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New York Agreement
“CLIMATE RESILIENT FISHING”

Chile recognizes that climate change is an ongoing process that is affecting our planet, the increase in temperature, the decrease in dissolved oxygen and the acidification of seawater, as well as the intensification of extreme events such as storm surges and El Niño, all these phenomena are examples of threats to these ecosystems and the services they generate.

That is why it is vitally important to highlight the climate system and to call on every country to work together to generate conditions that strengthen the resilience of fishing activity and of communities that depend on the services provided by marine ecosystems.

Highlight that fishing and aquaculture will have to face risks of: lower landings, appearance of new fishing resources, geographical displacements or lower harvests in farming centers. In this scenario, the most vulnerable sectors are the coastal communities associated with artisanal fisheries and small-scale aquaculture.

Due to the geographical, oceanographic and demographic characteristics of Chilean territory, Chile is a country highly vulnerable to environmental changes and we are already experiencing their effects on the distribution and abundance of fisheries. For this reason, we express once again our commitment to the fight against climate change and the loss of biodiversity, intrinsically related aspects, and we reaffirm the importance of continuing to develop tools that contribute to increasing the adaptive capacity of the fishing sector.

Within these effects, climate change may produce a greater intensity and frequency of climate phenomena with impacts on fisheries, such as ENSO (El Niño/La Niña), leading to catastrophic socioeconomic effects on coastal communities that affect food security and sustainable development.

Therefore, Chile is today developing a comprehensive policy on climate change, which considers strengthening scientific research and its link with traditional knowledge, developing legislative reforms and creating new institutions and infrastructure to reduce our levels of vulnerability and catalyze adaptation to ongoing environmental changes.

Specifically, in terms of fishing and in line with this scenario of regulatory modernization, the Government has recently submitted to the Congress of the republic a new law on fisheries, which address this urgency and incorporates a reinforcement of the ecosystem approach, sustainable fisheries management, as well as the necessary synergy that must exist between scientifically based decisions and a holistic and adaptive approach.

Finally, Chile wants to highlight the value of the actions recommended by FAO: such as the development and implementation of plans that minimize the risk of catastrophes, construction of climate-resilient infrastructure, meteorological monitoring at the meso- and micro-scale,

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promotion of the application of safety standards and improvement of monitoring and early warning systems.

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