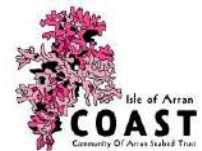


Amigos de la Tierra







Coordinadora Ecoloxista d'Asturies



Members of the
European Parliament
60, rue Wiertz
1047 Brussels
Belgium

RE: Maintaining the EU ban on subsidies for the construction of fishing vessels

Brussels, 16th March 2017

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

On 22 March, the European Parliament Fisheries Committee will vote on its draft own-initiative report on the “Management of the fishing fleets in the outermost regions”¹. This report will subsequently be voted on in the plenary on 28 April. **We, the undersigned organisations, ask you to express your support for the 2014 Parliament position that maintained the ban on subsidies for the construction of new fishing vessels, which has existed in the EU since 2004. We therefore ask you to oppose attempts to re-introduce subsidies for the construction of fishing vessels in this draft Parliament report.**

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on the ocean and seas (SDG 14)² calls explicitly for the elimination of subsidies that contribute to overfishing by 2020. And rightly so: it is estimated that taxpayers spend some US\$30 billion a year on fisheries subsidies around the world, 60% of which directly encourage unsustainable, destructive and even illegal practices.³ That is why the EU successfully phased out aid for the construction of new vessels over a decade ago and is actively advocating in the negotiations in the World Trade Organization to prohibit fisheries subsidies that contribute to over-capacity and overfishing.

Attempts to reintroduce subsidies for the construction of new vessels, even if small scale or located in remote areas, undermine the objectives of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy to end overfishing, and send the wrong political signal from the EU to leaders around the world. We therefore urge you to honour the Common Fisheries Policy, particularly the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund Regulation, and oppose any attempt to reintroduce subsidies for the construction of new fishing vessels.

Civil Society will be watching closely to see how the Parliament votes on this issue and in view of the public interest in this matter we will be making this letter available to the media in the coming days.

We wish to thank you in advance for your support for sustainable fisheries and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Yours sincerely,

¹ 2016/2016(INI) Management of the fishing fleets in the outermost regions

² Resolution adopted by the United National General Assembly on 25 September 2015: “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” Goal 14 “*Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*”.

³ Sumaila et. al (2016) “Global fisheries subsidies: An updated estimate” in Marine Policy.

Uta Bellion
Director EU Marine Programme
The Pew Charitable Trusts

Ariel Brunner
Senior Head of Policy
BirdLife Europe and Central Asia

Saskia Richartz
Deputy Director
Greenpeace European Unit

Catherine Weller
Head of Biodiversity Programme
ClientEarth

Samuel Stone
Head of Fisheries and
Aquaculture
Marine Conservation Society

Monica Verbeek
Executive Director
Seas At Risk

Aniol Esteban
Programme Director
New Economics Foundation

Geneviève Pons
Director
WWF European Policy Office

Lasse Gustavsson
Executive Director
Oceana in Europe

Jan Isakson
Director
The Fisheries Secretariat

Claire Nouvian
Director
BLOOM

Víctor Barro
President
Friends of the Earth Spain

Steve Trent
Executive Director
Environmental Justice Foundation

Eneko Aierbe
Fisheries Director
Ecologistas en Acción

Christine Absil
Director Fisheries
Good Fish Foundation

Lydia Chaparro Elias
Marine coordinator
Fundació ENT

Jürgen Maier
Director
German NGO Forum on
Environment and Development

Tobias Reichert
Team Leader World Food, Land use
and Trade
Germanwatch

Michael Leth Jess
Vicedirector
The Danish Society For Nature
Conservation

Oonagh Duggan
Acting Head of Policy,
Communications and People
Engagement
BirdWatch Ireland

Ana Matias
Coordinator for Fisheries
Sciaena - Marine Sciences and
Cooperation Association

Karen Sack
Managing Director
Ocean Unite

Johanna Sandahl
Chair of the Board
Swedish Society for Nature
Conservation

Irene Kingma
General Director
Nederlandse Elasmobranchen
Vereniging

Jeremy Wates
Secretary General
EEB

Gonçalo Carvalho
Coordinator
PONG-Pesca – Plataforma de ONG
Portuguesas sobre as Pescas

Matthew Gianni
Co-founder, Political and Policy
Advisor Deep Sea Conservation
Coalition

Domitilla Senni
Vice-Chair
MedReAct

Dr. Georg Heiss
Director
Reef Check Germany

Tristram Lewis
Director
Funding FISH

Howard Wood
Chair
COAST (Community of Arran
Seabed Trust)

Tito Rosa
President of Board of Directors
Liga para a Protecção da Natureza

Pádraic Fogarty
Campaign Officer
Irish Wildlife Trust

Ulrich Karlowski
Board member
Gesellschaft zur Rettung der Delphine

Dr. Ursula Hudson
Chair
Slow Food Deutschland e. V.

John Hourston
Founder
Blue Planet Society

Charles Millar
Executive Director
Sustainable Inshore Fisheries
Trust

Fintan Kelly
Natural Environment Officer
An Taisce

Billo Heinzpeter Studer
President
Fair Fish

ΔΙΚΤΥΟ ΜΕΣΟΓΕΙΟΥΣ SOS
ΣΩΜΑΤΕΙΟ ΜΗ ΚΕΡΑΙΟΣΚΟΠΙΚΟ
ΜΑΜΑΝ 33 - ΑΘΗΝΑ 104 40
ΑΦΜ: 090190776 - ΔΟΥ: Α' ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
ΤΗΛ: 210 8228795

Kostis Grimanis
Marine & Coastal Zone
Management
Projects Co-ordinator
MEDITERRANEAN SOS Network

Dr. Sandra Altherr
Co-Founder
ProWildlife e.V.

Edoardo Brodasca
President
Posidonia Green Project

Dr. Jarosław Krogulec
Head of Conservation
Polish Society for the Protection of
Birds

Fabian Ritter
President
M.E.E.R. e.V.

Sigrid Lueber
President
OceanCare

Ulrike Kirsch
Foundation Board
Deutsche Stiftung Meeresschutz

Mr. Sławomir Brzózec
Board President
Our Earth Foundation

Rosalba Giugni
President
Marevivo

Cristina Fernández Gil
Administradora
Oceanográfica

Plataforma para la
defensa del litoral
DEL SURESTE DE
GRAN CANARIA

Oscar Manuel Santana Garcia
Secretario
Asociación Plataforma para la defensa
del litoral del Sureste de Gran
Canaria.

Klaus Seitz
Head of Policy Department
Bread for the World-Protestant
Development Service

Prof. Dr. Ralph Schill
Member of the Board
Verband Deutscher Sporttaucher e.V.

Alejandro Peláez Leizaola
President
Grupu d'Ornitología MAVEA

Frank Schweikert
Founder and CEO
German Ocean Foundation

Harry Neumann
Chairman
Nature Protection Initiative r.A

Franziska Walter
Executive Director Germany
Whale and Dolphin Conservation

Karin Dubsy
International Coordinator
Coastwatch Europe

Michael Ewing
Coordinator
The Environmental Pillar



Marika Panagiotou
Scientific Research Manager
Archipelagos Institute of Marine
Conservation

Nadja Ziebarth
Head of the Marine Conservation
BUND

Mr. Garry Kendellen
Marketing & DLP Manager
Galway Atlantaquaria

Björn Klusmann
Managing Director
Forum Ökologisch-Soziale
Marktwirtschaft e.V. (FÖS)

Stephen Eades
Director
Marinet Limited

Marta Gumà Bondia
President
Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni
Natural

Claire Christian
Interim Executive Director
Antarctic and Southern Ocean
Coalition

Anselm Görres
President
Green Budget Europe

Maya Plass
Founder
Learn to Sea

Pedro Fernández Bautista
Secretary General
EUCC Mediterranean Centre

Valeska Diemel
Chair
The Black Fish Deutschland e.V.

Àlex Bartolí
Partner and Founder member
SUBMON

Johnny Woodlock
Spokesperson
The Irish Seal Sanctuary

Gill Weyman
Chair
Cork Nature Network

Endrik Tönsberg
Chairman of the Board
Estonian Sportfishing Federation

Mr. Artur Furdyna
President of Towarzystwo Przyjaciół
Rzek Iny i Gowienicy

Jacek Bożek
President
Klub Gaja

Bernadette Connolly
Development Coordinator
Cork Environmental Forum

Fructuoso Pontigo Concha
President
Coordinadora Ecoloxista
d'Asturies

Joan Edwards
Head of Living Seas
The Wildlife Trusts

Kai Kaschinski
Chairman
Project coordinator
Fair Oceans

Joana Andrade
Coordinator of the Marine
Conservation Department
SPEA

Marlene Marques
President of the Board
GEOTA – Grupo de Estudos de
Ordenamento do Território e
Ambiente

Dr. Cornelia E. Nauen
President
Mundus maris - Sciences and Arts for
Sustainability

Luís Alves – President
APECE – Associação Portuguesa
para o Estudo e Conservação dos
Elasmobrânquios

Carla Dâmaso
Member of the Board
OMA – Observatório do Mar dos
Açores

João Branco
President of the National Board
Quercus

Sascha Müller-Kraenner
CEO
Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.

Mr. Dariusz Szwed
Head of Programme Council
Green Institute

Z upoważnienia Zarządu Paweł
Pawlaczyk
Klub Przyrodników

Nils Höglund
Fisheries Policy Officer
Coalition Clean Baltic

Emma Soy Massoni
Presidenta
Associació de Naturalistes de Girona
(ANG)

Shane Holland
Executive Chairman
Slow Food in the UK

Mr. Marek Budniak
President of the Board
Aquarius Foundation

Pat Ó Súilleabháin
General Manager
National SEA LIFE Bray

Ms. Maria Staniszewska
Polish Ecological Club

Dr Richard Benwell
Head of Government Affairs
Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
(WWT)

Kate Metcalf
Co-Director
Women's Environmental Network
(WEN)

Carlos Lastra López
Presidente
Asociación Asturiana de Amigos
de la Naturaleza-ANA

Mr. Tapani Veistola
Senior advisor
Finnish Association for Nature
Conservation

Erik Bjørn Olsen
Chief Financial Officer
Danish Society for a Living Sea

Ali Hood
Director of Conservation
Shark Trust