

INTRODUCTION

SEAFOOD 90, the leading international conference on high-value seafood was presented by INFOFISH and EUROFISH in collaboration with the FAO, and took place in March in the ancient Japanese capital of Kyoto. The conference was organised with the active support of the Japan Fisheries Association, the Overseas Cooperation Foundation (in particular supporting delegates from developing countries) and the Japan Marine Products Importers Association (JMPIA).

The theme of SEAFOOD 90 was the world market for high-value seafood products, looking in detail at all aspects of handling, processing and marketing. Panels of international speakers, in both general and specific industry meeting, examined key areas of product selection, preparation, processing, packaging, transportation and distribution. They also provided assessments of new techniques, new products and new marketing strategies.

The general sessions focusing on the subjects of Global and Japanese Trade Environment, Products and Processing and Market Support began each day's program. Afterwards, specialised industry meetings were held in parallel sessions. (see appendix 1 for program details).

The Groundfish & Roe session was hosted by the Canadian Government in cooperation with the Fisheries Council of Canadian (FCC). Ron Bulmer, President of the FCC acted as moderator, and the session included a speech by Nilo Cachero, President of the Canadian Association of Fish Exporters (CAFE). Mike Hunter, President of the Fisheries Council of British Columbia represented Canadian salmon interests during the salmon industry session.

The conference was also attended by David Knowles, of the Economic and Commercial Analysis Directorate of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and by David Marshall, Trade Commissioner in the Fisheries Division of External Affairs and International Trade Canada (EAITC).

Support for Canadian participation at SEAFOOD 90 was provided by the Japan Trade Development Division (PNJ) and the Fisheries Division (TAF) at External Affairs and International Trade Canada. Generous support was also provided by the Economic and Commercial Analysis Directorate at Fisheries and Oceans.

This report was compiled by D. Marshall, with additional data provided by D. Knowles of DFO. These notes do not represent the official proceedings of the conference and are not comprehensive, being based on notes taken during the sessions. They cover the individual sessions that were of primary interest to the Canadian seafood sector.