

Interview with Carl-Christian Schmidt on the occasion of the OECD workshop on the Economics of Adapting Fisheries to Climate Change, 10-11 June 2010 in Busan, Korea<sup>1</sup>

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**“Climate is directly related to food security... fisheries governance needs to be strengthened”**

Carl-Christian Schmidt, Head of the OECD Fisheries Policies Division, who came to Busan for an OECD workshop on climate change



“Climate is directly related to food security. A more effective and efficient governance system should be established in order to create synergies between national responses to climate change.” A workshop organized by the OECD Committee for Fisheries workshop will take place

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<sup>1</sup> This newspaper article is written in Korean and has been translated by Sungbum Kim, OECD.

on 10-11 June in Paradise Hotel in Haeundae-gu and this event aims to find international adaptation strategies to climate change in the fisheries sector.

I met Carl-Christian Schmidt, Head of the OECD Fisheries Policies Division, on 9 June who came to Busan for the workshop. He explained the characteristics of the meeting like this: "Climate change will have significant impacts on fisheries resources. If something happens in one part of the ocean, it will affect other part as well. This meeting has been prepared to discuss what we can do under a changing climate."

He also pointed out: "Climate change has been discussed as a science problem till now." He also added : "This meeting is aimed at analyzing the climate change issue from a policy point of view and providing policy advice based on the discussion and country case studies." He emphasized the necessity of establishing an effective and efficient governance system as a way forward. The reason for this is that national responses to climate change have been fragmented despite the fact that climate change impacts are complicated and cross-sectoral.

"We have to develop a system that can analyze the impacts of climate change on various sectors in a more integrated manner and bring NGOs and stakeholders into the discussion. We want to raise issues on climate change adaptation in the fisheries and aquaculture sector and improve our understandings on these issues at this workshop."

To my question why this workshop is taking place in Busan, he explained that we can see fisheries activities and fishers together as Busan is the major fisheries city in Korea and Busan has excellent conditions for international fisheries meetings. With respect to future work programmes, he said that OECD would continue to conduct researches on climate change issues in the agriculture, transport and other sectors as well as in the fisheries sector and provide recommendations to policy makers in member countries.

At present, thirty-one countries are the members of the OECD. Discussions among OECD members have influences over non-members as well because the outputs of the discussion and policy recommendations are also distributed to non-members.

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