Dear Coalition members,

This is the August newsletter on the progress of the Coalition.

1. Telephone tree - Here is an additional copy of the telephone tree, which includes new Alternate listings for SALC - East Lansing and BA-NAG. I should have sent out two copies originally so all alternates would have a copy. So could you make these two corrections on your original copy and make sure that both the first contact and the alternate now get correct copies.

2. Inviting new groups to join the Coalition - The Philadelphia Coalition has just sent out packets to most groups now in the Coalition with letters of invitation to new groups and a list of groups in our area whom we should each invite. As you should have heard by now from the phone tree message that began on August 17, please do not invite any of these groups to join until you have received from Philadelphia a list of all groups which were suggested to invite. We decided at the Chicago meeting in May that all of us should see a complete list of those to be asked to join to make sure that no important groups are inadvertently excluded, that all groups fit the description of those we are seeking to have join, and to give groups a chance to comment on any groups that they feel strongly about. When you get this list from Philadelphia, please send your comments on these kinds of issues immediately. It would really be good if we could bring new groups into the Coalition in early fall so they can start to participate.

3. Namibia mass action proposal - During the last month we all received packets including research that had been done on U.S. corporate involvement in the Namibian fishing industry, on Del Monte and guidelines for developing a national mass action campaign. The subgroup which is working out strategy on this action (Allan Cooper, Marti Roach, and Paul Irish) will want to get together as soon as they get input from members of the Coalition, so make sure you have sent in your comments to Paul. Keep those cards and letters coming!

4. Ballot on expanding the steering committee and BA-NAG's participation - We have still received only seven blue ballots on this that were sent out with the minutes of the May 31st steering committee meeting. This is not enough on which to take action, since we have 19 groups in the Coalition. If you have not sent in your ballot, please send it to me as soon as you can.

Hope to see those of you who can make it at the meeting in New York on Saturday to discuss the Philadelphia Coalition's proposal for actions this fall around the election. We'll send out some information about the meeting to those who can't make it.

Sincerely,

[Signature]