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UBC'S DANIEL PAULY WILL FOCUS DEBATE AT 2004 WORLD FISHERIES CONGRESS IN VANCOUVER

Daniel Pauly, director of UBC's Fisheries Centre, will be the keynote speaker at an international congress on fisheries to be held in Vancouver in May 2004. Pauly, a world leader in fisheries science and an influential critic of the current fishing practices depleting the earth's fish stocks, was the only Canadian researcher named to Scientific American magazine's list of 50 influential people for 2003.

Organizers are expecting between 1,600 and 1,800 delegates from around the world to come to Vancouver, the first North American city to host the event.

Delegates attending the 4th World Fisheries Congress will debate Pauly's outspoken views on "fishing down the food chain" and the collapse of marine stocks around the world. Pauly and other fisheries experts will be challenged with questions about what the world must do to address conservation yet maintain fisheries in the face of increasing demands.

There is already keen interest in the Congress among scientists, industry, environmental groups, major foundations and the public. To date, more than 1,200 abstracts have been submitted to the Science Program, exploring aspects of the Congress theme: Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation: The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems.

One highlight of the Congress will be an all-day forum where the broader fisheries community will address how industry and environmental organizations can further the objective of Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation. A second public forum will examine the seafood "sustainable fishery" certification movement in achieving fisheries conservation.

Convened every four years, the Congress is hosted by the American Fisheries Society. Major sponsors include the B.C. and Canadian governments.

To register or learn more about the 4th World Fisheries Congress, visit:

<http://www.worldfisheries2004.org/home.htm>.

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