

The Nanaimo Declaration to Promote Environmentally Responsible Aquaculture and Sustainable Ecological Aquaculture Systems (SEAS)

Whereas, we are committed to develop the International Sustainable Ecological Aquaculture Systems Network (“ISEAS Network”) to promote a more sustainable trajectory for aquaculture in the Americas, and throughout the world as appropriate;

Whereas, we are committed to the development of innovative partnerships between our universities, industries, communities, indigenous peoples, and governments at all levels to implement SEAS as incubators of innovation and excellence;

Whereas, we recognize that innovation and excellence requires our commitment to developing an alternative path to environmentally and socially responsible aquaculture that incorporates ecosystem design, the principles and practices of natural and social ecology, integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA), ecological engineering, and ecological economics;

Whereas, we commit to collaborate to create the next generation of leaders in SEAS by developing innovative international research, education, training, technology transfer and scholarly exchange programs at SEAS facilities;

Therefore, we, the co-founders of the ISEAS Network agree to partner on this international priority for the future health of aquatic ecosystems and the millions of people whose health depends on them.

This Declaration is dedicated to the great visionary works in sustainable ecological aquaculture and marine agronomy of some of the pioneering heroes in the field – John Bardach, Max Doty, John Ryther, and Cheng Kui Tseng.

Signed 12 April 2008 by the co-founders of the ISEAS Network in Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada:

Dr. Barry A. Costa-Pierce, University of Rhode Island USA

Dr. Thierry Chopin, University of New Brunswick CANADA

Dr. Stephen Cross, University of Victoria CANADA

Dr. Shawn Robinson, Department of Fisheries and Oceans CANADA

Dr. Charles Yarish, University of Connecticut USA

Dr. Jose A. Zertuche- Gonzalez, Universidad Autonoma de Baja California MEXICO