

## **5. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The Republic of Korea deeply recognizes the importance of the role taken by fisheries and aquaculture sector in achieving the SDGs, thus conveys its sincere appreciation to the efforts made by FAO as the custodian of SDG 14 indicators.

I would also like to highlight that the indicator 14.6.1 and b.1 have improved and are now very close to achieving their targets. Korea also takes measures to get the indicators achieving the target, such as implementing PSMA and providing ODA to artisanal fisheries.

Meanwhile, as cited in this working document, Korea fully relates to the point that the difficulty for data collection and capacity gap among countries make it difficult to track the trends in indicators. In this sense, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to FAO for hosting a various set of work-shops and establishing Multi-Donor Umbrella Programme to fully address the above-mentioned matter.

Under its adoption at the UN General Assembly in 2015, SDGs have served as the standards to countries and international organizations for their strategies towards inclusive and sustainable growth.

The SDGS sets out a detailed timeline of 2030 to achieve, yet the ultimate spirit of the SDGs, in particular, fairness, mainstreaming sustainability and consideration of the socially vulnerable should be built on beyond the due date.

The 2030 Agenda will play an important role in rebuilding fisheries and aquaculture sector which had been undermined due to the COVID pandemic.

Korea also makes an effort to develop a sustainable fisheries system. The Korea government looks much forward to achieving the SDGs through closely cooperating with FAO and the Member states.

## **6. Supporting small-scale and artisanal fisheries, including in the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) /**

Republic of Korea would like to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to FAO for highlighting the importance of small-scale and artisanal fisheries by improving and supporting the SSF Guidelines.

Korea rates highly the FAO activities through the 'Fisheries Co-management Capacity Development Program'. This is one of the *Korea- FAO Sustainable and Innovative Fisheries and Aquaculture Programme*.

Republic of Korea has provided financial support for five years since 2020 to assist Members establish fisheries co-management systems and to provide capacity building programmes for relevant stakeholders at different levels.

And FAO Virtual Workshop was held twice to establish a guidebook, which is designed to evaluate the fisheries co-management.

Knowledge products such as its handbook, toolbox and e-learning courses will be produced within the next two months. Such knowledge products will be launched at upcoming FAO's inter-regional workshop on fisheries co-management. The workshop is scheduled to open in Korea this November.

I would like to share with you that the Republic of Korea keeps exploring various ways to support small-scale and artisanal fisheries.

On behalf of the Republic of Korea, I would like to extend my congratulations on marking 2022 International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture. The High level Special Event on the IYAFA was a great platform to share the lessons of artisanal fisheries with member states.

Small-scale and artisanal fisheries are indispensable to achieving stable food security and sustainable development.

And for making a better life for fishers and women across the globe, Korea will closely cooperate with FAO and the Member states in the field of small-scale and artisanal fisheries.

## **7. Combatting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing**

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

And thanks Mr. Matthew Camilleri for providing an organized summary on the FAO's recent work in combatting IUU fishing.

As well demonstrated on the international community's firm commitments, in particular the SDG 14, IUU fishing is one of the most fatal threats that the world is now facing.

The international community is making every effort to eradicate IUU fishing. And the importance of the PSMA has become more noticeable year after year since PSMA was adopted. It is the most effectively binding international instrument, specifically targeting IUU fishing.

In this regard, the Republic of Korea has implemented the port state measures to the fullest, since its ratification of PSMA in 2016. Also, Korea has strongly been supportive of PSMA capacity building programme because the successful enforcement of PSMA depends on each Member state. As noted by the report, this programme has been very successful in providing technical assistance to developing states.

The Republic of Korea also highly rates the recent achievements in Global Record, Global Information Exchange System, and Transshipment. Such tools will certainly enable PSMA to be implemented without loopholes to control and monitor IUU fishing vessels. Korea has provided information to the Global Record on a regular basis and would like to endorse the Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment.

In July, the PSMA regional coordination meeting for Asia was held in Korea. This meeting was very helpful to identify the obstacles and to try to solve them for the better PSMA enforcement. Participants commonly emphasized that information exchange and knowledge sharing are absolutely necessary and they raised the subject of education and training for the PSMA Inspectors. Republic of Korea fully agrees and requests FAO and members to work together

to find out solutions to those challenges as soon as possible.

Again, I would like to pay my tribute to efforts made by FAO to combat IUU fishing, especially to the *Global and Regional Processes Team*. The team's leadership is excellent.