

EAA 10th GA Dinant, Belgium 26 - 28 March 2004

EAA Position Statement on Aquaculture

"EAA recognises that the problems and benefits of aquaculture vary between its member nations, and that each member nation has the right to determine its own policy in respect of aquaculture which is practised within the inland or territorial waters of that nation.

For aquaculture in inland and coastal waters the EAA will develop a pan-European policy which is consistent with EU Directives such as the Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive and Natura 2000. The EAA will continue to lobby for sustainable aquaculture practices, which have a minimum impact on wild fish and their habitat.

For aquaculture affecting migrating species such as salmon and sea trout, EAA policy will be guided by the above regulations and in addition the protocols and agreements established by NASCO, in particular the Williamsburg Resolution (2003) incorporating the Oslo Resolution (1994). The Oslo Resolution established the over-riding principle that governments must take all necessary measures to minimise the impacts of aquaculture on wild fish.

These principles were strengthened in 1999 by the adoption of the precautionary approach to salmon management.

In regard to particular national issues, member nations are welcome to invite support for particular campaigns or any other actions to highlight specific problems, but such campaigns must be endorsed by the national governing bodies who are the members of EAA and not conflict with the policies of any other member nation.

The Board of the EAA will be responsible for agreeing such policies and will be the arbiter in the event of any disagreement between member nations."

Dinant, March 28 2004