

**Item 6. Supporting small-scale and artisanal fisheries, including in the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) (COFI/2022/4, COFI/2022/4.1, COFI/2022/INF/9)**

Mr. Chair,

Brazil would like to express our satisfaction with FAO actions underpinned by the SSF Guidelines.

For instance, Brazil's country-specific version of the "Illuminating Hidden Harvests" study has shown the contribution of the SSF Guidelines to sustainable development, and we therefore look forward to the full research findings of this initiative.

We would also welcome enhanced engagement with FAO in two important areas:

Firstly, the generation of data on SSF, including on monitoring of landings of artisanal marine and continental fisheries; and

Secondly, the continuation and the strengthening of projects and programs based on the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) methodology, which had, in Brazil, the FAO REBYC II-LAC as a flagship experience.

With regard to the International Year of Small-Scale Fisheries and Aquaculture, Brazil believes that the increased visibility offered by this initiative can be used to reinforce the social, economic, environmental and cultural dimensions of small-scale production in developing countries.

We welcome, in particular, the series of webinars held in some South American countries in partnership with FAO, to discuss issues such as production and marketing, as well as productive inclusion. We also welcome the participation of Brazilian artisanal fisheries associations in the creation of the Iberoamerican Small-Scale Artisanal Fishing Network.

In Brazil, artisanal fisheries have a special social relevance, as a means of subsistence and source of food and nutrition for a significant share of our population.

Among recent national measures to strengthen this sector, it is worth mentioning the modernization of the national fishers' registration system and the regulation of several artisanal activities, as part of our effort to establish an adequate national framework for the sustainable development of small-scale and artisanal fisheries.

Finally, our 10-year National Plan for the Development of Aquaculture (2022-2031), which was elaborated in cooperation with FAO, constitutes a priority in our agenda, with particular focus on production by small-scale producers.

Thank you.