

## **IIFET2004 Held Under the Theme of "What Are Responsible Fisheries?" About 450 from more than 50 countries participated in active debate**

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The 12th meeting of the International Institute of Fisheries Economics and Trade (IIFET2004) was held at the Shinagawa campus of the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology from July 26 to 29, 2004. About 450 researchers, industry representatives and administrators took part in active debate under the main theme of "What are responsible fisheries?"

The meeting was divided into sessions to discuss specific areas of responsible fisheries. In the Special Session on International Trade of Fisheries Products, panelists from the United States, Norway, Australia, Thailand, China and Japan participated. In the course of the discussions, there was a common recognition among participants that international trade “should not hamper responsible use of, and conservation measures for, fishery resources amid the present global trend toward liberalization of fishery product trade.”

Further, it was pointed out that international trade is closely connected to the issues of over-fishing capacity and illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing activities. The “positive list system” was presented as one of the concrete means of solution of those issues. Some participants expressed the view that the “understanding and active role of consumers are crucial to promote responsible fisheries and responsible trade in fishery products.” Others stated that “excessive globalization should be monitored so that responsible use of fishery resources may not be impaired.”



Participants in active debate at IIFET Symposium