

PHILIPPINE INTERVENTION

Agenda Item 9: Addressing climate change in fisheries and aquaculture
35th Session, FAO Committee on Fisheries
5-9 September 2022

Our delegation wishes to thank the Secretariat for the update and reference document on the noteworthy projects spearheaded by FAO in addressing climate change in the fisheries and the aquaculture sector, including the substantive FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031.

The Philippines deeply appreciates FAO for championing the cause of fisheries and aquaculture among key scientific bodies and various global partnerships fora on climate change.

The Philippines recommends that the Committee spearheads programs on climate actions that will lead to a new wave of market-creating innovations for a climate-resilient, low-carbon aquaculture, and fishery sector. The current state of knowledge informs us that aquatic systems hold vast potential for “natural solutions” in adapting to and mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change. As such, attaining relevant SDGs while addressing climate change is doable with the innovations that create markets and support resilient livelihood and enterprises of fishers.

The Philippines commends the Committee for developing a holistic and robust FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031, with its three (3) Pillars that elaborate clear desired outputs and outcomes from the ground up to the global arena of climate action. The Committee also ensures that FAO’s Program of Work in Fisheries and Aquaculture is aligned with its Climate Change Strategy.

Furthermore, the Philippines highly appreciates the work of FAO in the Philippines and in many other countries on the various themes of climate change resiliency in fisheries and aquaculture. Finally, the Philippines recommends for the Committee to continue the work of developing and disseminating knowledge, tools, innovative practices, and among others, shepherding project development in partnership with global stakeholders, in view of thriving and flourishing fishery sector amidst the challenge of climate change.

Thank you.