Global Oceans Fund (GOF)

The Global Oceans Fund (GOF), an international, respected Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) founded in 1973, works in 100 countries as a conservation organization. It receives funding from the private sector, governments, and individual donations. It aims to protect the world's oceans (including fish, shellfish, and plant-life), reduce pollution, and advance sustainable and efficient environmental practices across the globe. This organization's goal is to change global markets and make producers, buyers and sellers more respectful of our natural resources.

The GOF collaborates with corporations, humanitarian groups, and government agencies to achieve their goals. The GOF also collaborates with the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) domestically and abroad, working in both public and private sectors.

The GOF has already accomplished a great deal for the fishing industry. In working to improve global practices, the GOF has worked towards eliminating the problems of bycatch through innovative solutions and has worked with global retailers to affect market-driven practices. These solutions include facilitating improvements to fishing gear, providing information to seafood consumers, and forming partnerships with major corporations to purchase their seafood from sustainable sources. The GOF also works to expand and create protected marine areas by collaborating with nations and experts to effectively zone protected areas.

FAST FACTS

Goal to change global markets and make producers, buyers, and sellers **more respectful of our natural resources**

Established in

1973

Opening Position

- The GOF has a global reach; you are respected internationally.
- The GOF focuses on market mechanisms for solutions and relies on past successes in other areas as a model in this case.
- The GOF will be critical of Uzan's apparent unwillingness to police illegal fishing.
- Innovative technology can play a constructive role in any solution.
- You believe that illegal fishing is irresponsible fishing as it is more inefficient due to higher bycatch yields. Allowing illegal fishing threatens legitimate and legal fishing.
- The GOF can rely on effective emotional arguments and sympathy generated by public campaigns with foreign publics.
- You would like to see the FAO play a stronger role than in the past.

Questions to Consider

- How does the GOF work with nations on addressing these issues facing the oceans?
- How do NGOs such as the GOF value the education of consumers?
- How can the GOF work specifically with the United States, Hiroot, and/or Uzan in protecting marine ecosystems?