



Permanent Mission of Costa Rica
at FAO, IFAD and WFP

COFI 34

INTERVENTION OF COSTA RICA

ITEM 11 OF THE AGENDA

Addressing climate change and other environmental-related matters in fisheries and aquaculture

Mr. Chair,

Since the 1980s, Costa Rica has been making extraordinary efforts related to environmental and natural resources protection, which is why it has been internationally recognized as a green country, with public policies strongly oriented to conservation and protection of biodiversity. Today, we are heavily beating on efforts related to blue growth and economy.

Climate changes and natural **phenomena**, such as floods and tropical storms which impacts most of the times affect coastal and fishing communities, as well as activities related to fisheries and aquaculture, forces us to review and make a deep reflection on this topic.

Due to the implications that climate change is producing in marine ecosystems, abandoned or lost fishing gear, ocean waste and high levels of marine pollution caused by fuel spills, **OBGLIGATE US** to improve risk management, fishing practices, harvesting, fishery management and integrated fisheries management.

In these efforts, we have to consider the participation and contributions that young generations, women, indigenous communities, afro-descendants and fishing organisations can make. We must not forget that climate change is a topic of shared responsibility where FAO undoubtedly has to play a leading role.

Costa Rica welcomes the creation of projects and initiatives to eradicating marine litter. Among them, the GloLitter initiative stands out, with funding from Norway and the participation of FAO and IMO.

We encourage other countries and international partners to increase funds allocated to this sort of noble initiative and for the environmental benefit for the planet.

Within the environmental protection and mitigation, and climate change adaptation framework, there are important processes, such as the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, an intergovernmental group of more than 45 countries and chaired by Costa Rica and France, which defends a global agreement between nature and people that can stop the accelerating lost of species and protect them. This coalition promotes the effective protection and conservation of at least 30% of the planet (land and ocean) for 2030, effective management of protected and conserved areas, increase of public and private funding to ensure long-term management and governance.

Thank you.