

## 34th Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries

### ITEM 17.1

#### Developments in fora of importance for the mandate of COFI: for information

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#### CORRESPONDENCE PROCEDURE INTERVENTION BY THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION

##### *General comments:*

1. In relation to the topics addressed in the document COFI/2020/Inf.16, our country appreciates the efforts made towards the successful holding of the 36<sup>th</sup> FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (LARC-36; 19-21 October 2020), as it constituted a forum for debate and fruitful exchange for countries of the region.
2. The rural sector of Latin America and the Caribbean plays a central role in the fight against hunger, malnutrition and poverty alleviation, and therefore, in the achievement of sustainable development. As FAO has underlined, the region contributes 14 % of world crops production, 26,5% of world bovine meat production, 23,7% of poultry and 11% of egg production. Similarly, it has indicated that fisheries in the region represents 11% of global catch and aquaculture productions amounts to 4 % of the world production.
3. These data not only show the current relevance of the region, but also confirm that this will continue to be the core of production and international trade of agricultural and food products.
4. The COVID-19 pandemic threatens to jeopardize all the work achieved thus far in the fight against hunger, where the effects of this pandemic has been added to the already existing challenges that food systems where experiences, whose impacts have deeply affected on vulnerable populations.
5. Today more than ever, the need to increase production and productivity of food systems is indispensable, and Latin America and the Caribbean will be a key region to leader the response of this crisis based on the development, and sustainable growth and inclusive of the agricultural sector.
6. For this reason, Argentina appreciates the organization of LARC, as well as the great efforts that FAO has developed since the pandemic outbreak, adapting the work methodology in order to provide continuity to its mandates and activities.