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## Europêche position on Tuna FAD Free Commercialisation

Europêche, the main representative body speaking for the European fishing industry, would like to bring to your attention the current fraudulent labelling on tuna by certain operators which are making false claims on the way it has been caught. In fact, several tuna products appearing on the EU market are falsely claiming to have been caught without the use of fish aggregating devices (FADs).

Fish aggregating devices (FADs) are floating objects that have been employed for hundreds of years in both commercial and recreational fisheries to improve methods when catching ocean going pelagic species including tuna.

**Europêche warns that the current proliferation of 'FAD Free' tuna on the EU market based on self-certification could be unregulated, fraudulent and highly misleading to the consumer.**

International fishing fleets must be strictly controlled and monitored across the entire supply chain. Therefore, **Europêche advises that FAD Free tuna should be only purchased from independently certified systems with a proper and transparent chain of custody in place."**

Against this background, we urge the European Commission to ensure that the appropriate traceability requirements are adhered to and that there are adequate measures to guarantee monitoring and compliance at all stages of the supply chain.

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**Europêche** represents the fisheries sector in Europe. Currently, the Association comprises 12 national organisations of fishing enterprises from the following 9 EU Member States: DE, DK, ES, FR, IT, MT, NL, PL, UK.

