

## **INTERVENTION OF PERU**

### **Item 11.1: Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across fisheries and aquaculture**

#### **(DPO participation)**

Our country, as a mega-biodiverse country, strongly believes in the role that biodiversity plays in fishing and aquaculture activities, as a fundamental pillar to ensure food security, ecological functions, and the provision of services that aquatic ecosystems offer.

It is therefore that Peru recognizes FAO's work in favour of the biodiversity integration in fisheries and aquaculture in species and ecosystems issues, as well as relevant institutions and conventions, specially providing guidance to Member States on this matter.

Biodiversity contributions become more relevant since they especially support livelihoods of artisanal fishermen and fish farmers with limited resources and capacity to produce food. In this regard, we encourage FAO to continue its progress of the implementation of the FAO Strategy on biodiversity mainstreaming in the different agricultural sectors.

The implementation of the FAO Strategy for such integration, that will be consolidated with the proposed Plan of Action Project for 2021-2023, is fully consisted with the preservation of the marine and continental biodiversity and the sustainable use goals in fisheries and aquaculture that Peru is conducted.

In this respect, as an action indicator that Peru has implemented within the project objectives framework of the proposed plan, we have the subscription of the first contract for access to genetic resources for two angel shark species, which populations have significantly decreased; the creation of a rule that regulates the minimum approach distance to cetaceans when they are in feeding and nursing activities; likewise, a pilot project to mitigate the incidental capture of cetaceans is being developed, with the support of the International Whaling Commission.

Taking into account the framework established by the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the binding agreement on biodiversity signed by the Peruvian State, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered species of flora and fauna – CITES, and the Convention on Migratory Species, we have declared the giant manta ray, whale shark and sawfish as species in degree of protection, prohibiting their landing, transport, retention, transformation and merchandising.

Likewise, it is contemplated in the short-term, the elaboration of an aquatic species list under threat that allows its appropriate management according to the special conservation needs, and; in this line, recognize at ecosystem level particular and relevant ecological areas due to its ecological or special fragility.

Finally, Peru would like to encourage FAO to continue its assistance to Member States, in particular with a view to implementing measures proposed in the Action Plan for 2020-2023, which constitutes an important step in terms of preservation of resources and a better articulation of the FAO Strategy on the biodiversity mainstreaming in fisheries and aquaculture, and national plans.

Thank you