



Doha, Qatar



What did we get ourselves into?
How do we get ourselves out?

Backdrop: Fish Subsidies

- FAO 1993 Report
- Other reports: WB, OECD, APEC +
- Poor transparency
- Emerging consensus > \$15 billion

Perspective

- Subsidies the greatest scourge? No
- Are they a problem? Yes
- Why address them in the WTO?
- Are SCM disciplines adequate?
- Adaptable?
- Experience suggests there are problems at least with capture fisheries.

Response

- Momentum at Seattle 1999
- Two years of workshops, talk in CTE
- Elaboration of the matrix approach
- WTO lead? FAO lead?
- Hydra-headed problem requiring multi-layered response
- IUU, Mkt access, subsidies, ecolabels, mgt..

Challenges

- Not my program!!!
- Good subsidies -- gov't and industry say yes
- Negotiators resist green box.
- WTO. Can environmental effects fit?
- Greens have money and manpower.
- Is application of matrix practical?
- Peculiarities of fisheries

Rules Committee

- Para 28 “...clarify and improve...”
- Agenda driven by input of parties
- Tight 3-year time line
- Crowded and competing agendas: MEAs, AD/CVD, etc

Submission by 8

- Important link to trade and resource effect
- Highlights producer effect
- Problems with dispute settlement
 - like products, benchmark prices
 - calculating subsidy per fish
 - diffuse nature of transfers
 - boats used for different fisheries

Submission by 8 (con't)

- Paper is a first effort to prompt discussion
- Concentrates on high seas fisheries
- No options for action: annex, footnote, open SCM? Hope not

US Efforts: Categories

- Commercially applicable R&D
- Gov't loans
- Tax policies
- Risk mitigation
- Access payments, J-V help
- Domestic price supports
- Income supports

Role of PECC

- Additional tie-ins of trade and resource effects
- ???