

PERU

Anchovies or sardines?

Anchovies can be sardines—if tinned! Well, at least so believes Peru's Production Minister, Rafael Rey, who has sent a request to the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) to modify—urgently—the classification criteria used for the exports of canned sardines, because they represent barriers restricting access to international markets.

Rey explained: "Canned sardines produced in our country from the species *Engraulis ringens* (locally known as *anchoveta*) are being classified for export under the tariff certification Code No. 1604.19. This corresponds to 'other (prepared and preserved) fish products', instead of Code No. 1604.13, which corresponds to sardines. This is blocking our entry to export markets, in contravention of what was agreed between the Codex Alimentarius and the World Trade Organization (WTO), which allows canned sardines

to be prepared from various species including anchoveta", he said.

A draft Supreme Decree has been sent to the Economy Minister that modifies the

enable Peru's fish exporters to benefit from advantages on the international market, with no additional cost to the Peruvian State. At the same time, it is intended to reinforce



tariff code, so that the anchoveta species can be used for producing canned sardines for export. This will

Peru's position, where the case for labelling these as 'canned sardines' has been successfully defended in international

List of species that can be labelled as 'canned sardines' under Codex Standard 94:

- *Sardina pilchardus*
- *Sardinops melanostictus*, *S. neopilchardus*, *S. ocellatus*,
- *S. sagax*, *S. caeruleus*
- *Sardinella aurita*, *S. brasiliensis*, *S. maderensis*, *S. longiceps*, *S. gibbosa*
- *Clupea harengus*
- *Sprattus sprattus*
- *Hyperlophus vittatus*
- *Nematalosa vlaminghi*
- *Etrumeus teres*
- *Ethmidium maculatum*
- *Engraulis anchoita*, *E. mordax*, *E. ringens*
- *Opisthonema oglinum*

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ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

Redmanglar International

Founded in August 2001 in Choluteca, Honduras, Redmanglar International is a Latin American network to protect mangroves and coastal communities. Its main objectives are to defend mangroves and coastal-marine ecosystems against neglect and damage, and guarantee their vitality and that of the traditional user communities who live in harmony with them.

Recently, Redmanglar International gathered over 70 delegates from its 10 member countries and international observers for its Third General Assembly, which took place from 8 to 13 October 2007 in Cuyutlán, Colima State, on the Pacific coast of Mexico, adjoining the mangrove-rich Cuyutlán lagoon. The meeting was hosted by Bios Iguana A.C., who in the militant spirit of the network, noted, on the 40th anniversary of Ché Guevara's execution on 9 October 1967 in Bolivia, "If Ché were alive, mangroves would thrive" (Si el Che viviera, el

mangle defendiera).

The weeklong meeting discussed the international, regional and national contexts that affect mangrove ecosystems and coastal

communities, and reviewed the situations in the 10 member countries of the network. It denounced the globalization processes through which marine coastal areas are being appropriated by economic interests, with little consideration for environmental conservation or the lives and livelihoods of local communities. It also highlighted the importance of community-based approaches to defending and managing coastal marine ecosystems, and the failure of national laws and law enforcement in providing adequate protection.

The meeting closed with the election of ASPROCIG (the Producers and Sustainable Community Development Association of Cienaga Grande in Bajo Sinú, Colombia) as the new Executive Secretariat. ASPROCIG takes over from C-CONDEM of Ecuador.



forums. In 2002, the Appellate Body of the WTO acknowledged that Codex Standard 94 is a "relevant international standard" under Article 2.4 of the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement. This standard allows preserved sardines or sardine-type products to be prepared from 21 fish species.

Yet, the Peruvian customs authorities have refused to accept that anchoveta can be exported when labelled as 'canned sardine'. They insist that the label must tally with the export declaration form and the code used there.

This identifies the product and refers to the original contents (*anchoveta*), as demanded by the Harmonized System (of Tariffs). For them, this takes priority over all other agreements, including the WTO and Codex Alimentarius.

In recent years, anchoveta has comprised more than 90 per cent of Peru's 6-10-mn tonne fish catch, with 99 per cent of the catch being reduced to fishmeal and oil. In 2006, more than 6 mn tonnes of anchoveta were landed in Peru, producing around 1 mn tonnes of fishmeal, fetching around US\$1,600 mn in exports.

ICELAND

Research participation

Fishing vessel owners want to participate more in marine research in Iceland's waters and take part in making decisions regarding the fishing industry. A professor of fish science says more money should be put into research, reports *Iceland Review*.

"I totally support the Marine Research Institute's claims that the situation is very

serious. [...] We have to comply with the Institute's recommendations for the next fishing season and make a long-term plan on how to organize research and how to harness the cod stock in the future," Guðrún Marteinsdóttir, a professor in fish science at the University of Iceland's Biology Institute, told *Fréttabladid*.

"Regarding cod it is very important to increase research on stock types, spread, behaviour, the biological

history of subspecies, spawning territory and where the fish mature," Marteinsdóttir continued, suggesting ISK 70 to 100 mn (USD 1.1 to 1.6 mn, EUR 830,000 to 1.2 mn) should be spent on investigating cod each year.

"I believe the industry should participate to a much greater extent in both research and decisions on the total

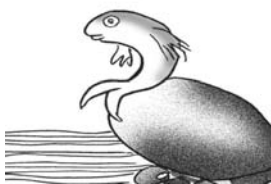
quota. It is best that those who have the most interests participate more in research," Fridrik J. Arngrímsson, the managing director of the Federation of Icelandic Fishing Vessel Owners, told *Fréttabladid*.

Arnbjörg Sveinsdóttir, the director of the fishing industry committee of the Althingi parliament said increased participation of fishing vessel owners should be considered.



POEM

Sea calm



How still,
How strangely still
The water is today,
It is not good
For water
To be so still that way.

— Langston Hughes

VERBATIM

"Living with the fishermen quite intimately for some months, I could not help being deeply impressed by the quality of job satisfaction that they get out of their involvement in the hazardous and strenuous technological pursuit."

BIKASH RAYCHAUDHURY

IN 'THE MOON AND THE NET: STUDY OF A TRANSIENT COMMUNITY OF FISHERMEN IN JAMBUDWIP'

AQUACULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The global production of fish from aquaculture has grown rapidly during the past four decades, contributing significant quantities to the world's supply of fish for human consumption. Aquaculture now accounts for nearly half (45 per cent) of the world's food and this increase is expected to reach 50 per cent in 2015. Started primarily as an Asian freshwater food-production system, aquaculture has now spread to all continents, encompassing all aquatic environments and utilizing a range of aquatic species.

Table 1: Top 20 food-fish aquaculture-producing countries

Country	Production ('000 tonnes)	Percentage (%)
China	32,414	67.3
India	2,838	5.9
Viet Nam	1,437	3.0
Indonesia	1,197	2.5
Thailand	1,144	2.4
Bangladesh	882	1.8
Japan	746	1.5
Chile	698	1.5
Norway	657	1.4
Philippines	557	1.2
Egypt	540	1.1
Myanmar	475	1.0
USA	472	1.0
Korea	436	0.9
Taiwan	305	0.6
France	258	0.5
Brazil	258	0.5
Spain	222	0.5
Italy	181	0.4
Malaysia	176	0.4
Rest of the world	2257	4.7
Total	48,150	100

Source: FAO

Table 2: Aquaculture production (volume and value) in 2005 in different regions of the world

Country/Region	Production Volume (mn tonnes)	Production Volume Percentage	Production Value (bn US\$)	Production Value Percentage
China*	32.4	67.3	35.99	51.2
Rest of Asia-Pacific	10.7	22.3	20.6	29.3
Western Europe	2	4.2	5.42	7.72
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.4	2.9	5.24	7.47
North America	0.6	1.3	1.3	1.86
Near East and North Africa	0.6	1.2	0.83	1.19
Central and Eastern Europe	0.3	0.6	0.67	0.91
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.1	0.2	0.25	0.36
World Total	48.1	100	70.3	100

Source: FAO

* For ease of reference, Asia-Pacific region is separated into China and the rest of Asia-Pacific

BOOKSHELF

Sri Lankan fishermen

SRI LANKAN FISHERMEN: RURAL CAPITALISM AND PEASANT SOCIETY. Paul Alexander.

Australian National University Monographs on South Asia, No. 7. Canberra, Australia. 1982. ISBN 0 908070 06 3

The economy of Sri Lankan beach-seine fishermen appears wildly irrational. Although 20 beach-seines, each costing a household's annual income, would be sufficient for continuous fishing, members of the community own 108 nets and the average net is launched only seven times a year. Because of seasonal fish movements, some nets make tremendous profits, but more than half do not recover their operating costs. Alexander demonstrates that these inequalities are the product of

the impact of capitalist relations of production on a semi-subsistence economy.

In the course of his meticulous analysis of both fieldwork and historical data, Alexander discusses many theoretical issues of current concern. His accounts of the nature of common-property resources; of the conflict between individual and community goals; and, particularly, the relationship between the development of capitalism and the rise of factional conflict, are especially interesting. In addition to anthropologists interested in Sri Lanka, maritime societies and political economy, the work should be of considerable interest to fisheries economics and development experts.

FLASHBACK

Marine Protected Areas

We welcome the World Parks Congress' recommendations and hope national and provincial governments will establish MPAs in consultation with local communities and other stakeholders, and that they will refrain from current practices, especially in several Asian countries like the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia and India, to establish MPAs by keeping out all fishers, including artisanal and small-scale fishers who use environmentally sustainable fishing gear and practices. Even in "strictly protected areas", we would argue for permitting artisanal and community-based fisheries to operate, as long as their fisheries are not a threat to the health of the marine ecosystem, as determined by science-based observations. We would further argue that an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management should consider fishers as part of the ecosystem, and not as outsiders.

The most difficult challenge to establishing inclusive MPAs, however, would be the conflicting jurisdiction between the environment and fisheries agencies at the government level in

most developing countries. In several Asian countries, the environment ministries are responsible for setting up MPAs. Unfortunately, they are notorious for their draconian, species-based protectionist approach and for a colonial perspective that views nature as a preserve to be protected from the human species. The responsibility to set up MPAs should ideally be taken away from the environment ministries and transferred to the fisheries departments, and it is high time that fisheries departments give greater emphasis to sustainable fisheries and healthy coastal, marine ecosystems.

A consultative, ecosystem-based approach, adopting precautionary principles to industrial and other forms of destructive fisheries and land-based sources of pollution, could be an effective management tool.

—from "Parking in the right place", *Comment in SAMUDRA Report No. 36, Nov 2003*



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MEDIAWATCH

International Journal of the Commons

The *International Journal of the Commons* (IJC) is a new journal set up by the International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC). As an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed open-access journal, the IJC is dedicated to furthering our understanding of institutions for use and management of resources that are (or could be) enjoyed collectively. The inaugural issue carries the following papers on fisheries: *Scale and*

Costs of Fishery Conservation by James Wilson; *The Influence of Community Management Agreements on Household Economic Strategies: Cattle Grazing and Fishing Agreements on the Lower Amazon Floodplain* by David G. McGrath, Oriana T. Almeida, Frank D. Merry; and *Governance Challenges of the Implementation of Fisheries Co-Management: Experiences from Malawi* by Friday Njaya. www.thecommonsjournal.org/index.php/ijc

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING

High-level Special Event on Role of Aquaculture in Sustainable Development. 19 November 2007, FAO, Rome

Aquaculture has an important role to play in global efforts to eliminate hunger and malnutrition, and makes significant contributions to poverty reduction and economic growth. The main challenge for policymakers and development agents is to create an 'enabling

environment' to support the expansion needed to meet this potential.

FAO will organize a High-level Special Event to take place on Monday, 19 November at FAO headquarters. The meeting will address "the role of aquaculture in sustainable development" in a broad sense. This would include considerations for contribution to economic development.

SYMPOSIUM

Symposium on Small-scale Fisheries, Brazil

From 5 to 8 December 2007, the Federal University of Rio Grande (FURG), Brazil, will host the II Symposium on Small-scale Fisheries. The event is meant for fisheries specialists to discuss and share information and experiences on the different aspects of small-scale fisheries, including research, and management and conservation of fishery resources in Brazil, Uruguay,

Argentina and Chile. Information in Portuguese about the symposium can found at <http://www.simpósio.pesca.furg.br/>. Workshops will focus on acoustics in fisheries; fishery production dynamics; inland fisheries in the lower Amazon; benthic invertebrate fisheries; management, theory and practice; the bioeconomics of fishing; and the Argentinean model of industrial fisheries management.