



الكنفدرالية الوطنية للصيد التقليدي بالمغرب
CONFEDERATION NATIONALE DE LA PECHE ARTISANALE AU MAROC



FPAOI

Fédération des Pêcheurs Artisans
de l'Océan Indien

اليوم العالمي للصيد البحري

Journée Mondiale de la Pêche 2015

World Fisheries Day 2015

Dia Mundial da Pesca 2015

AGADIR-IMI OUADDAR

Royaume du Maroc

Déclaration – Statement – بيان – Declaração

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- Whereas, at the global level, 10% of people engaged in fishing and aquaculture are located in Africa, which is therefore the second continent, after Asia, in terms of jobs offered by this sector;
- Whereas more than 80% of the 12.3 million people are in the artisanal fishing sub-sector, providing income and livelihoods to millions of families in Africa;
- Considering that the contribution of fisheries to the Gross Domestic Product of all African countries reached 1.910.000 million, with a contribution of maritime and continental small-scale fisheries which represents more than half of this figure;
- Whereas in Africa, for more than 200 million people, fish is a source of protein and essential nutrients (fatty acids, vitamins, minerals) at low prices. Fish provides on average 22% of the protein intake in sub-Saharan Africa. However, in the poorest African countries, this rate can exceed 50%. In most African regions, capture and trade by maritime and continental artisanal fishing sector offers a 'food security net' to the poorest populations;
- Considering the importance of women in African small-scale fisheries, and highlighting they are active at all stages of the value chain: pre-financing and preparation of fishing trips, fish collecting, processing and marketing;

- Whereas professional women in small-scale fisheries are also the pillar of the family in African small-scale fishing communities, in charge of the children's education as well as household management;
- Considering positively the potential of development of small scale aquaculture in Africa, whose development is not based on the production of fishmeal, which takes place at the expense of the artisanal small pelagics fisheries, adversely affecting food security;
- Considering the bad governance in fisheries which affects most of the African countries, and the recommendation from the first Conference of African Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers, in 2010, so that the Member States of the African Union should consider reforming their fisheries and aquaculture policies;
- Whereas the reform strategy being developed by the African Union identifies as one of the main objectives for the development of fisheries in Africa 'the development of sustainable small-scale fisheries by improving and enhancing the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, and the improvement of the socio - economic benefits to fishing communities'.
- Considering the growing recognition by the international community of the importance of small-scale fisheries maritime and continental, especially in the Declaration of the Conference of the United Nations on sustainable development in 2012 (Rio + 20): "The future we want", and the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security;
- Considering that the greater recognition of the importance of small-scale fisheries was obtained with the adoption, in 2014, after a participatory process, of the Voluntary Guidelines to ensure the sustainability of the artisanal fisheries in the context of food security and eradicating of poverty;

- Stressing that those guidelines seek to enhance the contribution of maritime and inland small-scale fisheries to food security and nutrition. They are intended to promote and improve equitable development and to improve the socio-economic situation of men and women from small-scale fishing communities and the sustainable and responsible fisheries management. Finally, they integrate in their approach to the risks associated with climate change;

We, men and women professionals from the artisanal maritime and continental fisheries, representing professional artisanal fisheries organisations from Morocco, Tunisia, Mauritania, Senegal, The Gambia, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Seychelles, Comoros, Libya, Algeria,

United in the African Confederation of Artisanal Fisheries Professional organizations - CAOPA, of the Federation of Artisanal fishers in the Indian Ocean - FPAOI, and the Maghreb platform of artisanal fisheries,

Believe that today, the active involvement of the African Union and its members, as well as all stakeholders, is necessary to implement, in a participative manner, the international guidelines aimed at promoting sustainable artisanal fisheries in Africa;

We therefore demand that the African Union declares an **African Year of Artisanal Fisheries** with the objective of promoting the implementation of international guidelines for sustainable artisanal fisheries at Pan-African level,

in collaboration with all stakeholders, at the forefront of which our States, regional organizations dealing with fisheries, the development partners, professional organisations bringing together men and women who depend on fishing for their livelihoods, and the civil society organisations.