

**We, the undersigned visiting delegates to the Árainn Mhór Small Island Fisherman's Conference,**

RECOGNISING the central importance of fishing to the life, communities, culture and economy of offshore small islands;

RECOGNISING the responsibilities of fishermen as custodians of fish and the sea;

CONCERNED that loss of fishing will destroy traditional livelihoods and render communities unsustainable;

RECOGNISING the vulnerability of marginalised communities and their role in providing productive employment and livelihoods;

UNDERSTANDING the need to develop sustainable fishing practices in inshore waters;

RECOGNISING the need to retain traditional fishing and related skills and knowledge and pass them on to future generations;

RECOGNISING the dedication of Island fishermen who have refused compensation for loss of fishing rights in order to maintain their traditional livelihoods;

CALL UPON the European Union and the Government of the Republic of Ireland to:

1. Lift or moderate the restrictions on fishing in Fishing Zone IVa,

AND permit island fisherman to fish for salmon in their coastal waters for a defined season on a restricted basis in cooperation with the authorities so as to:

- (a) allow small island fisheries to continue to fish their traditional waters;
- (b) enable small island communities to continue to thrive and regenerate;
- (c) sustain employment and community life on small islands;
- (d) provide viable livelihoods for present and future generations.

2. Take full account of the needs of small island fishing communities in the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy.

SIGNED

14 December 2009

**Signatures to the Árainn Mhór Fisheries Declaration, December 2009:**

Name:

Organisation:

.....

Signature:.....

Signatories

Alyne Delaney	Innovative Fisheries Management, Aalborg University, Denmark
Ian Mason	Gaia Foundation
Brian O’Riordan	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)
Yann Yvergniaux	Ditto
Derek Flynn	Scottish Crofting Federation
Ian Mackinnon	Ditto
Danièle Le Fur	Groupement des Pêcheurs Artisans Houatais (GPAH)
Pierre-Philippe Jean	Director Association des îles du Ponant Representative of ESIN (Federation of European Small Islands)
Carine Nadal	Gaia Foundation
Liam Campbell	University of Ulster
Ander Tivell	University of Agriculture, Sweden
John O’Brien	Fisherman, Inis Bó Finne Island