

Located mostly from the VIII Region southward, this industry employs a large share of the fishing industry's labor force. As an example, in the X th Region alone, there are more than 30,000 workers involved with fishing or fish processing activities. Industrial and artisanal activities are very intensive between the X and the XII Region.

II. 4. 2. Situation of the Resources

Demersal resources include some 10 different fish species, alongside with three marginal crustacean species. This fishery stretches from the IV Region to the XII. However, 80% of demersal landings include four types of hake; with the most important landings from the south-austral fishery.

In the south-austral fishery the other important specie is the kingclip (*Genypterus blacodes* or *congrus dorado*). Hake and kingclip are in very delicate situation, due to the high exploitation in the last six years. There have been an excessive growth of both, the industrial and the artisanal fleet. The damage on the stocks could be explained by the fact of the longevity of these species, having low rates of renewal.

The industry based or associated to this fishery has been weakened by the availability of raw materials, therefore pushing up the prices. This situation could end in a crisis, already present to certain degree in the "factory trawlers". These boats are facing a continuous lowering in their yields.

The common hake (*Merluccius gayi* or *merluza comun*) of the central zone of Chile, is the second most important landed demersal fish. The main area of fishing is the centre-south (VIII Region), and represented 51,000 tones in 1990, or a 9.2 percent increase over the landing in 1989.