



THE
PEW
ENVIRONMENT GROUP

RIO+20 and SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES: HOW TO CONVERT COMMITMENTS TO ACTION

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April 19, 2013



Building on Rio+20 and oceans

& What this means for fisheries



Rio to Rio

- 1992 Rio Declaration
- 2002 JPOI
 - Reduce fishing capacity by 2005
 - Tackle IUU fishing by 2004
 - Restore fish stocks to MSY by 2015
 - Eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU and over-capacity
 - Develop networks of marine protected areas by 2012
 - Significantly reduce biodiversity loss by 2010
- 2012 The Future We Want



intense negotiations...



The Future We Want

- 9 drafts
- 20 paragraphs on oceans



Oceans and Seas

- **162** - Address biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction
- **163** - Marine pollution, marine debris
- **166** - Ocean acidification and climate change
- **168** - Commit to achieve sustainable fisheries
- **169** - Fully implement UNFSA, Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, FAO international plans of action and technical guidelines
- **170** - Eliminate Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing
- **172** - Enhance transparency and accountability of RFMOs
- **173** - Eliminate subsidies that contribute to IUU, overcapacity
- **177** - Importance of area-based conservation, MPAs

What did States commit to on fisheries?

- reaffirmed the goal to restore depleted fish stocks;
- committed to:
 - urgently take measures to maintain or restore fish stocks to at least levels that can produce MSY;
 - eliminate IUU fishing;
 - implement measures to strengthen monitoring, control, surveillance, and enforcement;
 - implement science-based management;
 - enhance management of bycatch and discards;
 - protect vulnerable ecosystems; and
 - increase transparency & and accountability of RFMOs.



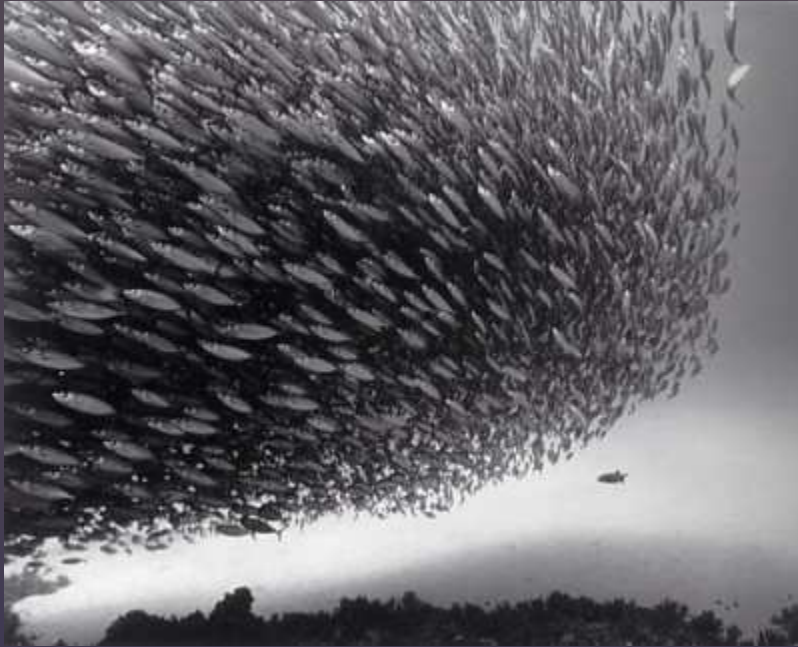
- 17 RFMOs
- Overlapping geographic areas
- Near global remit
- 91% of the world's ocean

**RFMOs: key to implementing
Rio Commitments**

But RFMOs need work...and political will and commitment



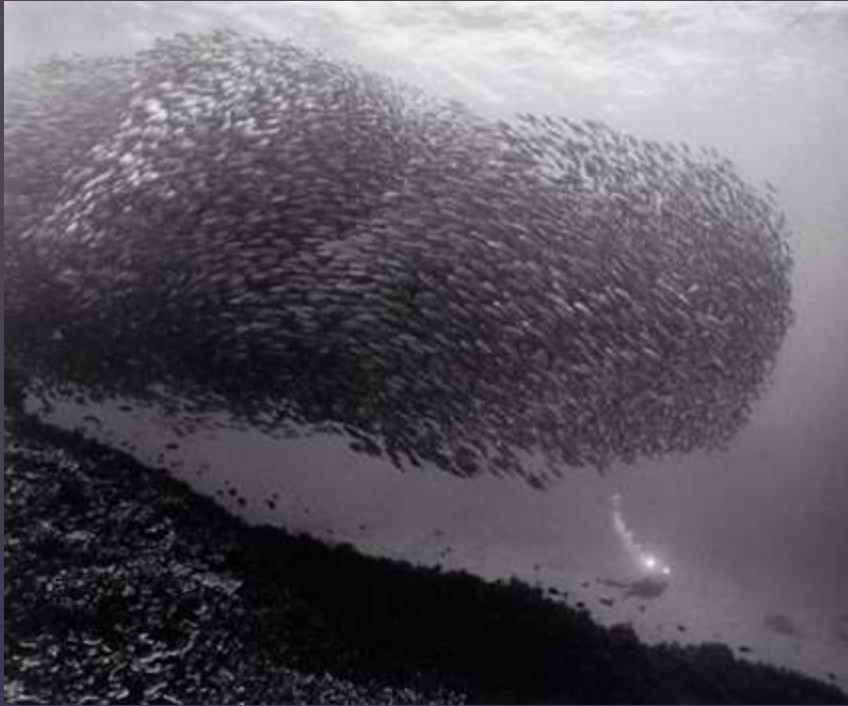
- ✓ Historically have not prevented overfishing
- ✓ Do not cover all species or all ocean areas
- ✓ Ignore scientific recommendations
- ✓ Have failed to adopt ecosystem-based fisheries management despite mandates to do so



States Agreed to:

- Maintain or restore all stocks to at least MSY
- Implement science based management
- Enhance management of bycatch and discards
- Protect vulnerable ecosystems
- Fully implement UNFSA, FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and FAO international plans of action and technical guidelines

How can Rio help RFMOs?



States Also Agreed to:

- Eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing
- Build capacity and support for monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement
- Call on RFMOs to regularly undertake performance reviews and make them publically available

How can Rio help RFMOs?



1. TUNA
2. SHARKS
3. FORAGE FISH
4. IUU FISHING
5. TRANSPARENCY

Priority Areas for RFMO improvement

TUNA



- ❖ Adopt precautionary catch limits
- ❖ Require 100% observer coverage on large scale longliners
- ❖ Manage, track and limit the use of Fish Aggregating devices (FADs)

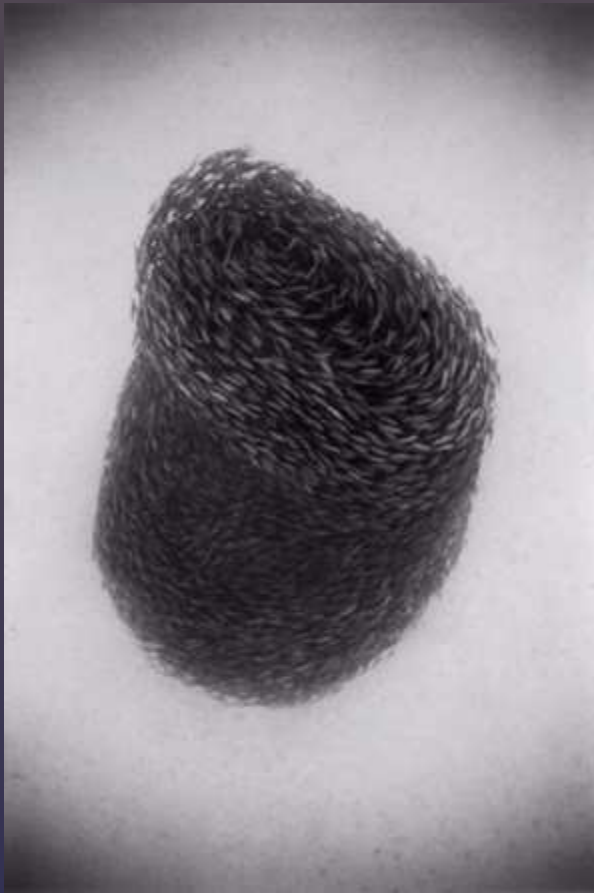
Turning words into action...

SHARKS

- Develop and fully implement NPOAs for sharks
- Prohibit take of threatened species
- No science based management plans, no fishing
- Collect species specific data
- Prohibit wire leaders
- Require fins attached



Turning words into action...



FORAGE FISH

- Implement precautionary measures to limit forage fisheries
- Suspend development of new fisheries until they are deemed scientifically and ecologically sustainable
- Implement spatial and temporal closures as needed to support critical predator foraging locations

Turning words into action...



ILLEGAL, UNREGULATED, UNREPORTED FISHING

- Encourage States to ratify the PSMA and adopt measures that are consistent with the PSMA
- Call on developed States to assist developing States in implementing port State measures
- Require the use of unique vessel identifiers
- Recognize illegal fishing as international crime
- Require States to close ports and markets to IUU fish and collaborate

Turning words into action...

RFMO Transparency

- Increase observer coverage on surface longline vessels
- Be made accountable to the UNGA
- Improve compliance with existing RFMO measures
- Update treaties to include the precautionary principle, ecosystem based management and shark conservation and management



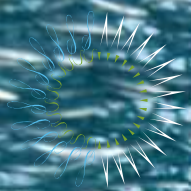
Turning words into action...

Building on Rio+20:

Action at the RFMO and UN levels

Fulfill the Rio commitments

Sustainable development



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Thank You