



Committee: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Country: Kingdom of Denmark

Delegate: Kübra Nur Uzunçam

Agenda Item I: Protection of Marine and Ocean Fauna from Industrial Exploitation, Pollution, and Habitat Destruction

Agenda Item II: Strengthening Global Frameworks for the Protection and Welfare of Animals in Industrial, Agricultural, and Scientific Sectors

Denmark is a coastal nation bordering the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. When Denmark is mentioned, one of the first things that comes to mind is that nearly all of its territory is surrounded by the sea. As a country consisting of a peninsula and hundreds of islands, there is no location in Denmark that is more than 50 kilometers away from the coastline. This geographical structure connects not only Denmark's economy, but also its cuisine, culture, and everyday lifestyle directly to marine ecosystems. While Denmark's strategic position between the North Sea and the Baltic Sea offers significant opportunities, it also places a major responsibility on the country to protect its coastlines and marine life. For Denmark, protecting the seas is therefore not merely an environmental choice, but a vital necessity for the continuity of its national identity and future. In this context, the Kingdom of Denmark is aware of the growing threats faced by marine and ocean fauna as a result of industrial exploitation, pollution, and habitat degradation. Recognizing the importance of healthy marine ecosystems for both environmental sustainability and global food security, Denmark supports science-based and policy-driven approaches that promote sustainable fisheries management, the reduction of marine pollution, and the protection of biodiversity.

At the same time, Denmark considers the protection and welfare of animals in agricultural, industrial, and scientific sectors to be a global responsibility. In Denmark, aquaculture activities are strictly regulated by environmental legislation, with the exception of fully recirculated eel farms. All Danish fish farms must be officially approved in accordance with the Danish Environmental Protection Act. Each farm is assigned a fixed feed quota and is subject to specific requirements regarding feed conversion ratios, water use and treatment, wastewater management, and the disposal of waste and by-products. In Denmark, a significant number of farmed fish are released annually into natural water bodies such as wetlands, lakes, rivers, and marine waters. These releases are primarily carried out to compensate for insufficient natural reproduction or low juvenile populations and to improve conditions for recreational fishing. Additionally, fish stocking is used as a method for lake restoration, known as biomanipulation, as well as for the rehabilitation of stocks of endangered fish species

To address these issues, Denmark recommends that FAO increase its global cooperation, strengthen its implementation and monitoring practices, and provide greater support to member states in implementing sustainable and ethical practices. Denmark believes that biodiversity can be conserved, animal welfare improved, and the long-term stability of global food systems ensured through science-based policymaking, international solidarity, and a shared commitment to sustainability.

Sources / References

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Animal Welfare Guidelines

(www.fao.org)

European Commission – Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

EU fisheries management and marine conservation policies

(ec.europa.eu)

European Environment Agency (EEA)

Marine ecosystems, pollution, and biodiversity in Europe

(www.eea.europa.eu)

Danish Ministry of Environment

Environmental protection policies and marine conservation

(mim.dk)

Danish Veterinary and Food Administration (DVFA)

Animal welfare regulations and food production standards

www.foedevarestyrelsen.dk

