

15- 18 January 2024

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

First Session 15-18 January 2024

**STATEMENT ON ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING IN
THE CONTEXT OF EFFECTIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**

Dear Chairperson,

Thank you!

For providing me the floor and we congratulate you for being elected as a chairperson of the group.

Dear chair person , ladies and gentlemen,

Eritrea appreciates FAO Fisheries & Aquaculture Division for the active participation and commends the secretariat & subcommittee on fisheries and management for providing all the necessary documents and preparing this important meeting.

Dear chairperson,

The issue of handling illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing is pertinent in enhancing fishery management. Addressing IUU fishing in all types of fisheries, including small scale fisheries is crucial at national, regional, and global levels to reach effective fisheries management and to achieve food security and nutrition. A lot of progress has been achieved by FAO in developing methodologies and indicators for the impact of IUU fishing, which are important in monitoring, controlling, surveillance, and enforcement in fisheries management.

Dear Chairperson,

Though, progress has been made in implementing the agreement to combat IUU still there are remaining challenges, in developing countries due to lack of

capacity, insufficient instruments, insufficient human resources etc. particularly in the new countries to the agreement like The State of Eritrea. To that extent not applying properly the issue of fishery it impacts sustainable resource, undermine the integrity of ecosystems and economies, harm livelihoods that depend on fisheries, and hinders to achieve food security and nutrition particularly Sustainable Development Goals.

Therefore, to strengthen the capacity for developing countries and particularly for the new countries like the State of Eritrea to implement the agreement and achieve the goals is pertinent. Hence, at present FAO needs to respond to the new requests from the developing states, which are not yet supported by the programme including the State of Eritrea. Of course, this could be achieved though upgrading the trust fund and pledges particularly from the developed countries and parties.

Mr. Chairperson,

Eritrea appreciates and underlines the valuable input of FAO and Fisheries & Aquaculture Division in solving the challenges in global port state measurement agreement in developing countries and requests for further support.

Thank you!

Asmerom Kidane

State of Eritrea