Dear Editors,

We are writing to submit a Letter to the Editor in response to Cabral *et al.* 2020 (*1*), “A global network of marine protected areas for food”, recently published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America.

All of the authors on this reply have been colleagues, collaborators, or students of authors on Cabral *et al.* 2020. Despite these close personal connections, we feel that are