
Europe, the Ocean and Feeding the World

20.03.2018, 16:30 – 19:00

European Parliament Brussels

ASP 5G1

At the rate that the world population is growing, more and healthy food will be need by 2050. Agriculture will be called to contribute eventually more than today. However, a shift in the paradigm of feeding is needed. The Oceans are expect to contribute in these efforts. Concomitantly, science, innovation, management of behaviour and consumption changes – notably with regard to waste-reduction and more ecologically efficient production and distribution – will have a role to play in this regard. However, arguably the single biggest opportunity to meet the growing food challenge is through an increase in the role played by the ocean as a milieu for responsible, healthy and sustainable food production. In fact, while the ocean accounts for 50% of biomass production on the planet, it only accounts for a small fraction of food (globally 2% calories or 15% protein). Therefore, in theory, there is a potential to redress the balance and alleviate some of the enormous pressure on land-based resources. Furthermore, this makes sense in terms of minimising the impact of food production on the biosphere since the ecological efficiency of biomass production in an aquatic milieu is higher than on land. The challenge to do this while at the same time ensuring recovery of the health of the global ocean should be relevant and taken in account.

This event will discuss this issue and more particularly what part Europe can play. With a combined exclusive economic zone of 20 million km² and a coastline, which is, seven times, as long as the US's and four times that of Russia, the EU has a unique and disproportionately high level responsibility and interest in this opportunity.

Participants are kindly request to register as soon as possible on www.searica.eu in order to guaranty and organize the access to the EP. The day of the conference, Participants are kindly request to present themselves at 16:00 in order to avoid delays.

16:30 - 16:50 Opening Session

Chair's introduction: **Ricardo SERRÃO SANTOS**, Vice-Chair of the Searica Intergroup

Opening Commentary: **Johannes KLUMPERS** – Head of Scientific Advice Mechanism Unit, DG Research & Innovation

16:50 - 17:30 Panels Discussion 1 - More food from the ocean - the scientific perspective on feasibility and uncertainty

Moderated by Ms Gesine **MEISSNER**, President of the SEARICA Intergroup

- Prof **Carina KESKITALO**, Member of the Group of Chief Scientific Advisors (Lead Speaker): The Group's Scientific Opinion on Food from the Oceans
- Mr **Árni MATHIESEN**, FAO's Assistant Director-General, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department
- Ms **Anna Kirstin DANIELSDOTTIR**, Matis, Coordinator Project MareFrame
- Prof **Sheila JJ HEYMANS**, European Marine Board, Executive Director
- Mr **Lasse GUSTAVSSON**, OCEANA, Senior Vice President and Executive Director Europe

17:30 - 18:10 Panel Discussion 2 - Realising the potential of mariculture - social, economic and ecological factors

Moderated by **Johannes KLUMPERS**, DG Research & Innovation

- Mr **Carlos ITURGAIZ**, MEP (Lead Speaker) Towards a Sustainable and Competitive European Aquaculture Sector: Current Status and Future Challenges
- Mr **Knut NESSE**, CEO Nutreco, Chairman SeaBOS (Seafood Business for Ocean Stewardship)
- Mr **Tammo BULT**, EFARO, President
- Mr **Pierre KARLESKIND**, Vice-President for Fisheries and Ports, Brittany Region
- Mr **Markku MARKKULA**, Vice President of the Committee of the Regions

18:10 - 18:40 Discussion with the participants

18:40 - 19:00 Closing Session

Chair's remarks: **Ricardo SERRÃO SANTOS**

Closing Commentary: **Karmenu VELLA**, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries