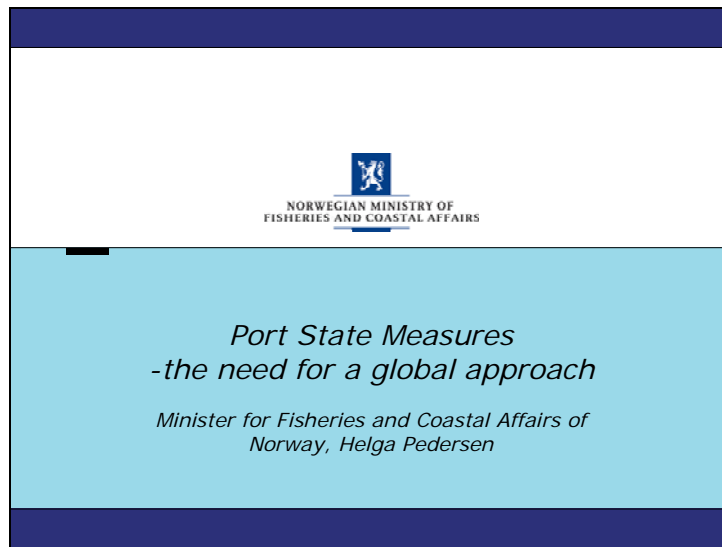


Lysbilde 1



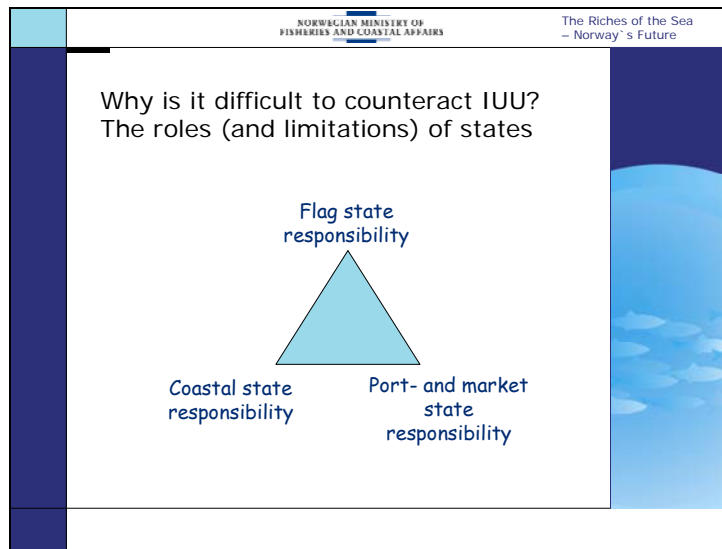
Dear Colleagues

It is a great pleasure to be here in the home country of Commissioner Borg. I would like to thank Mister Borg and the organizers of this conference for the excellent reception we have received.

The purpose of my presentation is to highlight the current process in FAO concerning the crafting of a binding instrument for port state measures in the fisheries. As you know, Norway has tried to encourage this work, which we see as a natural extension of the work done in NEAFC during recent years.

With your permission, I would also like to reflect upon the effectiveness of the port state measures introduced in the NEAFC Convention Area in 2007. While IUU fishing in this area by no means is the only, or the most serious in the world, I think emerging trends in the North Atlantic can demonstrate the increasing importance of the global instrument.

Lysbilde 2

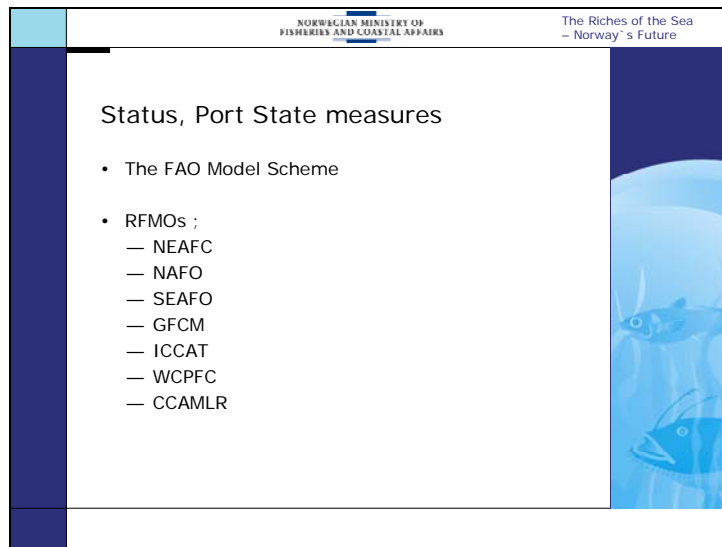


In our view, there are three main challenges that must be met in order to produce reductions in IUU fishing. For the sake of simplicity, we can divide these into problems of flag states, problems of coastal states and problems of port- and market states.

These challenges both illustrate the complexity of IUU fishing and why there never was a quick fix to solve the problem.

Reliance on the implementation of flag State duties to prevent IUU fishing has proved to be insufficient, and enhanced port State control is thus crucial in combating IUU fishing. In recent years the importance of coordinated port State measures have been recognised by regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs), both because all harvested fish must be landed at some point and that the use of such measures do not entail substantial resources compared to for instance inspections at sea.

Lysbilde 3

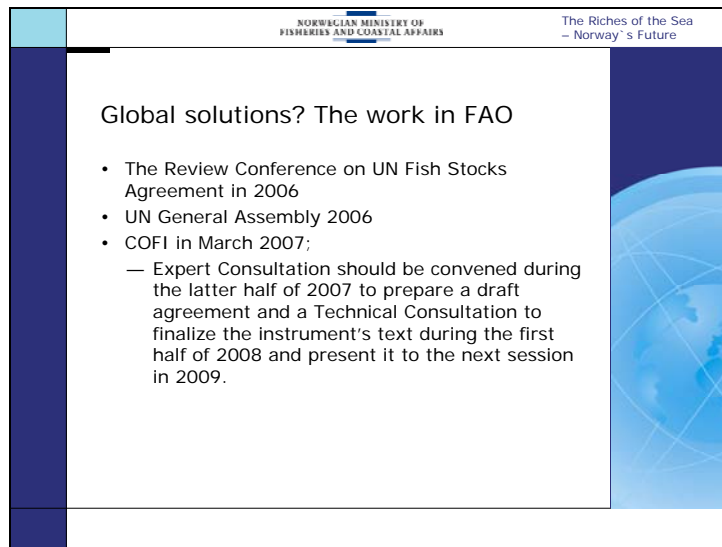


FAO's Committee on Fisheries (COFI) has adopted a voluntary instrument (the FAO Model Scheme) describing basic and minimum port State measures for subsequent regional implementation. It was emphasised that concerted action through RFMOs should be encouraged

A growing number of RFMOs are developing, or have adopted regional schemes on port State control, building also on elements of the FAO Model Scheme. The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) adopted a new scheme in 2006.

In the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO) work is ongoing for the adoption of similar measures, and this is the main agenda point for the NAFO's compliance committee, which meets in early July this year.

The South East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (SEAFO) and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) already have adopted schemes heavily influenced by the FAO Model Scheme, while work is going on or under consideration in tuna organisations such as the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living resources (CCAMLR) has adopted a range of port State measures to track landings and the flow of trade of Patagonian toothfish.



The Review Conference on UN Fish Stocks Agreement in 2006 recognised that a number of port States and RFMOs have developed measures. The Conference noted, however, that there is still much to be done in developing such measures or schemes, and that in particular a more coordinated approach among States and RFMOs is required.

The Conference recommended that "States individually and collectively adopt all necessary port State measures, particularly those envisioned in the 2005 FAO Model Scheme on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing and promoting minimum standards at the regional level. In parallel initiate, as soon as possible, a process within FAO to develop, as appropriate, a legally binding instrument on minimum standards for port State measures, building on the FAO Model Scheme and the IPOA-IUU." The UN General Assembly repeated this call in 2006.

At COFI in March 2007, Norway advocated the establishment of a global binding instrument on minimum requirements for port State measures. There was strong support for the initiative, and COFI agreed that an Expert Consultation should be convened during the latter half of 2007 to prepare a draft agreement and a Technical Consultation to finalize the instrument's text during the first half of 2008 and present it to the next session in 2009.

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND COASTAL AFFAIRS

The Riches of the Sea
– Norway's Future

Process, consultations

- September 2007 - comprehensive draft
- Technical annexes on prior notification, port inspection procedures, result indicators and information systems have later been developed within the FAO secretariat
- FAO Model Scheme
- The role of the flag State
- FAO Technical Consultation in June this year
- Norwegian perspective - maintain the rather strong obligations set forth in the draft



A group of experts met in September 2007 and developed a comprehensive draft of the main body of global, binding agreement on port State measures to combat IUU fishing.

Technical annexes on prior notification, port inspection procedures, result indicators and information systems have later been developed within the FAO secretariat. As foreseen, the draft agreement builds on the FAO Model Scheme, but it is streamlined to meet legal requirements.

Compared to the Model Scheme, in addition the role of the flag State is emphasized, as well as the special requirements of developing States. The draft also contains dispute settlement procedures. The draft will be the basic document for the FAO Technical Consultation (negotiations between FAO members) that takes place in the last week of June this year.

It seems like, from a Norwegian perspective, that the main objective will be to maintain the rather strong obligations set forth in the draft.”

Lysbilde 6

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND COASTAL AFFAIRS

The Riches of the Sea
– Norway's Future

Why a global instrument? - overfishing of Cod in the Barents Sea

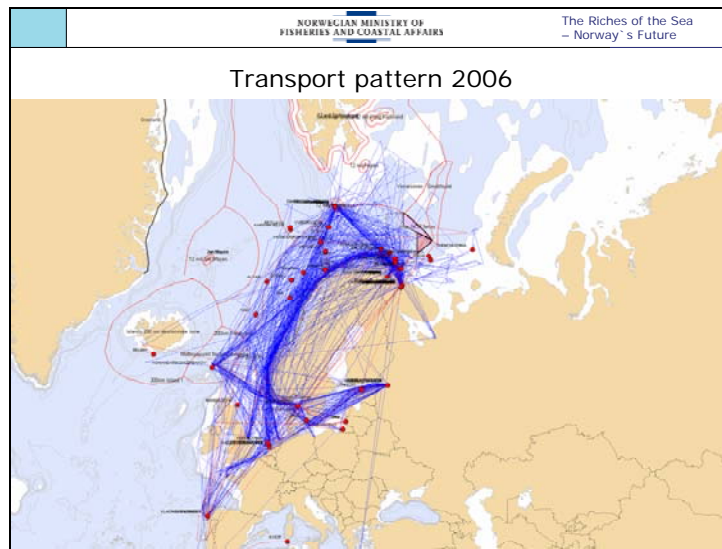
- Significant reduction - from 2005 till 2007 overfishing of cod has been reduced by over 60 000 tonnes
- Using mainly open sources, the Norwegian Coast Guard and the Directorate of Fisheries have mapped transport and landings of cod and haddock from the Barents Sea
- In the following maps, only vessels classified as "risk objectives" have been mapped (this does *not* mean that all data equal IUU operations)

You are of course aware of the positive development concerning unreported fishing of cod in the Northeast Atlantic. From 2005 till 2007, overfishing of cod has been reduced by over 60 000 tonnes.

This reduction has been achieved through joint work by all represented here today, and I am very grateful for this cooperation. This progress has exceeded the expectations we had had just two years ago, when we addressed this problem at NAFMC aboard the coastal voyage in Northern Norway.

There is no doubt that the port state measures in NEAFC have been very effective. This can be seen from both the fishing and the landings of fish from the Barents Sea, which we have tried to map. We have gained some experience in mapping the activities that we characterise as risk objects, in the sense that these vessels take part in complicated transshipments at sea.

Lysbilde 7

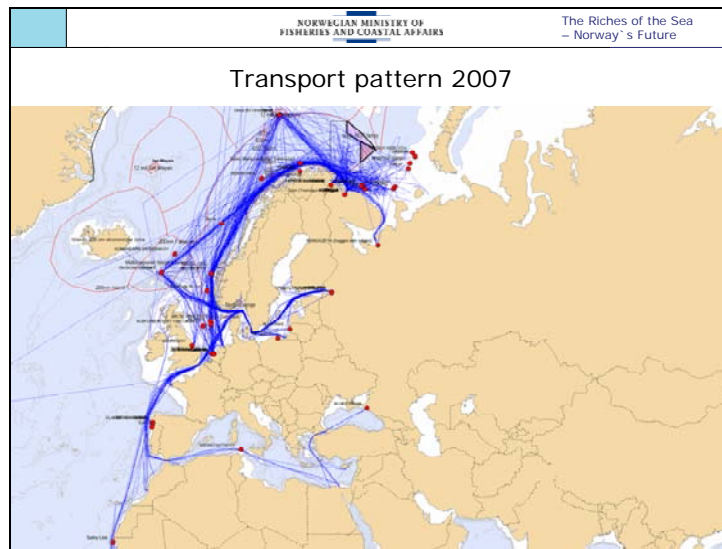


The first map shows the typical activities of risk objects in 2006. As you can see, there took place a number of risk transhipments in the Northeast Atlantic.

The blue lines here mean each voyage by a transport vessel carrying cod and haddock from A to B. As you see, the voyages in sum gives clear patterns as to how the vessels operated.

Although I do not want to go into details about each voyage or ship, we do note that risk vessels used ports throughout Europe.

Lysbilde 8

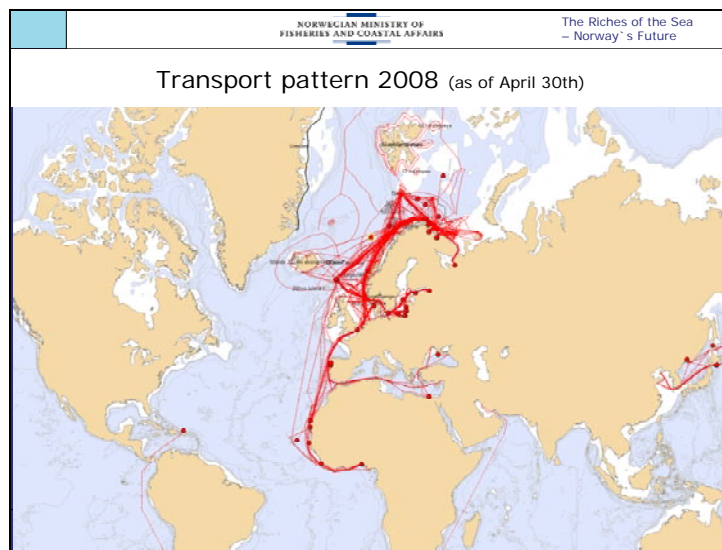


The major change in 2007 was that the number of risk vessels sailing with white fish from the Barents Sea was reduced significantly. Fewer transport vessels entered European ports.

Interestingly, we see that especially after the introduction of port state measures in NEAFC from May 2007, more of these ships sailed for ports in West Africa and the Mediterranean.

However, the overall picture shows a clear reduction in the activities by what we have called risk objects.

Lysbilde 9



The changes in the pattern from 2007 are confirmed thus far in 2008. Few risk vessels land in Europe, and where they land, the catches are controlled in an orderly fashion.

I must also point to the fact that a number of the observations of risk objects in ports in Europe in 2008 are vessels that are stranded. They are stranded in the sense that they have been abandoned by their owners, or are denied to depart by the coastal state. This is true of vessels for example in Russia, Norway and Spain.

The pattern of voyages to West Africa is clearer than in 2006. We also see that some of the vessels previously engaged in transshipments in the Barents Sea now operate in the far East.

Lysbilde 10

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND COASTAL AFFAIRS

The Riches of the Sea
– Norway's Future

What has happened:

- Significant reduction in IUU fishing
- Very few landings by risk objects in Western Europe by 2008
- Risk objects monitored closely by all NEAFC member states by 2008
- Increased landings in Northern Norway and Northwest Russia
- Increased landings in Western Africa

The slide features a dark blue header with the Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs logo and the slogan 'The Riches of the Sea – Norway's Future'. The main content is a white box with a dark blue border. To the right of the text is a vertical image of a fish, possibly a salmon, swimming in blue water.

To summarize the development:

We have achieved

- Significant reduction in IUU fishing
- Very few landings by risk objects in Western Europe by 2008
- Risk objects monitored closely by all NEAFC member states by 2008
- Increased landings in Northern Norway and Northwest Russia
- Increased landings in Western Africa

Lysbilde 11

NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND COASTAL AFFAIRS

The Riches of the Sea
– Norway's Future

What do we expect:

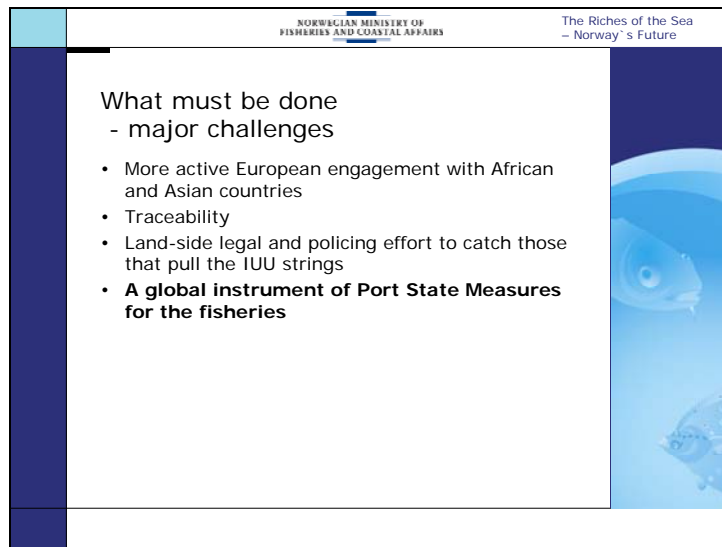
- IUU operators are still in business
- "Ports of convenience" - new routes to markets – laundering - forgeries of certified catch documentation
- Land-side arenas outside limits of traditional fisheries jurisdiction
- Need for policing efforts against transnational organized fisheries crime (INTERPOL, EUROPOL)

History will have taught us nothing if we thought we had solved IUU crimes once and for all. Those that have become rich from IUU fishing are still in business, searching for new ways for profit.

We expect Ports of convenience arising and new routes to markets, such as Northern Africa. We also expect circumvention by laundering IUU catches, for instance by forgeries of certified catch documentation.

We need to stay one step ahead of crime.

We believe we will have to focus on trade, ownership, cash flow and other land-side arenas outside what we traditionally have dealt with in the realm of fisheries jurisdiction. To this effect we need to engage experts in dealing in other transnational economic crime, such as the INTERPOL and the EUROPOL.



Then the question remains as to what should be done further.

While these are demanding challenges, I think that four related elements will be important:

- More active European engagement with African and Asian countries
- Traceability
- Land-side legal and policing effort to pursuit those that pull the strings of IUU
- A global instrument of Port State Measures for the fisheries

To conclude, the process of creating a global instrument for port state measures has substantial value for IUU countermeasures in all major fisheries, including the North Atlantic. Norway is grateful for the support we have received from all my colleagues here. The process so far has been more successful than we expected. We hope we can work together also the next years so that the global instrument becomes effective.