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Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
413, Saint Jacques Street, suite 800
Montreal QC H2Y 1N9

May 15, 2015

Dear Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias:

In response to CBD notification 2015-043, "Request for information on the contribution of collective action to biodiversity conservation, including on experience and lessons learned in applying pertinent methodologies", Canada would like to contribute the following information. Please note that this is not a comprehensive report, but just highlights a few examples.

a) Experience of collective action in the field of agriculture to maintain environmental public goods

In 2013, Canada participated in an OECD report on the contribution of collective action to agri-environmental public goods. The report includes the analysis of two Canadian collective action cases: Group Environmental Farm Planning in Saskatchewan and the Beaver Hills Initiative in Alberta. In the first case, Saskatchewan producers acted together to adopt Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) by accessing risk assessment programmes that approach environmental protection collectively. The second case was launched in reaction to strong development pressures that threatened landscape and other environmental values. It involves various participants, who pooled their knowledge and developed science-based strategies to preserve the area.

References:

- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). 2013. "Collective action case study: Canada" in Providing Agri-environmental Public Goods through Collective Action. OECD Publishing. Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264197213-en>

b) Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program

The Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program forms a key component of the Government of Canada's conservation agenda as outlined in Budget 2013 and aligns with the Government's commitment to better protect Canada's fisheries as reflected in the recent changes to the Fisheries Act. The program aims to bring like-minded partners and their resources together with the common long-term goal of enhancing the sustainability and ongoing productivity of Canada's recreational fisheries.

Canada 

Reference:

- Department of Fisheries and Ocean (DFO). 2014. Recreational Fisheries Conservation Partnerships Program. Available at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/rfcpp-ppcpr/index-eng.html>

c) Salmonid Enhancement Program

The Salmonid Enhancement Program (SEP) plays a key role in DFO's work to conserve and manage Pacific salmon stocks. The program's activities aim to rebuild vulnerable salmon stocks, provide harvest opportunities, work with First Nations and coastal communities in economic development, and improve fish habitat to sustain salmon populations. SEP broke new ground when it was launched in 1977 by working closely with citizens and schools to raise awareness of salmon conservation and to carry out hands-on community salmon enhancement and stewardship projects.

Reference:

- Department of Fisheries and Ocean (DFO). 2014. Salmonid Enhancement Program. Available at <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sep-pmvs/index-eng.html>

d) Salish Sea Marine Survival Project

The Salish Sea Marine Survival Project leverages human and financial resources from the United States and Canada to determine the primary factors affecting the survival of juvenile salmon and steelhead in the Salish Sea. Involving over 40 partners including local communities, aboriginal groups, academics, and private companies among others, it is the largest and most important research of its kind in the shared waters of British Columbia and Washington State, addressing a key uncertainty impeding salmon recovery and sustainable fisheries. The project will, for the first time, undertake a comprehensive study of the physical, chemical and biological factors impacting salmon survival, in order to improve our collective understanding of salmon in saltwater, facilitating smarter management and stronger returns. Over the period 2015-16, Canada will provide \$2 million to the Pacific Salmon Foundation to support the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project.

References:

- Salish Sea Marine Survival Project. 2015. The Project. Available at <http://marinesurvivalproject.com/the-project/>

e) Beaufort Sea Partnership

Integrated Ocean Management in Canada is described as involving comprehensive planning and management of human activities to minimize conflicts among users. It is further characterized as a collective approach that cannot be forced on anyone. It is flexible, transparent, and respectful of existing divisions of constitutional and departmental authority, and Aboriginal rights. The principles guiding Integrated Management include sustainable development, the Precautionary Approach, conservation, shared responsibility, flexibility, inclusiveness and Ecosystem-Based Management.

The "Integrated Oceans Management Plan for the Beaufort Sea: 2009 and beyond" (the IOMP) is the result of several years of planning efforts undertaken by Aboriginal, Territorial

and Federal government departments, management bodies, and northern coastal community residents with interests in the Beaufort Sea. Industry, non-governmental organizations, academia and other interested parties have agreed to collaborate in the decision making processes that will influence the future of the Beaufort Sea region. It is also a demonstration of Canada's commitment to sound management of Arctic marine and coastal resources. The purpose of the Plan is to achieve the full vision of the IOMP while streamlining existing decision-making processes, and to guide and coordinate future activities during the implementation phase, especially as they pertain to development in the Beaufort Sea.

References:

- Beaufort Sea Partnership. 2009. Integrated Ocean Management Plan (IOMP) for the Beaufort Sea: 2009 and Beyond. Available at <http://www.beaufortseapartnership.ca/bsimp.html>

f) The Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk Program

The protection of species at risk in Canada depends upon a meaningful collaboration with Aboriginal people and organizations in the implementation of programs under the Species at Risk Act (SARA). The Act recognizes the role that Aboriginal people play in wildlife conservation and requires that Aboriginal traditional knowledge be taken into account when assessments of which species are at risk are carried out and when protection and recovery measures are developed and implemented. The Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk (AFSAR) Program assists Aboriginal communities and organizations to build capacity for their participation in implementing the SARA and to undertake activities that protect the habitats of species at risk. The final outcome of the AFSAR Program is to have stable or increasing populations of species at risk.

References:

- Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). 2011. Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk Program. Available at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/aboriginal-autochtones/sar-lep/funds-fonds-eng.htm>
- Government of Canada. 2015. Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk. Available at <https://www.retablissement-recovery.gc.ca/AFSAR-FAEP/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.main&lang=E>

g) Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management Program

The Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management (AAROM) Program is intended to help Aboriginal groups to participate effectively in advisory and decision-making processes used for aquatic resource and oceans management. The main objectives of the AAROM program are:

- to assist Aboriginal groups in acquiring the administrative capacity and scientific/technical expertise to facilitate their participation in aquatic resource and oceans management;
- to encourage the establishment of collaborative management structures that contribute to integrated ecosystem/watershed management and planning processes;
- to enhance existing collaborative management structures, where appropriate;

- to facilitate sound decision making in advisory and other processes related to a number of areas of DFO responsibility;
- to strengthen relationships through improved information sharing among Aboriginal communities, DFO and other stakeholders and among Aboriginal communities; and
- to contribute to the federal government's broader objective of improving the quality of life of Aboriginal people.

References:

- Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). 2012. Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management Program. Available at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/aboriginal-autochtones/aarom-pagrao/index-eng.htm>

h) Canada's Network of Marine Protected Areas

Canada has a responsibility—both nationally and internationally—to protect its extraordinary marine environments for the benefit of present and future generations. As such, federal marine protected area legislated authorities are working with provincial and territorial counterparts, Aboriginal groups, industry, academia and environmental non-governmental organizations to build a national network of marine protected areas that protects key marine habitats, species and features that are ecologically significant and vulnerable.

References:

- Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). 2014. Network of Marine Protection. Available at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/oceans/planning/marineprotection-protectionmarine/index-eng.htm>

Sincerely,



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