

FAO RESPONSE

FAO congratulates the Government of the United Mexican States for the launch of the Sectoral Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development 2020-2024 that includes policies for the agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries sectors and for the achievement of food self-sufficiency to ensure the right to nutritious, sufficient and quality food that will be based on instruments such as the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture.

FAO appreciates that Mexico's national public policies to strengthen the national aquaculture sector to contribute to food security, health and well-being of the Mexican people through responsible and competitive production, decent work and national economic growth will be supported by implementing guidelines and efforts by FAO, as well as the by ties generated within the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture.

The FAO Secretariat notes that Mexico approves the Report of the 10th Session of the COFI Aquaculture Sub-Committee.

FAO welcomes Mexico's recognition of the joint efforts by FAO, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China, the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and the Pacific, in the preparation of the Global Conference on Aquaculture, 22-27 September 2021 in Shanghai, China.

FAO recognizes that Mexico expects the envisaged Shanghai Declaration to emphasize the principles and strategic pathways to maximizing sustainable aquaculture in line with the UN SDGs as well as the development of the FAO Global Integrated Programme on Aquaculture Sustainability (GISAP) and its future adoption.

FAO appreciates Mexico's recognition of FAO's efforts in the development of GISAP, which will facilitate innovation and integration by addressing policy needs, training, financial incentives, extension, genetic improvement, disease prevention and control, among others, through the preparation and implementation of technical guidelines on sustainable aquaculture development, as well as interregional collaboration, under FAO's overall mandate to achieve a world without hunger, malnutrition and poverty.

FAO notes and welcomes Mexico's emphasis and priority on:

- the development of a long-term programme on biosecurity in aquaculture;
- the proposal for the 2021-25 Antimicrobial Resistance Action Plan;
- its collaboration through a National Focal Point in the development of the draft "Global Action Plan for Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture".

FAO warmly welcomes and appreciates Mexico's offer to FAO's Director-General to host the 11th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, to be held from 15 to 18 November 2021 in the City of Mérida, Yucatán.