

**Written Correspondence for COFI-SCAQ from United Republic of Tanzania (URT) for 34<sup>th</sup> Session of COFI**

URT **COMMENDS** The Millennium Aquaculture Conference to be held on September 22 – 27 2021 in Shanghai – China. The conference which will review various issues pertinent in aquaculture development will also identify opportunities and challenges in order to build consensus on priorities and actions for ensuring sustainability of aquaculture. Given the importance of aquaculture in nutrition security particularly among the developing countries such as Tanzania, FAO is **URGED** to ensure adequate involvement of stakeholders in finalizing the 9 thematic papers through open consultation. Further **URGED** to collaborate with various development partners to facilitate participation of developing countries in the conference to ensure their voice and experiences are heard.

URT **COMMENDS** the setting up of a new coherent aquaculture program “Global Integrated Sustainable Aquaculture Program GISAP”. URT believes that the program will be instrumental in strengthening aquaculture extension services, in particular the dissemination of best aquaculture practices. FAO is **URGED** to ensure developing countries such as URT are involved in the process to ensure that the output is relevant to local context.

URT **SUPPORTS** the rollout of the next phase of the “Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance”. Combined efforts are necessary to control the unintended consequences of antimicrobials. URT is already implementing its National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance 2017 – 2022 and is already restricting use of antibiotics in aquaculture. URT will be adopting all relevant issues in the action plan.

URT **APPLAUDS** the “State of the World’s Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture” and efforts to prepare specific “Plan of Action for Aquatic Genetic Resources”. FAO is requested to **NOTE** that Tanzania is a hotspot for tilapia biodiversity with over 20 different species some of them being endemic. FAO is **URGED** to ensure wider involvement stakeholders during preparation of the Plan of Action in order to ensure that such genetic resources are recognized and conserved accordingly.