

INTERVENTION OF ARGENTINA ON **ITEM 7**: “*Contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*”

First, and with regard to the 14.4 indicator, as observed regarding to what was mentioned in the document COFI/2020/y and the SOFIA Report, it is considered that this indicator should be complemented or weighted with the volume of the catches representing biologically sustainable stocks. Likewise, the indicator presents the difficulty of only considering stocks with evaluation, while it is important to also indicate the stocks that are in recovery, although they have not yet reached the limit of sustainability levels.

In relation to Point 22 – fisheries subsidies; Argentina has significantly worked to promote the establishment of disciplines to eliminate fisheries subsidies within the WTO framework, presenting proposals at regional level, and also in collaboration with countries outside the region. Moreover, our country welcomes and appreciates the technical support and advice provided by FAO in the negotiations on fisheries subsidies in the WTO, and hopes that an agreement can be reached soon.

Regarding fisheries, aquaculture and nutrition, it is worth mentioning that the fish consumption in Argentina is among the lowest in the region. The National Government has established a Federal promotional Campaign for the consumption of fish and fish products in Argentina: “*sabores que te hacen bien*” under the slogan #el19comepescado, to have at least one day a month as a special day for the consumption of fishery and aquaculture products. It is intended the organization of events and the dissemination of the benefits of fish consumption in social networks and mass media. Also, strategic partnerships were generated with various public bodies, business chambers, fishermen’s associations, universities and research institutions,

fishmongers and gastronomic associations, among others. We invite you to visit our website of the Subsecretaría de Pesca (Undersecretariat of Fisheries)

With regard to the recommendation included in the document COFI/2020/Inf.11.2. related to food losses and waste, it is recalled that the length of the chains is not necessarily a factor but rather depends on the good practices that are applied (or not). Therefore, it is suggested **to encourage the strengthening of all chains, regardless of its length**, in order to also foster production and supply of healthy and nutritious food from remote areas of the main consumption centers.

On the other hand, although our country is interested in the nutrition improvements, it should be recalled that any trade measure, whether in the form of an import restriction, a tariff increase, the establishment of quotas or sanitary measures, must be compatible with the WTO rules. Such measures should not be applied in a way that constitute a means of arbitrary discrimination nor unjustifiable nor a disguised restriction on international trade. In particular, sanitary measures should comply with the provisions of the WTO “Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures”, based on scientific evidence and not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between Members where identical conditions prevail. Moreover, it should be recalled that the changes in bound tariff rates must respect the established procedures of the “Modification in the schedules” in the GATT Agreement.

Finally, we are pleased to announce the recent incorporation to the research fleet of the National Institute for Fisheries Research and Development (INIDEP), and advisory body to the Federal Fisheries Council, of two research vessels, B/I VICTOR ANGELESCU y B/I MAR ARGENTINO, which have the latest regeneration equipment that will allow

not only to deepen the biological knowledge of fishery resources, but also to collect information on the environment for a better understanding of the climate change effects.