



Debates of the Senate

3rd SESSION. 40th PARLIAMENT.
VOLUME 147, NUMBER 72

OFFICIAL REPORT
(HANSARD)

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Notice of Motion to Urge the European Union to Apply a Preservation Policy of the Eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

Hon. Céline Hervieux-Payette:

Honourable senators, I give notice that, at the next sitting of the Senate, I will move:

That, whereas the scientific community considers that there is a threat to the sustainability of the Eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus Thynnus*),

Whereas the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has classified *Thunnus Thynnus* as in critical danger of extinction and has appealed for a moratorium on the fishery,

Whereas the European Union's environmental imprint on the Eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna stock is considerable, with France, Spain, Italy and Malta being the main harvesters of the young of this species,

Whereas the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) has set a quota for 2011 that will give the bluefin tuna population only a 60% chance of recovering by 2022, even without taking into account the effects of poaching and of weaknesses in the catch declaration system,

Whereas the government of Canada, Canadian industry and Canadian scientists are working together to ensure that bluefin tuna stocks in the Western Atlantic can support a sustainable fishery,

The Senate of Canada urges the European Union to apply to the situation of the Eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna the moral values underlying the Union's new regulations on the seal hunt (even though the harp seal is not an endangered species), with a view to protecting the species *Thunnus Thynnus*, respecting scientific opinion and encouraging its member countries to implement an adequate policy guaranteeing preservation of the species for the generations to come.