

JA0620
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Paul Barnes
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Dear Paul

SHARED FISHERIES POLICY


Thank you for your letter of 28 September 2006 regarding Shared Fisheries policy development and the paper on proportional allocation you prepared. It is pleasing to hear that you are looking forward to the consultation process on Shared Fisheries with some hope. I believe that this time we will make significant gains and look forward to your constructive participation.

As you know the release of a public discussion paper on Shared Fisheries has not been possible according to the schedule originally proposed. The issues involved are complex and it has taken longer than expected to work through these with my colleagues. However, I do anticipate the outstanding issues will be resolved very soon, so that public consultation can get underway.

Thank you for the paper giving your views on proportional allocation. This has been a useful perspective to have at hand in current policy development process. You can be assured that the views you provide will continue to be weighed in the mixture of arguments considered over the coming months.

I appreciate your offer to meet with me on these matters, and I expect we will have a chance to discuss the issues directly before final decisions are made. The current challenge is to get a set of policy proposals out into the public arena so that we can have a common basis for a discussion. I urge you to continue to contribute constructively on the basis of the proposals being put forward, and look forward to your written submissions on those proposals.

Yours sincerely



Jim Anderton
Minister of Fisheries

