conference on capacity reduction and fleet restructuring, which will take place in Brussels on the 21st of October 2009.

The Common Fisheries Policy is being reviewed and the European Commission has identified overcapacity as one of the most serious problems. Seas At Risk agrees with this analysis, but an important aspect of the capacity reduction debate is being neglected, namely the nature of the fleet that should result from reduction efforts. The revised Common Fisheries Policy should not just reduce capacity, but reduce it selectively, keeping the vessels with the lowest environmental impact and cutting the most destructive and unsustainable parts of the fleet. To this end, the conference will address the link between capacity reduction and sustainability criteria.

The conference aims to:

- > Contribute to the process of the CFP reform by addressing the issue of capacity reduction and fleet restructuring.
- > Identify economic, social and environmental aspects of a sustainable fleet
- > Discuss management tools that will be effective in delivering such a fleet.

The conference will be in English. Attendance is free of charge but subject to registration. More information and details on how to register can be obtained at www.seas-at-risk.org. Alternatively contact Natalie Kontoulis (tel. + 32 2 897 309 67, e-mail nkontoulis@seas-at-risk.org) for a registration form.

A **conference programme** can be found overleaf.

The Conference will take place at the **Stanhope Hotel**
(Rue de Commerce 9) in **Brussels**.





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Draft Conference Programme

21st October, Stanhope Hotel, Brussels

Towards sustainable European fisheries:

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> 09.00: Coffee

> 09.30: **Welcome**

Herman Verheij

Chairman of Seas At Risk

> 09.45: **Keynote addresses**

Axel Wenblad

Director General of the Swedish
Board of Fisheries

Fokion Fotiadis

Director General for Maritime
Affairs and Fisheries *TBC*

**Session 1: How does a
sustainable fleet look?**

> 10.30: **Social aspects**

Jon Whitlow *TBC*

> 11.00: Coffee break

> 11.30: **Environmental aspects**

Speaker TBC

> 12.00: **Economic aspects**

Aniol Esteban

new economics foundation

> 12.30: Lunch

**Session 2: Capacity reduction
and fleet restructuring**

> 13.30: **Overview of current fleet
management tools in the EU**

Sophie des Clers

Geography Department,
University College London

> 14.00: **Overview of capacity
reduction through buyback
schemes around the world**

Dale Squires

USA National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

> 14.30: **The Groundfish Fleet
Restructuring Project**

Astrid Scholz

Ecotrust

> 15.00: **The Norwegian capacity
reduction programme**

Per Sandberg

Norwegian Fisheries Directorate

> 15.30: Coffee break

Session 3: Parallel workshops

> 16.00: **Parallel workshops on
management tools to achieve
a sustainable fleet.**

> 17.15: **Reports from the working
groups and conclusions**

> 18.00: Conference ends

A cocktail will be offered after the
conference.