

Kobe II Management Workshop
Brisbane, Australia
June 29 - July 1, 2010

Agenda Item 4.a.

Current practices, experiences, and
progress, on allocation, capacity, and
profitability

William Gibbons-Fly
United States

Discussion Points

- ◆ Conservation and Management
- ◆ Capacity Controls
- ◆ Participation by Developing States
- ◆ Clear and Consistent Rules
- ◆ Transparency and a Level Playing Field

Conservation and Management

- ◆ No fishery can be profitable in the long run if it is not managed to ensure sustainability

Capacity Controls

- ◆ Overcapacity = “Too many vessels chasing too few fish”
- ◆ Where overcapacity exists, each new vessel that enters a fishery affects the profitability of those vessels already participating in that fishery
- ◆ When vessels can't operate profitably within established limits, conditions are created that foster IUU fishing, corruption and a range of other problems

Participation by Developing States

- ◆ Capacity management programs must accommodate needs of developing States,
- ◆ Without causing the capacity balloon to continue to expand until it pops
- ◆ Bellagio Conference outcomes provide some thoughtful ideas that could provide a way forward, in particular sections 4, Sample Management Options and 5, Key Points

Clear and Consistent Rules

- ◆ Rules governing a fishery should be clear, easily understood and applied by all participants throughout the range of the stocks
- ◆ Rules that apply in some areas or to some fleets, but not others, complicate management and can undermine confidence in the conservation regime

Transparency and a Level Playing Field

- ◆ Vessel owners and operators whose livelihood and investments are on the line need to have assurances that the rules being applied to them are the same as those being applied to other operators
- ◆ All states should make publicly available their own domestic rules and regulations as well as the terms of any access arrangements negotiated with distant water fishing States

Thank You