

## **CIESM new online Forum opens dialogue on hot issues in Fisheries and Blue Biotechnology**

Evidence is mounting from all corners of the world that our marine environment is seriously dysfunctional, with fish stocks collapsing and marine biodiversity in peril. To facilitate a wiser, integrated governance of our seas, the Mediterranean Science Commission (CIESM) is opening lines of dialogue among marine scientists, other maritime stakeholders and civil society. The ultimate aim is to orient the public debate on a sound basis and encourage political leaders to urgently tackle these major issues with innovative and effective solutions. The protection of oceans and the sustainability of our marine resources are at stake.

The CIESM online Forum is designed to clarify issues that remain obscure and frustrate current international negotiations. It provides stakeholders with a clear, accessible platform to exchange ideas and enrich knowledge. The contributions will be analysed and summarized for transmission to the 22 Governments that are Member States of CIESM and also to the European Commission.

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