

How Allocation Might Work And What It May Look Like When The Aspirations Of Developing Countries Are Considered

Presentation to the Kobe II Management
Conference 29 June – 1 July 2010
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Starting Point

- Allocation/rights can offer gains in terms of both economics and conservation
- These gains can be particularly important to developing countries in terms of:
 - Comparative economic advantage
 - Improving tuna business “bankability” and encouraging expansion of domestic fishing and processing capacity
 - Opportunities for smaller developing countries
- But there are also risks and complexities

Some Important Factors

- Geography – over 80% of the catches of the major tuna species are taken in tropical waters under the jurisdiction of developing countries or adjacent to them

Integrating the tuna industry into the domestic economies of developing countries

- Is globalisation in action
- Creates jobs where they are needed
- Benefits consumers in market states
- Enhances global sustainable development
- contributes to the Millenium Development Goals and WSSD targets
- Reduces the need for aid
- Removes a serious obstacle to improved tuna management

- Existing Rights

- a) Coastal State rights: over half the world's tuna catches are taken in the waters of coastal states, where coastal states exercise forms of property rights

- b) Existing allocations/rights: over a third of the world's major tuna species catches are taken under allocations

- High Seas

- Key principles should be: adjacency/equal access/common heritage

- Closures where appropriate

- Historical fishing is not a sustainable basis for long term allocations/access

- Need for transitional arrangements

- Capacity shifts
 - Not just a matter of capacity transfers
 - Foreign access boatowners don't usually make good domestic investors/partners
 - Developing countries, especially SIDS, need competitive processes for access
 - Avoid capacity limits that lock in existing fleets and block ventures with new partners

Allocation Prospects & Directions

- No single, uniform solution
 - Differences between tRFMOs
 - Differences between fisheries
- Allocations must be transformative, not lock in existing patterns
- Capacity shifts need to be competitive, market-driven, and responsive to developing country aspirations, not prescribed,
- Capacity shifts within sustainable limits
- High Seas access – equity is key, range of innovative options available (Bellagio outcomes)
- Transitional, staged arrangements are needed
- Fix existing allocations
- Global community role

Western Pacific Outlook

- WCPFC in its early stage of development
- Focused on overfishing/depletion/limit reference points – mainly bycatch
- Faces challenges to address rights/target species allocations, including:
 - Strengthening monitoring
 - Institutional change, including streamlining the science and compliance processes
 - Change in attitudes/relationships

Likely Outlook in the Western Pacific

- Comprehensive catch limits look a long term prospect
- Gear specific/species-specific limits
- Geographical differences
 - N. Committee, scope for allocation progress
 - Southern Area, particular scope for innovative outcomes relating to SIDS participation in high seas fisheries
 - Tropical fisheries – coastal state-driven transferable effort allocations, high seas closures
- No capacity moratorium

Possible Next Steps

- Operationalise Article 10.3, a set of principles including addressing Resolution 2008-01, arrangements for archipelagic waters and EEZs, high seas allocation and transferability
- Work on TACs/TAEs, target reference points
- Address requirements for institutional change – effective participation of developing countries, esp. SIDS

THANK YOU