

Noumea, 21 September 2021

Name of organization: The Pacific Community (SPC)

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Region: The Pacific region

The Pacific Community (SPC) wishes to express its sincere gratitude to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) for the accomplishment of integrating the Shanghai Declaration: Aquaculture for food and sustainable development, which will guide the vision for aquaculture over the next decade.

SPC as a participant of the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20 supports the common vision for an aquaculture that leads the way towards more productive, resilient, climate smart and socially responsible food systems, fulfils its potential to meet the increasing demand for safe, healthy, and affordable aquatic food and aquatic products, with reduced impacts on the global environment.

We support the overarching commitments included in the call for action to help achieve the vision of the Shanghai Declaration. We uphold the principle of **good aquaculture governance** that involves broad stakeholder engagements from across various disciplines and sectors and support strengthening of capacities of public institutions of our members in the area of policies and legal frameworks. SPC implements a regional framework on aquatic biosecurity that promotes best practices and strengthens capacity of its members in risk management in aquaculture.

We uphold **responsible aquaculture development** that promotes the dimensions of sustainability and recognising social dimensions through our work. SPC actively carry out its work in its members under the guidance of its social, environmental responsibility (SER) policy. People centred approaches for equity and human rights are emerging areas throughout the aquaculture value-chain that SPC recognises and is working with its members in advocating across our work. SPC is currently undertaking a regional assessment on current and future priorities of aquaculture that would result in the development of a new regional aquaculture strategy for the Pacific.

We believe in the **strengthening of partnerships** to generate and share knowledge, information and technology across the regions that would help achieve the vision of the Shanghai Declaration and have engaged our members in partnership arrangements such as the south-south cooperation in capacity building assistance in aquaculture.

At SPC we recognise the need that **investment in aquaculture innovation, research and development** be aligned, prioritized, and enhanced and targeted towards measurable improvement in aquaculture performance and have continued to support our members through strengthening their national priorities and needs in aquaculture and strengthening partnerships such as public/private partnerships and community/private partnerships targeted at new areas for research and development.

We believe very strongly on being **open, transparent, and communicating** our work about sustainable aquaculture and strengthened our capacity in this area through our in-house communication capacity and a dedicated Fisheries Information Unit to help communicate our work to our members, stakeholders and partners.

We wish the participants of the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium +20 a successful meeting.

Thank you.

Robert Jimmy

Head of Aquaculture Programme

Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems