

Statement of the Republic of the Philippines  
1 st Session of the FAO COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES SUB-COMMITTEE ON  
FISHERIES MANAGEMENT (COFI-SCFM1)  
17 January 2024

**Agenda Item 4. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Fisheries Management in the context of Kunming – Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

The Philippines wishes to thank the Chair for the opportunity to speak regarding our views on mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries management.

The Philippines hereby notes the broad focus of the four goals and 23 targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Kunming – Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework that are well aligned with policy actions articulated in the FAO 'Strategy on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agricultural Sectors' and the requirements and interests of fisheries and fisheries management.

The Philippines, as a Party to the CBD, supports its biodiversity mainstreaming agenda. At present, we are currently updating the Philippine Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan to include the targets in the Kunming – Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. On this note, we are recommending to include other temporal and spatial management measures as criteria in designating other effective area based conservation measures (OECMs). Further, we would like to seek support from FAO, in conducting our national consultations for updating the said action plan.

Recognizing the importance of engaging all sectors, including government, businesses, and civil society, the Philippines recommends to explore opportunities for collaboration and complementation among these sectors, taking into account different situations, capacities and contexts. Further, biodiversity conservation should be a financially sustainable effort. It is important to explore ways to finance conservation activities, such as through government funding, international collaboration, and corporate social responsibility programs.

The Philippines also welcomes FAO progress on the implementation of the activities in response to the recommendations of COFI35, and on biodiversity mainstreaming

in FAO (FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and Action Plans).

Thank you.