

Item 9. Addressing climate change in fisheries and aquaculture: reporting on progress and Action Plan for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 (COFI/2022/7, COFI/2022/INF/11)

Mr. Chair,

Brazil would like to commend FAO for the work carried out on climate change, during the intersessional period, and highlight FAO's role in supporting members to effectively mitigate climate change and adapt to its impacts on fisheries, aquaculture and aquatic ecosystems.

Noting that climate considerations and related measures remain largely missing from existing national fisheries and aquaculture management policies, especially in developing countries, the discussion document shows that urgent action is needed to improve the understanding of climate change causes, impacts and risks.

Designing efficient strategies for climate adaptation and mitigation actions in these sectors require the availability of corresponding resources. In Sharm el-Sheikh, during COP-27, we will have the opportunity to send clear and ambitious signals to the world about our commitment to deliver our climate plans, in particular with regard to access to means of implementation by developing countries.

All members of this Committee need to assess the specificities and challenges related to fisheries, aquaculture and aquatic ecosystems, in order to provide guidance on specific mitigation and adaptation strategies, as well as to help mobilize new and additional resources to allow for urgent action in developing countries.

With regard to paragraph 24 of document COFI/2022/7, we would appreciate clarification on the envisaged participation of members in the process of designing priority actions on climate resilient fisheries and aquaculture. Our main concern has to do with the alignment of these actions with the Blue Transformation roadmap, considering its non-negotiated nature.

Finally, Brazil reiterates comments previously made on the draft Action Plan, including those already transmitted to the Office of Climate Change. In particular, we request more information on the means of implementation that will ensure the achievement of the proposed outcomes and outputs, especially those concerning access to climate financing, capacity development and the adoption of good practices and innovations by developing countries.

Thank you.