



EUROPEAN ANGLERS FEDERATION www.euroangler.eu

**Statement
of the European Anglers Federation**

The European Anglers Federation, representing five and a half million members as well as ten national fishing federations

- RECALLING that one of its main objective is the protection of the interests and the rights of European sport and recreational anglers and their national organizations,
- RECALLING that it finds it an important mission to intensively protect, in the interest of fishing, the aquatic environment, the environment in general, the nature, in accordance with the European Union Water Framework Directive as well as with its environmental, water quality protection and fish protection programs
- CONSIDERING that it is the EAF's is important objective to preserve and to develop, in the long run, the civilized fishing facilities and conditions
- BEING AWARE that in our continent and all across in the EU countries and in the national economies, there is considerable interest in recreational and sports fishing
- TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that in most EU member states the owners, tenants or renters or managers of the fishing waters are fishing federations
- CONSIDERING that in this way the angler population significantly contributes to the protection of water quality and water conservation in general

WELCOMES the objectives of the European Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Fund Regulation, especially the support of the sustainable and competitive fishing and aquaculture, water management.

The European Anglers Federation finds desirable that the Fund Regulation should extend the support range to the inner, freshwater fishing and that fishing should not be defined only as "catching fish with a commercial purpose in a boat" which happens "exclusively in internal, inner waters or with other gear that are used ice-hole fishing" but which also includes the significant work both non-profit and financial investment, which is a carried out by the fishing communities, and which also deserves support.

Zilina, 25. November 2011.