

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 5. Climate Resilient Fisheries**

Our delegation appreciates the updates of the FAO in supporting Member countries in integrating climate resiliency in fisheries management.

The Philippines promotes sustainable management of coastal and offshore fisheries as a holistic approach for resilient fishing communities. The fisheries and aquaculture components have already been integrated in the 2023-2050 National Adaptation Plan which seeks to reduce climate-related losses and damages and to build adaptive capacity towards transformative resilience and sustainable socioeconomic development by 2050. We have developed disaster-specific Action Plans which include prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and rehabilitation and recovery strategies.

We recognize that it is important to apply the resilience lens in fisheries management. Understanding climate risks and impacts on fisheries is very important to develop appropriate strategies. These strategies need integration across sectors, recognizing the interconnected nature of climate change effects on fisheries and the need for coordinated and gender-sensitive responses to enhance the resilience of socioeconomic systems in the face of climate-related challenges.

We recommend enhancing the community engagement and education programs to raise awareness on climate change, increase investment in sustainable technologies, collaboration with local and international organizations for shared resources and expertise, and to develop more robust policies promoting environmental conservation and climate resilience.

Lastly, we believe that prioritizing research and innovation to address emerging challenges and regularly reassessing and updating strategies based on evolving climate science can contribute to a more effective and adaptable approach.

Thank you.

