



Agenda item 6.8(b)
For decision

Council

CNL(02)35

Response from ISFA to Matters Arising at the Liaison Group Meeting

We have received the attached correspondence from the Chairman of ISFA, Dr Vigfus Johannsson, in response to matters arising from the Liaison Group Meeting (see document CNL(02)24). The copy of the ISFA Constitution requested by the NASCO delegation to the Liaison Group was not attached to the letter received.

The resolution from the ISFA refers to the question of whether the ISFA should be the sole representative of the salmon farming industry. This will need to be dealt with under agenda item 6.8(b).

However, the response from ISFA regarding the Terms of Reference of the SCPA in relation to application of the Precautionary Approach to introductions and transfers, aquaculture and transgenics will be considered under agenda item 6.2(d).

Secretary
Edinburgh
31 May, 2002

April 22, 2002

Malcolm Windsor, Secretary NASCO
11 Rutland Square
Edinburgh, Scotland UK
EH1 2AS

Dear Dr. Windsor:

I am writing to follow up on the 2002 NASCO Salmon Farming Industry Liaison meeting in Westport, Ireland and have attached a number of documents:

1. Resolution from the April 22 meeting of the International Salmon Farmers Association meeting regarding ISFA's participation in the NASCO Salmon Farming Industry Liaison Group.
2. Statement to NASCO regarding the terms of reference of the Standing Committee on the application of the precautionary approach to issues relating to Aquaculture.
3. A copy of the ISFA constitution

In a separate letter, ISFA's NASCO Liaison Delegation will send its revisions to the document, *SLG(02)9 Report of the Meeting of the North Atlantic Salmon Farming Industry and NASCO Liaison Group*, which was emailed to us earlier this week. There are several omissions to this final document and we wish to have the record corrected to accurately reflect the proceedings and agreements of the Westport meeting.

Your sincerely,

On behalf of ISFA

Dr. Vigfús Jóhannsson
Chairman

Brussels, April 22, 2002

Resolution from the General Meeting of the International Salmon Farmers Association (ISFA)

In response to the request from NASCO for clarification on the industry's delegation to the special Liaison group meetings, the ISFA confirms its participation as the salmon farming industry representative body through a sub-committee of ISFA to be known as the "NASCO Liaison delegation".

The NASCO Liaison delegation is comprised of representatives of ISFA's north Atlantic membership:

**US
Canada
Iceland
Faroe Islands
Norway
UK
Ireland**

ISFA requires that the NASCO Liaison delegation report to the ISFA Annual General Meetings.

**Response from the International Salmon Farmers Association (ISFA)
NASCO Liaison delegation regarding the terms of reference of the
Standing Committee on the application of the precautionary approach
to issues relating to Aquaculture.**

The Precautionary Approach has been applied to aquaculture development, regulation and monitoring by NASCO member states through relevant legislation, according to the interpretations of the Governments of each state. This has resulted in the vast majority of the regulations governing the industry being positively "proofed" for the Precautionary Approach.

In addition, the Guidelines for Containment agreed between ISFA and NASCO have similarly been processed through the Precautionary Approach filter by all the negotiating parties and is now in various stages of implementation throughout the north Atlantic.

Furthermore, all industry bodies are making a significant contribution to the Precautionary Approach through their individual commitments to the development and delivery of environmental responsibilities that exceed statutory requirements.

With these points in mind, the Guidelines on Containment have gone through a lengthy and exhaustive process of development and agreement, which included consideration of the Precautionary Approach. The ISFA believes that our principle effort should now focus on implementation of these guidelines.

The Standing Committee could, however, look at the other relevant NASCO documents outlined in the draft terms of reference and identify what deficiencies (if any) these documents have in relation to the Precautionary Approach. The Committee must then report on its findings to the NASCO Farmed Salmon Liaison Group. The Liaison Group will then respond with its suggestions for changes and the process can continue in a collaborative approach until agreement has been reached.

April 22, 2002

