APPENDIX- 2

RAPE AND RUN MODE OF PRODUCTION

"According to the UN reports – intensive ponds have a maximum life of only 5 to 12 years. Abandoned ponds can no longer be used for shrimp and there are few known alternative uses for them except some other types of aquaculture. Apparently they can seldom be economically rehabilitated for other uses such as crop land. The extent of abandoned areas by the shrimp industry has been indicated by the UN Report in the following words:-

"After production cycle of about four or five months, shrimp ponds under intensive use are cleaned and disinfected and the polluted sludge is removed and often disposed of unsafely. This treatment, however, does not usually sufficient to maintain the ponds productivity for more than five to ten years (Ibid Annex III/12). Entrepreneurs then move to other areas because of pollution and disease. This mode of production has been called "rape and run " (Csavas, 1994 b ) . The altered milieu of these abandoned ponds inhibits the spontaneous regeneration of vegetation and their use for agriculture, forestry, other aquaculture or related fishing activities. These abandoned areas do not appear in worldwide estimates of areas used for shrimp farming, which for 1995 were estimated to include 962,000 hectares, of which 847,000 hectares were in Asia. In December 1994 these areas were estimated to have increased worldwide to 1,147,500 with 1,017,000 hectares in Asia (Rosenberry, 1993 and 1994a). Globally areas affected by industry's practices over the last decade are probably at least one third larger, or even more if the total infrastructures surrounding the ponds are accounted for ".

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