

No fish left on the plate/EU

Written by Administrator
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The Fish of the Future Group recently organized the Conference "No fish left on the plate - why a radical reform of the Common Fisheries Policy is needed". Maria Damanaki, European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, outlined the findings from a modelling exercise conducted to study the impact of different reform scenarios on EU fisheries by 2022. Under best case assumptions on the scenario of the current path, only 9% of the EU fish stocks would be exploited sustainably and fleet size would shrink by 15% with the associated loss of employment and social impacts. She calls for a "move away from half-measures, and last-minute crises management toward a long-term, proactive CFP".

Meanwhile Mrs. Damanaki also gave a speech to EU Fisheries Ministers, presenting the Commissions Communication on 2012 fishing TACs and quotas. She pointed out that too many stocks are still overfished, and too many stocks are being fished in ignorance of their biological state. She indicated that lack of scientific knowledge should no longer be considered as a justification for the status quo. At the same time 30% to 40% of fishing fleets are making insufficient money for to be economically sustainable. She called for renewed efforts to reach Maximum Sustainable Yields on fish stocks by 2015, by linking decisions more closely to scientific advice and reduce fishing of stocks by 25% where the advice is not available (applying the precautionary approach).

(Seems to me I've heard all this before from the EU.)

TAGS: EU, sustainable, fisheries, overfishing, Maria Damanaki, Fish of the Future Group, Common Fisheries Policy,

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