



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2021/SOM1/CTI/WKSP/001

Agenda

Submitted by: New Zealand



**Workshop on APEC Best Practice in
Addressing Subsidies That Contribute to
Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
22 February 2021**



APEC Best Practice in Addressing Subsidies that Contribute to IUU Fishing

APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) Online Workshop - 22 February 2021

Background

Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing poses a significant challenge for global fisheries. It undermines domestic and regional efforts to manage marine resources sustainably and is estimated to result in global losses of up to USD 23 billion per year. Economies' support to fishing is an important factor in the fight against IUU fishing, as there are documented cases of subsidies directly associated with IUU fishing activities. Recognizing this challenge, target 14.6 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals calls for the elimination of subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing. At the eleventh World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference, Members also committed to eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing through the WTO's fisheries subsidies negotiations.

Purpose of the Workshop

This New Zealand self-funded workshop held under the auspices of the APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) will provide APEC policy makers and practitioners an opportunity to share information and best practices on the various approaches individual APEC economies have taken to ensure fisheries subsidies avoid contributing to IUU fishing. The workshop will build on the findings of the previous *Stock Take of APEC Economies' Existing Measures on Withdrawal of Subsidies in Cases Where There Has Been a Determination of IUU Fishing* (APEC#220-CT-01.8) undertaken through CTI in the first half of 2020. It will further elaborate on the report's findings, including through the presentation of case studies on policy initiatives adopted by APEC economies, and discussion of the applicability and relevance of regional and international best practices in the APEC region. It is expected that the sharing of information and best practices facilitated by this workshop will assist those APEC economies looking to develop or adjust their policies in this area and enhance the capacity of economies to implement a negotiated WTO outcome.

Timing, format, and target audience

The two-hour online workshop will be held on Monday 22 February 2021 at 23:59 via Microsoft Teams (i.e. 7pm Monday 22 February, Singapore time). It will include presentations from APEC economies and subject matter experts, as well as the opportunity for interactive discussion (see draft annotated agenda). Participation will be open to policymakers and practitioners across the APEC



region, particularly those officials who participate in CTI and the APEC Ocean Fisheries Working Group (OFWG).

APEC Best Practice in Addressing Subsidies that Contribute to IUU Fishing

APEC Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI) Online Workshop - 22 February 2021

Draft Annotated Agenda

Welcome Remarks (5 min)

- Greg Andrews, Unit Manager, Trade Negotiations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand

Session 1: Existing practices against IUU fishing (20 min)

This session will start with a review of progress achieved in implementing internationally recognised best policies and practices against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing based on an OECD survey of 31 economies. It will be followed by an overview of the main findings of the APEC stock take exercise analysing the various approaches taken by APEC economies to curb subsidies that contributed to IUU fishing and identifying elements that constituted good practice in policy design.

Moderator: Alice Tipping, Lead, Fisheries Subsidies, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

- Claire Delpuech, Fisheries Policy Analyst, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation, and Development (OECD)
- Christophe Bellmann, Senior Policy Advisor, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Session 2: Case studies of best practices in APEC economies (30 min)

This session will focus on a series of cases studies of existing mechanisms through which APEC economies prevent subsidies to IUU fishing or withdraw them in cases where there has been a determination of IUU. Discussions will review among other things, due diligence processes before granting fisheries subsidies, the types of IUU infringements triggering a subsidy prohibition, the penalties applied in case of IUU determination or the procedures through which they are implemented.

Moderator: Alice Tipping, Lead, Fisheries Subsidies, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)



- Pablo Ortiz Lima, Head of Fisheries Control Department, National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service, Chile (SERNAPESCA)
- Zhao Liling, Counsellor II, Bureau of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, China
- Jariya Jiwapibantanakit, Economist, Fisheries Development Policy and Planning Division, Department of Fisheries, Thailand

Session 3: Panel discussion on international best practice and relevance to WTO negotiations

(20 min.)

This panel discussion will look at how ongoing discussions in the WTO relate to existing regulations and practices in APEC economies. Based on the findings of the APEC stock take exercise and the experiences shared by APEC economies, it will also identify possible best practices regarding the entities whose IUU determination should trigger a subsidy prohibition; elements of due process and positive evidence to be followed when making such determination; the type and duration of sanctions; the entities targeted by the subsidy withdrawal; due diligence processes; or notification and transparency requirements.

Moderator: Alice Tipping, Lead, Fisheries Subsidies, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

- Dr Penny Ridings, Legal Adviser to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and New Zealand's candidate for the International Law Commission
- Bradley Soule, Director of Intelligence, OceanMind

Open discussion (40 min)

This session will provide an opportunity for all participants to engage in an open discussion on APEC best practices in addressing subsidies that contribute to IUU fishing, and possible next steps to build on APEC economies experience in this area.

Moderator: Alice Tipping, Lead, Fisheries Subsidies, International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Summary and Closing Remarks (5 min)

- Greg Andrews, Unit Manager, Trade Negotiations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, New Zealand

