

The importance of predictability of catch volumes for the fishing industry

Prerequisite for the development of a modern fishing industry

Christen A. Mordal
Director
Norwegian Seafood Federation

Norwegian Seafood Federation



- Approx. 550 member companies within:
 - fishmeal (13)
 - fish feed (3)
 - aquaculture (approx. 360)
 - industry and export (approx. 180)
- More than 8 000 employees
- Main office in Oslo
- Regional offices in Bergen, Ålesund, Trondheim, Bodø and Tromsø

Predictability THE major asset for developing a modern fishing industry

- Legal frame work
- Currency exchange rates
- Price (raw materials, market prices, etc)
- Catch and production volumes
 - seasonal fisheries vs. all year activity
 - local-, regional-, world supplies
- Market access (e.g. trade restrictions)
- Fluctuations of quotas
- Illegal unreported fishing
 - Major threat for the development of a modern fishing industry
 - Disturbing the “normal market dynamics”
 - Damaging to the fleet, industry –and of consequently, the resources.

How to achieve predictability?

- Plan economy or market economy - not an issue!
 - Fluctuations in world supplies will continue
 - Limited possibilities to control currency exchange rates
 - Market access will remain insecure - in one way or the other
 - Quota fluctuations reflect natural biological processes.
 - Focus on realistic measures

Conclusions

- Predictability is everything for the fishing industry
 - but unachievable
- We have to focus on realistic measures
 - Predictability of catch volumes of vital importance for the fishing industry
 - Management advice for our major resources (ex. Northeast arctic cod)
 - Interaction; fleet, industry, research institutions and management
 - Illegal fishing must be liquidated!

PLANS ARE NOTHING – PLANNING IS EVERYTHING