



SIXTH REGULAR SESSION
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INDONESIA - STATEMENT

WCPFC6-2009/DP38
10 December 2009

Submitted by Indonesia

Mr. Chairman

Distinguished delegates

In this important moment, please allow me on behalf of Indonesian delegation to convey our highest gratitude and appreciation to the Government of French Polynesia for warm and hospitable hosting of this event. Our sincere esteem also be extended to the Secretariat for their excellent job in organizing this meeting.

Mr. Chairman

Indonesia government attaches great importance on the conservation measures to manage sustainable use of fisheries resources in waters within their national and regional jurisdiction respectively. In the national level, Indonesia through Act No. 21 of 2009 has ratified the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 192 Relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks. This regulation was issued as the Government's concerns and commitment of long-term conservation and sustainable use of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, as the effective implementation of UNCLOS 1982

In the regional level, Indonesia is the member of two RFMOs, namely Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). Indonesia was also actively taking role in the establishment of Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention (WCPFC), ever since the Honolulu Convention was adopted in 2000. In fact, Indonesia also signed the Convention on 31 August 2001 and hosted the 6th preparatory conference in Bali on April 2004 in advance of its entering into force on 19 June 2004.

Together with 10 countries in the region, Indonesia initiated also the Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the South-East Asia Region, which aims inter alia to build common perception and commitment in reducing illegal fishing in the region.

In view of the above, Indonesia's commitment to implement sustainable fisheries management as well as combating IUU Fishing practices, has been made and vigorously preserved and implemented.

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates

In relation to the current status as cooperating non member in WCPFC, we kindly inform you that we are actually encountering delicate problem with the Convention Area as provided in Article 3 of the Convention. The Convention Area concerned does not determined the western boundary of the area, hence according to our national sovereignty and sovereign right, the Convention Area shall need to be clarified to be consistent with the objective of the cooperation and approach to different area. The undetermined western boundary of the area under the current Article 3, in turn will adversely affect Indonesia's sovereignty and sovereign right, since the competence of the Commission will extend to Indonesia's archipelagic water.

Mr. Chairman

It is true that at the previous Fifth Regular Session held in Busan, Korea on 8-12 December 2008, the Commission has made clarification regarding western boundary of the Convention (CMM 2008-01). In the preamble of the resolution, it recalled the final statement of the Chairman of the Multilateral High Level Conferences in 2000 that "It is important to clarify, however, that the Convention applies to the waters of the Pacific Ocean. In particular, the western side of the Convention Area is not intended to include waters of South-East Asia which are not part of the Pacific Ocean, nor is it intended to include waters of the South China Sea as this would involve States which are not participants in the Conference" (Summary Report of the Fifth Regular Session of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, Busan, Korea, 8-12 December 2008, P. 115).

We welcome the progress of clarification of the Convention Area as provided in Article 3 of the Convention, especially on the western part of the Convention Area. However, on this opportunity, we are need to be assisted by the Chairman regarding the status of the resolution so as to make the Article 3 clearer.

My delegation requests that this statement to be inserted and distributed as official document of the meeting.

I thank you.