



## Europaudvalget

**Til:** Udvalgets medlemmer og stedfortrædere

**Dato:** 5. maj 2009

### **KOM (2008) 0469**

Forslag til Europa-Parlamentets og Rådet forordning om handel med sælprodukter

#### **Henvendelse ang. forslag om EU-importforbud på sælprodukter**

Hermed omdeles en henvendelse fra den danske afdeling af CIC (The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation) ang. Kommissionens forslag om et EU-importforbud på sælprodukter.

Henvendelsen er fremsendt med nedenstående følgeskrivelse:

Til Europaudvalget,

CIC - The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation har på sin 56. generalforsamling, der netop er afholdt i Paris, vedtaget den vedhæftede resolution til støtte for fortsat sæljagt, hvor EU for tiden behandler et følelses-baseret og videnskabeligt ubegrundet forbud mod handel med sælprodukter til stor skade for de involverede lande og for udnyttelsen af fiskeressourcerne i bl.a. Nordatlanten til gavn for en økonomisk udnyttelse heraf.

Jeg anmoder om, at Europaudvalget vil udnytte sin indflydelse til, at Danmark i EU imødegår en endelig vedtagelse af et handelsforbud med sælprodukter.

Jeg kan oplyse, at CIC er en verdensomspændende organisation, der arbejder for bæredygtig jagt som et redskab til bevarelse af biodiversiteten.

Mvh.

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Med venlig hilsen

Signe Riis Andersen,  
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CIC – International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation



56<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009, Paris, France  
“Hunting: a Passion for the Future”

## **Sustainable management of seal populations**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**CICGA56.REC02**

NOTING that the total seal population in the North Atlantic and Arctic oceans, including the Baltic Sea, is estimated at nearly 10 million animals, and the number has increased substantially over the last decades, whereby harp seal is the most numerous species with close to 8 million animals;

FURTHER NOTING that seals consume annually some 9 million tons of fish, and by comparison the consumption of wild-caught and farmed fish by EU citizens amounts to 10 million tons, and have a great ecological impact on fish populations;

REGRETTING that the EU bodies will decide on a ban on import and trade of seal products and that such an action will substantially and negatively impact the management of these animal populations;

RECOGNIZING that independent scientific monitoring has concluded that seal hunting methods can satisfy the stringent animal welfare requirements, and this is recognized also by the European Food Safety Agency;

FEARING that if wild species are not managed on the basis of scientific knowledge, but on emotional or political arguments, this could negatively impact biodiversity as well as human welfare:

#### **the 56<sup>th</sup> CIC General Assembly in Paris from 29 April to 2 May**

EMPHASIZES that seals should be managed according to the same principles that apply to the management of other species, being laid down in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and more specifically in the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines.

The ban, which the EU has now contemplated, is in violation of these principles and guidelines, and if implemented, will bring the EU into contradiction with the CBD.

EXPRESSES its deepest concern, because such a decision by EU bodies affecting the sustainable use, hunting, culling and management of game populations as well as the livelihood of rural communities, is made with no basis in biological, ecological or animal welfare facts.

CALLS upon all individuals, organizations and governments committed to conservation, wise and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as human welfare, to support the management of seals as a natural resource and consider the wider implications for sustainable use if the trade in seal products is banned.