Thank you Chair,

More than ever, the role of FAO as the caretaker of the concerns of fisheries and aquaculture in global processes relating to the oceans is critically important.

The role of seafood in ensuring food security needs to be emphasized and demonstrated on a continuing basis.

We support the findings in doc COFI/2020/Inf.14.2 on Legal frameworks for fisheries and aquaculture. Implementation is key. Practical national legal frameworks are critical to implement international instruments and drive change towards sustainable resource use, ensuring livelihoods, achieving food security and nutrition and alleviating poverty.

Thank you.