

FAO COFI 2022
Statement of Iceland under agenda item 8

Mr Chair

Iceland supports the establishment of the Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management, and support the suggested way forward as proposed by the working-group.

We would like to emphasise that to serve its purpose the Sub-Committee must be a forum for open and interactive discussions and not simply a series of monologues with pre-written intervention where there is little or no time to react to the intervention of others.

Iceland feels that the Sub-Committee constitutes an opportunity to share information on the latest developments in fisheries management, learn from each other's experience and get ideas for things to try to emulate and things to avoid. In addition to the Sub-Committee bringing issues to COFI, Iceland therefore sees the dialogue itself within the Sub-Committee as an important aspect on its own.

Iceland feels that we need to take great care in the arrangements for the Sub-Committee to ensure that its establishment is a success. This includes making sure that the issues that the Sub-Committee will address are carefully selected. There must not be too many issues and the issues for each meeting must together balance various factors, such as regional balance, relevance for developing and developed fisheries management systems as well as small-scale and large-scale fisheries.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.