

**Freshwater Trout Aquaculture Dialogue
Steering Committee Meeting
January 29-30, 2010**

Meeting Summary

**Prepared by World Wildlife Fund and Consensus Building Institute
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Meeting Background

The Steering Committee of the Freshwater Trout Aquaculture Dialogue (FTAD) met January 29th-30th, 2010 in Paris, France to advance the development of standards for responsible freshwater trout production.

The expected outcomes of the meeting were to:

- Reach preliminary agreement on draft indicators based on work of small groups and input from public meetings
- Develop draft standards where possible
- Agree to a roadmap to complete the FTAD in 2010
- Plan for adding SC members

Participants:

Steering Committee Members:

Niels Alsted - Biomar

Luz Arregui – Grupo Tres Mares

David Bassett – British Trout Association/FEAP

Merrielle Macloed – WWF US

Sian Morgan - FishWise

Marco Saroglia - Università dell'Insubria

Yavuz Pabila - LIMAN

FTAD Coordinator:

Christoph Mathiesen – WWF Denmark

Facilitator:

David Plumb – Consensus Building Institute

Key Points Summary, By Discussion Area

Developing Draft Indicators and Standards

Prior to the meeting, Steering Committee members worked in pairs to develop proposals for draft indicators and standards based on input from public FTAD meetings in Barcelona, the Faroe Islands and Copenhagen during 2009 and 2008. The Steering Committee reviewed the work of the pairs, clarified the rationale for indicators, and gave input on ways to refine draft ideas. The Steering Committee sub-groups will use this input to continue drafting indicators and standards. The SC expects to release for public comment a complete set of draft standards in mid-2010. Steering Committee members expect to tap a wide array of respected experts to assist in the development of draft standards.

Clarifying big-picture questions on dialogue purpose and scope

Steering Committee members noted a number of questions they had that will impact the development of draft standards. These included.

- The relative value of using ISEAL or ISO to certify feed ingredients.

- Whether the standards should include a Fish-in Fish-Out ratio
- What scope should be used when looking at energy consumption and other resource issues? Just on-farm, or also farm inputs (ie energy footprint of feed)?
- What scope should be used for social auditing – on farm or suppliers/processors etc?
- There's a tension/risk created by certifying fish, while the consumer sees an end product (which includes processing, packaging, transport etc)
- Can we finish on time and produce a credible standard?
- Can we dedicate enough of our own time to do this? What exactly is expected of us?
- Should we expand the size of the SC?
- How can we help to ensure that costs aren't pushed down on producers?
- The Dialogues should consider undertaking a consumer-marketing campaign to build demand
- Are we covering brook trout? Is the salmon dialogue covering steelhead?
- Trout industry isn't financially well resourced as compared with salmon and should pursue funding opportunities to support participation (through Packard, others?)
- We need to do a better job to make the benefits clear for people regarding their participation in the FTAD SC and dialogues

Steering Committee Composition

The Steering Committee discussed options for filling two vacant seats on the committee – an NGO seat left vacant when Dawn Purchase resigned and a space for a retailer representative. The Steering Committee also said it would consider expanding the size of the committee to bring in additional technical expertise and individuals who can dedicate time to the effort. The SC did not reach any decisions on specific additions to the committee.

Next Steps

Steering Committee members will continue working in small groups to develop a proposed package of draft indicators and standards. The committee expects to meet again in approximately four months to discuss a more refined set of draft standards that would go out for public comment in mid-2010. The next full, public Dialogue meeting is tentatively planned for September in Italy. The FTAD will revise the draft standards based on feedback and plans to release a new version for public comment in late September. Final standards are expected by the end of 2010. Outreach meetings will be held throughout the year, including a planned meeting in Turkey in late March.