



PERSPECTIVES ON FISHERIES ACCESS AGREEMENTS: DEVELOPING COUNTRY VIEW

Objective: to identify issues and problems that fisheries access agreements between developed and developing countries have given rise to in terms of policy coherence/incoherence



RATIONALE FOR ACCESS AGREEMENTS For Developing Coastal States

Recognition of rights	No longer an issue
The compliance umbrella	Compliance remains important, but there is a lesser role for access agreements, experience is mixed
Economic advantages - state grants - differential pricing	Mixed picture – more market approaches would promote efficiency and competition

COHERENCE ISSUES

Sustainable Fisheries Issues

- over-exploitation
- compliance failures
- impacts on other fishers
 - Fishing impacts
 - Market impacts



Broader Development Issues

- trade & investment implications
- private sector development
- subsidy effects
- transparency/corruption
- policy formulation



RESOLVING INCOHERENCE

- A national strategy
 - applying the ecosystem approach
 - with secure rights
 - and a clear vision of the role of foreign investment and foreign vessels
- Making the choice
 - foreign vessels operating under national licence/rightholders within the domestic economy
 - govt to govt agreements with governments that add value through grants and compliance
 - direct licensing with transparent market-oriented allocation processes
 - getting rid of private fisheries agreements

SOME FINAL POINTS

- The centrality of policy reform and institutional strengthening in developing coastal states
- The value of investment in compliance
- Learning from OECD coastal state experience