Canada would like to thank the Chair and Secretariat for the thorough and transparent consultation process, and Canada supports the proposal of the Open-ended Working Group to establish a new Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management. Given our increasing time constraints, Canada sees the new subcmt as a much needed forum to enable COFI members to have a dialogue and address fisheries issues in a more substantive way.

Canada supports providing more opportunities for dynamic, broad, and in-depth discussions of capture fisheries. As we move forward, we will continue to work with our partners to ensure that its format allows for dialogue and exchange among delegations of best practices, lessons learned, etc.

Canada, like others, believes this Sub-Committee needs to prioritize pertinent, time-sensitive issues, with targeted discussions on:
- SSF
- combating illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing,
- guiding the mainstreaming of biodiversity efforts across fisheries, including the identification and implementation of other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs), and on
- incorporating climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies into FAO policies and programming.

Chair we heard from the floor concerns from some delegations with regard to potential resource implications, and this was a central point of discussion of the Open-ended Working Group. In order to avoid a resource burden the proposal thus outlines:
- a rotating nature of the sub-cmt meetings,
  limiting the number of in-person meetings intersessionally
- and it is clear that meetings are conditional on adequate financing, and Canada would like to note and welcome the generous offers we have already heard here today Chair.

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