

Agenda Item 12 Enhancing COFI discussions on fisheries management: Proposal for a new COFI Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management

This statement is on behalf of the Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF) and The Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew).

EJF and Pew recognize the vital role that this Committee plays in noting developments in the fields of fisheries management, aquaculture and fish trade and considering new initiatives in each of those areas.

Of these areas, fisheries management alone is lacking a mechanism that allows significant intersessional work to be carried out, for digested information and positions to be put forward to the COFI plenary. EJF and Pew strongly support the further development of the proposal for a new Sub-Committee that would allow for these intersessional discussions on fisheries issues.

If COFI is not ready to endorse the Sub-Committee at this session, we would encourage the establishment of an ad hoc working group, or groups, to begin to carry out this important work at technical level in the interim.