



# **Speaker Biographies**

**Symposium on Cod Recovery  
9-10 March, 2007  
Scotland**

**Biography: Reinhard Priebe**

Born on 25 April 1949 in Lübeck (Germany). Studies of law (1967-1972). Judge at the Administrative Court in Stuttgart (1977-1979). Assistant at the Federal Constitutional Court (1979-1983). European Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture: Unit "Agricultural law" (1984-1991), Assistant to the Deputy Directeur General (1991-1993), Head of unit "Measures of objectif 5a of Structural Funds, agri-environmental and early retirement schemes (1993-1997), Head of unit "Agricultural law" (1997-2001), Director "Western Balkans" in Directorates General External Relations and Enlargement. Since 1.11.2006 Director "Conservation Policy" in Directorate General Fisheries and Maritime Affairs.

**Biography: Dr. Paul Connolly**

Director of Fisheries Science Services at the Marine Institute, Galway Ireland. He has published on the life history and ecology of deep water fish and shelf fish. He has worked extensively on stock assessment, interaction with stakeholders and the provision of advice to government. Currently Chair of the Management Committee of the Advisory Process (MCAP) at ICES. MCAP is currently involved in developing a new working relationship between ICES and the RAC's and on reforming the advisory process at ICES.

**Biography: Martin Pastoors**

Chair of the ICES Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ACFM) since 2006. In his role of chair of ACFM, he is responsible for the process of producing and explaining the annual ICES fisheries advice. He has been a member and the chair of the ICES Working Group on demersal stocks in the North Sea and Skagerrak (WGNSSK) and of the ICES Working Group on Fishery Systems. He is also a (part-time) senior scientist at Wageningen IMARES where he has worked in the areas of biological and bio-economic modelling, stock assessment and advice. Martin has a background in biology at the Univ. Amsterdam with an emphasis on mathematical modelling and philosophy of science.

**Biography – Ernesto Penas Lado**

Ernesto Penas is a marine biologist by training and professional experience in the Instituto Español de Oceanografía. He has worked in the Commission, always on areas related to fisheries management, since 1993. Currently he is Head of the Unit responsible for the fishery conservation policy within DG Fish in the European Commission

**Biography: José Rizo Martin**

José RIZO,<sup>1</sup> born in 1958, Spanish. Entered the European Commission in 1994; from 1997 in the Directorate General Environment. Has been working in the implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives in offshore waters of EU Countries and, in particular, in the implementation of the ecological network Natura 2000. Has also contributed to the development of the European Marine Strategy, including the proposal for the forthcoming Directive. As regards fisheries issues, his unit is responsible, within the Environment department of the European Commission, to ensure that the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy is done in a way that contributes to the conservation and the protection of the marine environment. This includes not only the mitigation of harmful effect of fishing (e.g. avoiding the by-catch of non target species, etc) but also the definition of levels of fishing pressure (like TACs).

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<sup>1</sup>

European Commission, DG Environment, Water and Marine Unit; [jose.rizo-martin@ec.europa.eu](mailto:jose.rizo-martin@ec.europa.eu).  
The views expressed are purely those of the writer and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.

**Biography: Hazel Curtis**

After a mixed scientific and business career, Hazel Curtis joined Seafish in 2000, first as an industry analyst then as chief economist since 2002. She has conducted and managed a wide range of seafood sector research and analysis, including surveys of the processing and catching sectors, strategic analyses and business economics research for vessels and processors. Current Seafish Economics work in fisheries economics includes costs and earnings reporting and forecasting, fleet capacity modelling and impact assessments.

Hazel now manages a highly-skilled team which provides new research, analysis and business advice across the seafood value chain, supporting businesses and government policy decision making. Team members work closely with industry members, other European fisheries economists, UK fisheries departments and the economics unit in DG Fish at the European Commission.

Hazel has presented at conferences in Europe and Canada and recently chaired the first STECF working group seeking to provide a biological, economic and social impact assessment of a long term management plan for a fishery.

**Biography: Ann Kristin Westberg**

Ann Kristin Westberg is Assistant Director General, with the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs. Her current responsibilities include EU-relations. She has previously worked with oceans governance and environmental issues for the Ministry. Before that Ms Westberg worked with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the World Bank for a number of years. Ms Westberg is an economist and graduated from the University of Oslo in 1987.

**Biography: Prof. George Rose**

Dr. George A. Rose, Professor and Head of Fisheries Conservation, Fisheries and Marine Institute, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, NL Canada, A1C5R3

Born: St. John's, Newfoundland

Education: BSc (Agr.) University of Guelph; MSc (Laurentian); PhD (McGill)

Work Experience: Worked in fisheries research in academia and for provincial and federal governments in Canada for over 25 years. Also experienced in international work

**Biography: Peter Gullestad**

Director General of Fisheries, born in Bergen, Norway, Married, 2 sons.

**EDUCATION:**

1967	Graduation from High school at Fana Gymnas, specializing in Natural science subjects
1968	Graduation from Bergen Handelsgymnas, specializing in commercial subjects
1968	Royal Naval Academy of Norway, reserve officer course
1976	Cand.oecon (master degree in economics) from University of Oslo

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

1969-1970	Naval sub-lieutenant
1977-1982	Executive officer in the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries
1983-1984	Planning Counsellor at Norwegian Fisheries Research Council
1984-1990	Head of Division, Directorate of Fisheries
1990-1995	Director Dept of Fisheries Economics, Directorate of Fisheries
1995-1996	Assistant Director General of Fisheries
1996 -	Director General of Fisheries

## ASSIGNMENTS:

1986	Fishery expert, Mozambique
1986–2002	Norwegian delegate to the NW Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
1991-1993	Vice President of NAFO
1997-2001	Chairman of NAFO Fisheries Commission
1985-	Member of the Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission
1997-	Deputy Chair of the Norwegian-Russian Fisheries Commission
1988-1993	Fishery expert, case before the International Court of Justice on the Delimitation between East Greenland and the island of Jan Mayen
1991	Fishery expert, Agreement on the European Economic Area
1991-1992	Responsible for the fisheries chapter, the Cabinet's green paper on Norway's options for future cooperation with the EU
1992-1994	Fishery expert, negotiations for Norwegian EU-membership
1996-	Member of the board of the Norwegian Inst of Marine Research
1996 -	Chairman the Regulatory Board for Norwegian Fisheries
1998-	President of the Nor-Fishing Foundation
2002-	Norwegian delegate to the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES)
2003-2005	Vice President of ICES

### **Biography: Niki Sporrang**

Niki Sporrang is Director of the Fisheries Secretariat, a non-profit organisation dedicated to work towards more sustainable fisheries at an international level, with a focus on the European Union. The Fisheries Secretariat was set up in 2003 and has, among other things, been engaged in issues related to cod in the Baltic Sea, the Baltic Sea RAC, subsidies to the fishing sector and management of European eel, as well as in building capacity in and supporting the work of other ENGOs.

Niki is a biologist by training with a B.Sc. from Uppsala University focusing on marine plant physiology, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree in Journalism. Before taking up the post as Director of the new Fisheries Secretariat in March 2004, she was a Research Fellow at The Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP) in London, heading up their sustainable fisheries programme. At IEEP, Niki was primarily responsible for following and analysing the continuous development of the EU Common Fisheries Policy and for creating dialogue between different stakeholders. She was also the editor of the IEEP newsletter on fisheries and environment: *El Anzuelo*.

Niki has been working with the environmental aspects of fisheries management and wider marine policy since 1997, initially for WWF Sweden and later for WWF European Policy Office in Brussels. Her work over this period was primarily focused on ecolabelling of fisheries, consumer issues, subsidies, regional management options, and ways of integrating environmental concerns into fisheries policy. She has also been working as a writer, editor and science journalist, for example on marine and coastal issues for the Swedish aid agency, Sida.

### **Biography: Barrie Deas**

Barrie Deas has been the Chief Executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation, the representative body for fishermen in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, since 1995. He sits on the Executive Committees of the North West Waters and the North Sea regional advisory councils and is the Chairman of the North Sea RAC Demersal Working Group. He is also a vice-president of Europeche and member of the Advisory Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture.

**Biography: Guus Pastoor**

Guus Pastoor is currently the president of AIPCE (EU fish processors and importers/exporters) and chairman of the Dutch Federation of Fish Processors and Traders, vice chairman of the Dutch Fish Board. Guss originally study economics in the Rotterdam University and has managerial and practical experience in the following fields: professional education, transportation sector, dairy industry and fish sector (12 years now).

**Biography: Mr. Coby Needle**

Mr. Coby Needle is a Senior Scientific Officer in the Sea Fisheries Group at the FRS Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen. He graduated in 1991 with a BSc (Hons) in Mathematics and Computing Science from the University of Aberdeen, and in 1993 with an MSc in Industrial Mathematics from the University of Strathclyde. Since taking up his FRS post in 1996 he has been involved in the stock assessments and the development of assessment methods, with a particular interest in biological process modelling in population projections. In recent years he has been closely involved in the provision of management advice and stakeholder liaison, and has developed computer simulation tools to evaluate management strategies for a number of stocks. From 2004 to 2006 he was Chair of the ICES Working Group on the Assessment of Demersal Stocks in the North Sea and Skagerrak. He now chairs the ICES Working Group on Methods of Fish Stock Assessment as well as participating in a wide range of related groups and projects.

**Biography: Dr. Steven Holmes**

Dr. Steven Holmes is a Senior Scientific Officer in the Sea Fisheries Group at the FRS Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen. He graduated in 1987 with a BSc (Hons) in Mathematics and Operational Research from the University of Leeds, in 1995 with an M.Env.S. (Master of Environmental Studies) and in 2001 with a PhD in Statistics and Modelling Science, both from the University of Strathclyde. Since joining FRS in 2003 he has been involved in stock assessments for the North Sea and Northern Shelf assessment working groups, taking the lead in assessment of the cod stock to the west of Scotland for the past two years. From 2006 he has been involved in the use and development of computer simulation tools to evaluate management strategies for fish stocks. He is also the FRS representative at STECF meetings concerned with collation and interpretation of international fleet and fishery specific effort and catch data.

**Biography: Norman Graham – Marine Institute, Galway, Ireland**

Dr. Graham is based at the Marine Institute in Galway, Ireland and manages one of the demersal stock assessment teams responsible for provision of scientific advice on the status of commercially important stocks. He holds a Ph.D. in by-catch reduction and stock impacts of discarding (Humbly Grove). Previously, he has worked for fishing technology departments in both Scotland and Norway and until recently was chair of the ICES-FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour. He has published in a number of international journals on the topic of by-catch and discard reduction and the incorporation of selective fishing techniques in management plans. Prior to commencing his academic career he worked as a commercial trap and trawl fisherman. His recent research has focussed on the importance of fishing gear technology within effort and fleet based management plans, the setting up of surveys using commercial fishermen and the incorporation of their knowledge into scientific advice. He is an advocate of the multi-disciplinary approach to fisheries assessments and involves professional fishermen, gear manufacturers and other stakeholders in his research projects where possible.

**Biography: Dr. Ciaran Kelly**

Dr Ciaran Kelly has over 10 years experience in fisheries science. Ciaran works for the Irish Marine Institute, where he has responsibility for data management, acoustic surveys, and simulation and modelling teams. Over the past 10 years he has worked with several ICES assessment working groups, including the deep sea, herring, and mackerel, horse mackerel, sardine and anchovy group which he chaired from 2004-2006. Ciaran is a member of the ICES ACFM committee and has also participated in other fisheries advisory groups including SARC (Stock assessment review committee USA) and the EU-Mauritania joint scientific committee. In 2006 Ciaran with some colleagues published a paper on Cod recovery in the Irish Sea, and is currently working closely with other scientists and the Pelagic RAC in developing a management plan for western horse mackerel.

**Biography: Alan McCulla**

Alan is Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland based Anglo-North Irish Fish Producers Organisation Ltd. Engaged mainly in the management of fishing opportunities for the Organisation's member vessels and representing fishermen from Northern Ireland, Alan has been in the front line in terms of managing the changes brought about by the introduction of Cod Recovery in the Irish Sea seven years ago. Alan is also rapporteur for the North-Western Waters Regional Advisory Council's Irish Sea Working Group.

**Biography: Alain Biseau**

Alain currently works as a Team leader for "*the assessment of the fisheries resources and their uses*" project in the Program "*the Fisheries monitoring system, technology of observation, economy and assessment of the fisheries resources and their uses*", at IFREMER Lorient (Brittany).

Member of the ICES Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ACFM) since 2000 and of numerous ICES (and STECF) Working Groups for more than 20 years. Including the ICES Working Group for the assessment of the Southern Shelf Demersal Stocks (including Celtic Sea Cod) which he chaired for four years.

**Biography :Jacques Pichon**

Member of the Executive Committee of the North Western Waters RAC (Vice President of Executive Committee).

Director of FROM Bretagne, a producers organisation in Quimper, Brittany (France). The membership of From Bretagne comprises 280 vessels, of between 8m and 40m in length, which produced 418 000 T of fresh fish in 2006 for a turnover of 141 000 000 Euro. Their principal fishing areas are the Bay of Biscay, the Channel, the Celtic Sea and West of Scotland. Approximately 50 of these vessels are present in zone 7 F/G on a permanent basis. 30% of the French 7 B/K cod quota is allocated to FROM Bretagne, which represents approximately 1000 T of landing capacity in 2007.

**Biography: Robin Cook**

Robin Cook qualified with a doctorate in population dynamics from Oxford University. He was appointed Chief Executive of Fisheries Research Services, an Agency of the Scottish Executive, in 2002 after a career as a fishery scientist. In his present post he acts as chief scientific advisor to the Scottish Executive on fisheries and the aquatic environment. He is the Scottish Delegate to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) where he was formerly Chief Scientist. He has published numerous papers and articles on fishery management, particularly in relation to cod.

**Biography: Ole Lundberg Larsen**

Name Ole Lundberg Larsen.  
Danish Fishermen's Association.  
Nordensvej 3, Taulov., DK-7000 Fredericia.

Born September 22, 1958, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Employment**

1999-? Head of department, Danish Fishermen's Association  
1997-99 Chief Consultant, Economics, Danish Fishermen's Association  
1988-97 Head of section, The Danish Dairy Board.  
1987 Head of section, Ministry of Foreign affairs in Denmark.

**Education**

Master in Political Science (Cand.scient.pol.)  
Business Law, HD - Graduate Diploma in Business Administration,.

**Teaching**

1994-97 Lecturer, Aarhus School of Business,  
Department of Economics

**Biography: Dominic Rihan**

Dominic Rihan graduated with a B.Sc (Hons) in Fisheries Science, University of Plymouth, England in 1989 and took up a position as a Fishing Gear Technologist, with Bord Iascaigh Mhara in 1990. Between 1991-1993 he served as Secretary of a CFP Review Advisory Group set up by the Irish Minister for the Marine before reverting to his role of Gear Technologist in the Fisheries Development Division. He assumed the role of Marine Technical Executive in 2002, overseeing R&D projects to develop and promote selective fishing gears, introduce new or innovative fishing gears, as well as advising the Irish Government, RACs and fishing industry on issues relating to Technical Conservation Measures, as well as on regulations. He has been a member of the ICES-FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour for a number of years and took over as chairman of this Group at the beginning of 2007.

**Biography: Michel J. Kaiser**

Professor Michel J Kaiser has researched the ecosystem effects of fishing on the marine environment for 16 years and has authored 3 books and over 100 papers that deal with these issues. He began his career at CEFAS where he led a research group that also examined the environmental impacts of aquaculture. In 1998 he moved to the University of Wales Bangor where he expanded this research to include different approaches to inshore management, biological, social and economic effects of marine protected areas. Much of Professor Kaiser's research involves working with the fishing industry and current research projects involve Devon and Isle of Man fisheries. In 2004 he was awarded the Fisheries Society for the British Isles Medal for his contribution to fisheries research and in 2006 he was awarded a personal Chair in Marine Ecology.

**Biography: Mr. Eskild Kirkegaard**

Eskild Kirkegaard has been working with fisheries research and fisheries management since 1980. He has been research director at the Danish Institute for Fisheries Research, chairman of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management (ACFM) under the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES), working as fisheries manager at the Directorate General for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs and is currently advisor at the Danish Institute for Fisheries Research.

**Biography: Ole Poulsen,**

Head of Division, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Denmark

Born 21. December 1948, Brande, Denmark

High School, Odense Katedralskole 1966-1969

Master degree in political science (December 1976), University of Aarhus

Military service, Randers 1977

Ministry of Fisheries, Copenhagen 1977

Personal Secretary of the Minister 1980-1982

Head of Division, International Fisheries Relations, 1995

**Biography: Poul Degnbol**

Poul Degnbol is Scientific Adviser in the European Commission charged with improvement of the scientific support to policies, most notably the Common Fisheries Policy, and dialogue with stakeholders regarding science. An Ecologist by training, he has for more than 25 years, worked with marine management issues in Europe, Africa and Asia as Researcher, Research Director, Adviser and through capacity development projects. Before joining the Commission services in January 2006, he was Director of a research institute focusing on institutional aspects of management (Institute for Fisheries Management and Coastal Community Development, Denmark) and Chair of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries Management of the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES).

**Biography: Elspeth Attwooll MEP**

Elsbeth Attwooll was first elected to the European Parliament in 1999, and was re-elected in 2004 for a further five year term as one of 7 MEPs representing the whole of Scotland. Before this, she lectured in legal theory at Glasgow University for over thirty years, and she spent some of that time at the International Labour Organisation in Geneva where she worked on conventions concerning trade union rights. She also stood in various UK parliamentary elections and the 1979 European Parliament election and held a succession of positions in the Scottish Liberal Democrats. She is currently President of the Scottish Women Liberal Democrats, and an Honorary Vice President of the Association of Liberal Democrat Trade Unionists.

Elsbeth is Vice Chair and her Political Group's spokesperson on the Fisheries Committee, a member of the Regional Development Committee, a substitute member of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee, and a member of the Parliament's delegation for relations with Canada.

In her free time, Elspeth enjoys reading, particularly detective fiction. When not travelling back and forth to Brussels, Elspeth likes to spend time on the Isle of Arran on the west coast of Scotland, where she and her husband have spent many holidays. Elspeth has drafted a number of reports and opinions, including the Regional Development Committees opinion on the Rural Development Regulation. She is currently working on a report on regional advisory councils for the Fisheries Committee.



**Biography: Gerd Hubold**

Dr. Gerd Hubold, born 1950, German citizen. Master in Fisheries Biology and PhD in Biological Oceanography from the University of Kiel. Scientific work on North Sea herring, South Brazilian marine ecosystem, Antarctic fish ecology. From 1991 - 2006 Director of the Sea Fisheries Institute Hamburg and 1994-1997/2002-2006 Director General of Federal Research Centre of Fisheries in Hamburg. Since Feb 2006 General Secretary of ICES, Copenhagen.

**Biography: Steffen Smidt**

- 1945 : Born in Copenhagen
- 1973 : Master of political science, University of Århus, Denmark
- 1973-1976 : Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Copenhagen
- 1976-1979 : Secretary of Embassy, Danish Permanent Rep to the EC, Brussels
- 1980-1982 : Personal Secretary to the Danish Foreign Minister, Copenhagen
- 1982-1983 : Counsellor, Danish Permanent Representation to the EC, Brussels
- 1983-1984 : Counsellor, Danish Mission to the UN, New York
- 1985-1986 : Deputy Head of Cabinet, European Commission, Brussels
- 1986-1990 : Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Copenhagen
- 1990-1993 : Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Social Affairs (DG V), European Commission, Brussels
- 1993-1995 : Director-General, Head of Task Force for Enlargement, European Commission, Brussels
- 1995 -1997 : Director-General, Directorate-General for Development (DG VIII), European Commission, Brussels
- 1997 -1999 : Director-General, Directorate-General for Administration and Personnel (DG IX), European Commission, Brussels
- 1999 – 2002 : Director-General, Directorate-General for Fisheries, European Commission, Brussels
- 2005 - : Adjunct professor at the Copenhagen Business School, Copenhagen
- 2006- : Danish Ambassador towards OECD and UNESCO, Paris