

Deep Dive Planning Session – Meeting Summary

August 28, 2024, 06:00-07:30 (Eastern Daylight time)

The IUU-AA convened a virtual meeting on August 28, 2024, at 06:00 EDT. Chaired by Canada, the meeting including representatives from members: Canada, European Union, France on behalf of its overseas territories, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, and United States (U.S); and supporter organizations: Environmental Justice Foundation, FishWise, Global Fishing Watch, Oceana, The Pew Charitable Trusts, the World Wildlife Fund, and Sailors for the Sea - Japan.

This meeting served as the second planning session for the first IUU-AA “deep dive” on data transparency, to further consolidate ideas based on the enclosed and previously circulated draft concept note (Attachment A). A summary of the meeting, including action items, is included below.

1. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted by Stimson to confirm attendance.

2. Welcome and Introductions

- The chair welcomed attendees and introduced Kevin Brosseau, Associate Deputy Minister in Canada’s Department of Oceans/Fisheries. Following this, Kevin gave opening remarks highlighting the important role the Deep Dives will play in advancing the work and goals of the Action Alliance.
- The Chair provided an overview of the meeting agenda and invited members and supporters to new topics for discussion.

3. Discussion – Deep Dive Session

- The discussion began with the Chair thanking members and supporters for providing their feedback on the Deep Dive Concept Note and to those that had bilateral discussion about the Concept Note, and echoed Kevin’s opening remarks highlighting that the Deep Dives will be a great opportunity to highlight work done by members and supporters, as well as identifying challenges and gaps in efforts to combat IUU fishing.
- The planning session covered four primary themes: logistics, whether to establish an IUU-AA definition of transparency, narrowing the Transparency sub-topic for the Deep Dive, and gauging interest for potential moderators and/or panelists.
- **Logistics**
- The Chair highlighted that the date for our first Deep Dive will be October 2nd, and that based on feedback from the Concept Note, it will be three hours and incorporate a health break. Additionally, The Chair welcomed feedback on

time-of-day preferences given the varied time zones represented by IUU-AA membership.

- Members and supporters generally agreed that around 06:00EDT was a good time for them, but that the timing of the first Deep Dive can be flexible.
- Next, the Chair highlighted that Canada and Stimson worked together to incorporate feedback on the structure of the Deep Dive. First, there will be a moderated panel of members and supporters to provide an overview of the topic and theme, highlighting some specific successes and general challenges. Second, participants will be broken out into moderated sub-groups to discuss what they have heard from the opening panel, what they know from their work, and to identify some potential challenges and how they could potentially be addressed. Third, participants will return for a wrap-up discussion.
- The Chair highlighted that **we will be circulating questions to members and supporters** for the moderated group discussions in the coming weeks. A more detailed agenda will be coming soon.
- Feedback provided by members and supporters facilitated discussion on Deep Dive #1 including (1) clarifying Deep Dive outcomes, (2) clarifying break-out groups, and (3) whether or not to open the discussion to industry stakeholders.
- Participants highlighted that they were open to outcomes from the Deep Dive being flexible.
 - For instance, participants highlighted that Deep Dive outcomes could range from members identifying best practices and gaps to members and supporters identifying best practices to push for at an institutional or organizational level.
- Next, participants agreed that smaller breakout groups would facilitate more robust conversations but expressed wanting to accommodate participants that will be joining in listening mode to learn from the discussion. **The Chair welcomed further feedback and interest in how Members and supporters also expressed wanting more clarification on how breakout groups will be divided.**
 - For instance, by topic, expertise of participants, geographic region, or randomly.
- Finally, participants highlighted that there is some value in opening the discussion to seafood industry representatives to provide insight on fisheries transparency from a business perspective. Participants highlighted that some IUU-AA supporters work closely with stakeholders from the seafood industry and could provide robust insights on the seafood industry in the discussion.

- **The Chair welcomed further feedback from members and supporters on opening the discussion to stakeholders in the seafood industry, how to divide breakout groups, and potentially recording the session to distribute to a larger audience.**
- Lastly, the Chair highlighted that since this is the first Deep Dive session, it will serve as a learning opportunity for facilitating future Deep Dives and incorporating feedback from Members and Supporters.
- **Definition of transparency**
- The Chair raised the question on whether or not the IUU-AA needs a common definition of transparency. Canada and Stimson worked together to incorporate two potential definitions in the Deep Dive Concept Note from the FAO's Committee on Fisheries and from FAO working documents.
- IUU-AA membership highlighted that there are different ways to define and think about transparency depending on where someone works within the seafood supply chain. For example, the seafood industry versus policy makers. Therefore, participants agreed that having both definitions on the Concept Note as "working" definitions is sufficient.
- Finally, participants discussed key aspects of transparency including the credibility of information and accessibility to relevant actors. Therefore, participants agreed that having both definitions on the Concept Note as "working" definitions is sufficient.
- **Poll on Sub-Topic**
- The Chair highlighted the four potential sub-topics to be discussed within the theme of transparency: (1) information and reporting systems, (2) transparency tools (e.g. The Global Charter for Fisheries Transparency), (3) Beneficial ownership of vessels, and (4) Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs).
- Participants participated in a poll to rank the four topics based on which they would prefer to discuss at Deep Dive #1, with information and reporting systems and beneficial ownership of vessels having the highest aggregated rankings. After displaying the results, the Chair led a discussion to highlight any questions, comments, or concerns on the topics.
 - Participants highlighted that other potential sub-topics could be incorporated into the discussions surrounding the chosen topics. For example, information and reporting systems could be discussed within the context of RFMOs.
 - Second, participants suggested having a range of panelists that could speak to discuss transparency from varied perspectives. For example, someone with a global perspective, a regional perspective, a bilateral perspective, and a national perspective.

- Third, participants highlighted that discussions should not be confined to discussing what governments could do, but also identifying where challenges are and what they can deliver on.
- Lastly, participants raised potentially extending participation in the Deep Dive to FAO, and that the OECD is currently doing work on beneficial ownership so it may be better to focus on information systems.
- The Chair welcomed further feedback on opening the discussion to FAO and encouraging participation from their teams. Additionally, the Chair called on IUU-AA membership to reach out to Canada and Stimson if they are interested in serving as a Moderator or Panelist in these discussions, or if they have ideas on how to incorporate perspectives from various levels of government by **September 9th, 2024**.
- **Topic:** Information and reporting systems building in elements from other topics; potentially beneficial ownership
- Please find a distribution of polling results attached.

4. Discussion – New members

- Australia, Vietnam, and the Philippines have expressed interest in joining the IUU-AA. The Chair welcomes the thoughts of Members and Supporters on these countries joining the alliance.

5. Closing Remarks

- **The Chair provided a brief summary of the meeting and highlighted key dates and things to look out for going forward:**
 - Action item #1: Members and supporters interested in being a moderator or panelist in Deep Dive #1 should contact Canada and Stimson to express their interest by **September 9th, 2024**.
 - Action Item #2: Canada will decide on a time for Deep Dive #1 to be held on **October 2nd, 2024**.
 - Action Item #3: Any IUU-AA members and supporters with feedback on this notes document, and on highlighted topics of discussion during the planning session should please share with Canada and Stimson so that it can be incorporated accordingly.
 - Action Item #4: Canada and Stimson will circulate questions for moderated discussions at Deep Dive #1 in the coming weeks.
 - Action Item #5: Canada and Stimson will develop an Agenda for Deep Dive #1 based on member and supporter feedback, and on potential moderators/panelists.