

## 34th Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries

### ITEM 13.1

#### MANDATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM FOR FOOD AND DIGITAL AGRICULTURE

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##### CORRESPONDENCE PROCEDURE INTERVENTION BY THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION

##### *General comments:*

1. In relation to the creation of the International Platform for Food and Digital Agriculture, Argentina has expressed in numerous opportunities that it is much appreciated that FAO maintains at the core of its work programme issues related to innovation and digitalization, as reflected in the creation of the aforementioned Platform.
2. Especially in the context of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Argentina considers important to reinforce food production and distribution systems, as this will significantly contribute to avoid negative consequences on food security and nutrition.
3. This requires, among other measures, the adoption of innovative perspectives and approaches, including agriculture digitalization. These tools will allow to find solutions and alternatives that boost food productions and an increase in agricultural productivity, supporting sustainable and inclusive development and growth and offering significant opportunities to the food and agricultural sector, as evidenced by the vast experiences of our country on this matter.
4. In particular, agricultural digitalization and food systems play a central role, where having a mechanism that allows countries to share experiences, exchange information and discuss its potential effects on the sector and its populations of which depend on it, can cooperate in the development of new technologies and its dissemination. All this will operate in favour of increasing agricultural production, combating malnutrition, and achieving food security.
5. Similarly, Argentina considers that this Platform can be a tool to address the training gap that exists between small and large producers, in order that most of them are on equal conditions when taking advantage of available IT tools and instruments. In addition, focusing on facilitating the access of producers to new technologies, developing training programmes for their use and improve connectivity could be the key points on the work agenda of this Platform, which is creation and implementation is welcomed.