Statement Switzerland agenda item 5

In parallel to the efforts made by the FAO, we wish to refer to the recently adopted WTO agreement on fisheries subsidies in June this year during the 12th WTO ministerial conference.

This positive outcome directly contributes to achieving the SDGs, since the underlying negotiation has been concluded following a mandate directly given by target 14.6.

In conjunction to agenda item 7, the agreement on fisheries subsidies is a key contribution to our common fight against IUU fishing. Indeed, the agreement contains strong legally binding disciplines that prohibit subsidies to vessels or operators engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of IUU fishing.

We recall the importance of this achievement and the need for WTO Members to ratify this agreement as soon as feasible.