

Committee on Fisheries

34TH Session, 1-5 February 2021

Brazil's Comments under the Written Correspondence Procedure

Item 5: Decisions and recommendations of the Tenth Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, Trondheim, Norway, 23–27 August 2019

Brazil expresses its gratitude to the Government of Norway for hosting the 10th Session of the Committee on Aquaculture, as well as to the Secretariat for the preparations that led to a successful meeting. Additionally, Brazil congratulates Norway for hosting it back-to-back with the Aqua Nor fair, which allowed Members to immerse themselves in the largest technological showcase in aquaculture on the planet, prompting greater synergy in favor of the development of the activity.

We look forward to the effective holding of the Millennium +20 Global Aquaculture Conference, updating our global challenges and priorities for the consolidation of aquaculture as an effective food provider and economic development booster. Aquaculture in Brazil presents a great opportunity, which is why we have a special interest in contributing technically and politically to the Conference's 9 work themes, in addition to the effective participation in the elaboration of the Shanghai Declaration. In this respect, we would appreciate further clarifications on the Declaration's formulation process.

Furthermore, we welcome the elaboration of the GISAP. We believe this platform, with its systemic and integrated approach, may be an important tool in assisting countries to make decisions with greater clarity and effectiveness, boosting aquaculture in a sustainable and competitive manner, especially for Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. At the same time, we would like to recall the importance of engaging with middle-income countries. Indeed, they may experience varying levels of development domestically, at the subnational level. Moreover, they often play an important role as both providers and recipients of cooperation. Considering a similar situation, the Committee on Agriculture, during its 27th Session, "suggested FAO include the middle-income countries in the Global Programme [on Sustainable Dryland Agriculture]".

We also recognize that there has been an effective progress on the State of the World's Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Due to its technical and scientific nature, this topic demands adequate time, intelligent coordination and effective engagement of the entire aquaculture community, respecting countries' different specificities. Brazil is already starting to elaborate and implement national actions in this area and looks forward to further engagement.

Finally, Brazil reiterates its strong commitment to the fight against the threat that antimicrobial resistance poses to public health and sustainable food production and appreciates the work developed by FAO under the Tripartite collaboration with the WHO and OIE. Regarding the proposal for a new FAO Action Plan, we consider there is a lot of room for improvement in the technical quality of the document – which affirms to rely on "incomplete evidence". We underline the need for a robust evidence and science based approach to tackle this challenge. Furthermore, we recall the need of aligning FAO's actions and initiatives with Codex Alimentarius's standards, guidelines and codes of practice and take note of the ongoing work of the Codex Intergovernmental Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (TFAMR).