



The Pier, Castletownbere, Co. Cork  
Tel: 027-70670 Fax: 027-70771 Int. Prefix + 353  
e-mail: [info@irishsouthandwest.ie](mailto:info@irishsouthandwest.ie)  
Website: [www.irishsouthandwest.ie](http://www.irishsouthandwest.ie)

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

### **IS&WFPO meet with Sean Kelly, MEP to discuss CFP and Other Issues**

Members of the Board of Directors of the *Irish South and West Fish Producers Organisation, (IS&WFPO)* met with Sean Kelly, MEP as part of his visit to Castletownbere on Friday last, the 29<sup>th</sup> of June.

**“The European Parliament has, following the Lisbon Treaty, a key role in the Reform process for the CFP and in light of the recent disappointing decision of the European Council of Ministers to implement a ban on discards we felt it was pivotal to outline the reasons for our opposition to the Councils decision”** Eibhlín O’Sullivan, CEO of the *IS&WFPO* explained. **“As we, together with our Industry colleagues have consistently maintained, by choosing to implement a discard ban, the Council have adopted a flawed approach. Instead of forcing fishermen to land all catches the emphasis should instead be on the avoidance and reduction of these catches in the first instance. We explained the ongoing efforts by the fishing Industry to reduce discards to the lowest possible level to Mr. Kelly and reiterated the need for such efforts to be supported at a European level”**.

**“In addition to the discards issue, the requirement to ensure that the Reformed CFP Package contains adequate funding for ever more important scientific research was emphasised”** continued Eibhlín **“The Board concluded the meeting by thanking Mr. Kelly for taking the time to meet with them and also for the interest he has shown in the Irish Fishing Industry and the support he has given”**.

Note:

Sean Kelly, MEP visited Castletownbere on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 accompanied by Noel Harrington, TD and Jerry O’Sullivan, Councillor and met with various Stakeholder Groups.

*ENDS*

*3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012.*