Our delegation wishes to thank the Secretariat for the update and reference document on the State of world fisheries and aquaculture and progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the related instruments.

The Philippines would like to point out its observation from the Report, that merely 50% of the Member Countries participated in the recent edition of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and Related Instruments Survey. In view of promoting participation in this important exercise, the Philippines recommends that the Committee, through its Fisheries Officers, provide a contextual analysis of the Member Country’s submission relative to the synthesis of observations from the geographic region it belongs. This kind of technical assistance from FAO will provide both the participating Member Countries and respective FAO Country/Regional Office in identifying trajectories for improvements and future engagements for the sector.

Furthermore, the Philippines believes that the mode of this proposed technical assistance can be implemented via virtual platforms.

The Philippines perceives this approach will tremendously add value to the regular CCRF Survey exercises.

Thank you.