

35th SESSION OF FAO COFI

INDONESIA'S INTERVENTION ON AGENDA 6 Supporting small-scale and artisanal fisheries, including in the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA)

Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

As we are now celebrating the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, IYAFA, Indonesia encourages everyone to strengthen dialogue, collaboration, and partnership to support the role of small-scale artisanal fisheries and aquaculture workers as one of the backbones for food security, poverty alleviation, and hunger eradication. The small-scale producers face daily challenges that we can no longer ignore, such as environmental degradation, IUU fishing, unnecessary trade barriers, or lack of capacity and access to market.

Representing Asia, Indonesia is a Member of the International Steering Committee (ISC) of IYAFA under Peru's leadership. But for Indonesia, celebrating IYAFA is not a one-time event since we need to continuously produce sustainable policies to protect and empower our small-scale fishers and fish farmers.

In our part, we have developed a strategy for the implementation of the blue economic policy that is based on programs which involves fishers as part of the marine and fisheries community in its implementations.

In this regard, Indonesia has taken a series of action on the ground, such as:

- Expansion of conservation areas with a target of 30% of Indonesia's territorial waters by prioritizing the quality of the conservation area. The Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries also involves fishers to assist the government, with compensation, in guarding the conservation areas and protecting the coastal ecosystem.
- A quota-based captured fisheries policy and the establishment of conservation areas in six fish capture zones. Fishers can also contribute to this quota-based captured fisheries policy; the fishers will be allocated a quota of 35% of the total quotas issued by the government.
- The Ministry supports small-scale fishers in the quota-based captured fisheries policy by providing assistance in the form of creating 2,451 Joint Business Groups or *Kelompok Usaha Bersama* (KUB), giving assistance in insurance to 1.198.177 fishers between 2016 and 2022 with a total claim of 410 billion Rupiah, and facilitating 427.652 fishers in acquiring insurance through state-owned companies. The Ministry is targeting the completion of refurbishment efforts in 120 villages through improvements in infrastructure, such as fixing of public facilities, renovation of fishermen houses, training in the maintenance of ships, competence training for fishermen, and diversification of business efforts for female fishers.

- Maintaining the carrying capacity of the environment by implementing environmentally friendly aquaculture practices for marine, coastal, and inland aquaculture to increase the production of fish for export or domestic markets. By developing aquaculture villages, we aim to strengthen the economic resilience of communities and of small-scale aquaculture farmers, while at the same time, supporting development in various regions.
- Marine spatial management to protect the coastal and marine ecosystem. The utilization of marine areas must be conducted accordingly based on appropriate designated marine areas, its carrying capacity, and mitigation of its impacts.
- “Bulan Cinta Laut” or the “Ocean Care Month” program. It is a program in which fishers collect and gather garbage from the ocean or the coastal areas within one month in a single year, instead of catching fish.

Under this agenda item, Indonesia also expresses its appreciation for the great work made by the IYAFSA Secretariat for the past year in devising a comprehensive plan to promote IYAFSA and in making sure that all important stakeholders are included.

Indonesia also encourages the FAO to develop a regional strategy that pushes for the implementation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Small-scale Fisheries and encourage the FAO along with ASEAN to create joint agreements or initiatives and events on small-scale aquaculture in the ASEAN region.

Thank you.