

**Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum Keynote Seminar: Next steps for UK fishing – consumer attitudes, sustainability and implementing the Common Fisheries Policy**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Venue: Princess Alexandra Hall, Royal Over-Seas League, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Baroness Scott of Needham Market**, Chairman, EU Sub-Committee D – Agriculture, Fisheries, Environment and Energy
- 9.05 - 9.35 **Taking reform forward: an update from the European Commission**  
**Joost Paardekooper**, Policy Officer, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, European Commission  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.30 **Implementing the CFP in the UK - discards, maximum sustainable yield, regionalisation and international disputes**  
*What economic and environmental impact will reform of CFP have in the UK? In light of EU fisheries ministers recently agreeing to a phased ban on discards from 2015, what are the challenges for implementation, and what can be learned from the Norway's introduction of a discards ban in 1987? With the European Commission's (EC) original 2009 reform agenda calling for a significant switch to a regional decision-making system, does the new CFP meet those expectations, and what challenges remain for moving towards a more regional approach to fisheries management? How likely is it that reform will restore stocks to Maximum Sustainable Yield by the European Commission's set date of 2020, and with concerns being expressed over the quantifying of progress, what are the challenges for measuring and monitoring the state of fish stocks? Following the Marine Conservation Society's recent downgrade of mackerel from its list of sustainable fish to eat, and Iceland's introduction of a unilateral mackerel quota, what more needs to be done to find multilateral solutions to disputes involving the EU's coastal partners?*  
**Bertie Armstrong**, Chief Executive, Scottish Fishermen's Federation  
**Dr Tom Pickerell**, Technical Director, Seafish UK  
**Jóannes Vitalis Hansen**, Head of Representation, Minister Counsellor, The Representation of the Faroe Islands in London  
**Graham Whittle**, Managing Director, Whitby Seafoods  
**Ruth Davis**, Chief Policy Advisor, Greenpeace UK  
Questions and comments from the floor with **Joost Paardekooper**, Policy Officer, Directorate General for Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, European Commission
- 10.30 - 10.35 **Chairman's closing remarks**  
**Baroness Scott of Needham Market**, Chairman, EU Sub-Committee D – Agriculture, Fisheries, Environment and Energy
- 10.35 - 11.00 Coffee
- 11.00 - 11.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**  
**Dr Eilidh Whiteford MP**, SNP Spokesperson for Fishing, Food and Rural Affairs
- 11.05 - 11.40 **Consumer attitudes to fish - sustainable consumption, labelling and health benefits**  
*How successful have recent campaigns been to promote lesser-known fish to customers, and what more could Government and industry be doing to change consumer attitudes in this area? In light of a recent survey by Which? finding that 75% of British consumers would like to know if their fish is sustainable, and a recent European Parliament report calling for introduction of eco-labelling, what challenges exist for improving the clarity and transparency of sustainable fish labelling? With only 27% of people currently aware of Government guidance recommending the consumption of two portions of fish a week, what more needs to be done to promote the role of fish in a healthy diet?*  
**Adam Whittle**, Seafood Industry Consultant, Billingsgate Seafood School  
**Melissa Pritchard**, SSC Coordinator, Marine Science & Policy Adviser, ClientEarth  
**Caroline Bennett**, Founder, Moshi Moshi  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 - 12.25 **Challenges for promoting growth and sustainability in the UK fishing industry**  
*How can Government and industry work together to increase economic growth in the fishing sector and promote a healthy marine environment? With EU fishing productivity decreasing and fish consumption increasing, and with the EU currently importing 65% of its fisheries products, do CFP proposals go far enough in meeting the challenges of food security? Following the recent High Court ruling in favour of Government redistribution of unused quota, what more could Government be doing to protect the interests of small-scale fisherman? What impact will the proposed extension of Marine Conservation Zones have on the UK fishing industry, and how realistic are recent claims from the Science and Technology Committee that Government has left the project to "flounder while sensitive environments are further degraded"? What role can aquaculture play in promoting sustainable growth in the UK fishing industry, and with EU aquaculture growing by just 0.5% since 2001, compared to a growth of 7% worldwide, what are the challenges for increasing the competitiveness of the sector?*  
**Jim Portus**, Chief Executive, South Western Fish Producer Organisation  
**Helen McLachlan**, UK Fisheries Programme Manager, WWF  
**Crick Carleton**, Managing Director, Nautilus Consultants  
**Sheryll Murray MP**, Member, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee  
**Melanie Siggs**, Independent International Consultant  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.25 - 12.55 **Next steps for fishing policy**  
**Dr Carl O'Brien**, Defra Chief Fisheries Science Adviser, Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**  
**Dr Eilidh Whiteford MP**, SNP Spokesperson for Fishing, Food and Rural Affairs  
**Michael Ryan**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum

