



Second meeting of the E15 expert group on
Oceans, Fisheries and the Trade System
12-13 November 2014 – Geneva, Switzerland

Agenda

BY INVITATION ONLY

Wednesday, 12 November

13:00 – 14:00 **Informal lunch**

14:00 – 14:15 **Welcome remarks**

- Christophe Bellmann (ICTSD)
- Richard Samans (World Economic Forum)
- Alice Tipping (ICTSD)
- U. Rashid Sumaila (UBC)

14:15 – 15:45 **Session I: Tariffs on fisheries products**

Chair: Christophe Bellmann (ICTSD)

- Resource person: Liam Campling (Queen Mary University London)

This session will draw on evidence presented of the shape of tariff preferences and tariff escalation in global trade in fisheries products. It will then consider the empirical evidence available around the impact of tariffs on production structures and development objectives, and, where available, on fish stocks. On the basis of the evidence presented, discussion will focus on developing recommendations for how the global trading system should respond to any issues identified, in particular to support development outcomes (eg post-harvest value addition for income generation and poverty reduction) in developing countries.

15:45 – 16:15 **Coffee break**

16:15 – 18:15 **Session II: Fisheries subsidies**

Chair: Alice Tipping (ICTSD)

- Resource person: Clarisse Morgan (WTO)
- Resource person: Sadeq Bigdeli (Waikato University)

Discussion in this session will assess a variety of structural and procedural options for disciplining fisheries subsidies, mainly (but not exclusively) in the context of the WTO. The options will include different ways in which disciplines could be structured, according to the type of subsidy, the type of stock or the kind of fishing activity involved, or in combination with other related negotiating topics, e.g. as part of a sectoral agreement on fisheries or a horizontal agreement on subsidies. Other options could be procedural, under which disciplines could be developed, or phased in, at different times, or undertaken between different groups of governments.

18:30 – 21:00 **Expert Group reception and informal dinner**

9:30 – 11:00 **Session III: Addressing IUU fishing**

Chair: U. Rashid Sumaila (University of British Columbia)

- Resource person: Margaret Young (University of Melbourne)

In this session, participants will review the shape of current trade in IUU fish products and the trade-related measures in place, whether unilateral or cooperative, to curb this trade. Drawing on the experience of regional trade agreements' attempts to curb trade in illegal timber, discussion will focus on options for further bilateral or regional trade-related measure that could help to curb trade in IUU fish. Once the options are identified, discussion will cover how the measures might eventually be multilateralised as part of a global regime on illegal fishing, and the relationship between these options and existing WTO rules, including whether those rules might need to be amended to accommodate them.

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30 – 13:00 **Session IV: Aquaculture**

Chair: Alice Tipping (ICTSD)

- Resource person: Frank Asche (University of Stavanger)

Discussion in this session will review forecasts of the future contribution of aquaculture to global fish production and likely changes to the shape of fisheries trade. It will assess the potential policy challenges and opportunities that these trends present, particularly their implications for developing countries and the environmental impacts of aquaculture production. Discussion will then turn to assessing the need for new or revised trade rules to address the challenges identified (or take advantage of the opportunities presented). Relevant rules that might need to be amended include those around tariffs and non-tariff barriers (particularly private and public standards and technical requirements) applied to aquaculture products, subsidies to the sector and the impact of foreign investment rules.

13:00 – 14:00 **Light lunch**

14:00 – 17:30 **Session V: Draft conclusions**

Chair: Christophe Bellmann (ICTSD)

- Resource person: U. Rashid Sumaila (University of British Columbia)

This session will begin by drawing together the discussion over the preceding days to identify some of the key issues and areas where recommendations could be developed. It will then consider, on the basis of an initial outline, the group's draft conclusions and recommendations, including policy options, for the global trading system. The recommendations should focus on trade-based options that could be pursued cooperatively in the WTO or in other trade policy forums (e.g. RTAs, investment agreements).

Open discussion
(coffee break at 15:30)

17:30 **Concluding remarks**

- Alice Tipping (ICTSD)