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Voluntary questionnaire for States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements for the report of the Secretary-General to the resumed Review Conference on the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (Please return by 15 October 2022)

Explanatory note

In accordance with article 36 of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement), a Review Conference on the Agreement was convened by the Secretary-General in 2006. The Review Conference was mandated to review and assess the adequacy of the provisions of the Agreement and, if necessary, propose means of strengthening the substance and methods of implementation of those provisions in order better to address any continuing problems in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.

In 2006, the Review Conference addressed ways to give full effect to the Agreement, both through a substantive review and assessment of the Agreement and by agreeing on recommendations for strengthening the implementation of its provisions. The Review Conference also agreed to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not later than 2011. In 2010, the resumed Review Conference agreed on further recommendations and to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not earlier than 2015. Pursuant to a decision taken at the Informal Consultations of States Parties to the Agreement, as also reflected in resolution 70/75, the Review Conference was again resumed in 2016, resulting in further recommendations and a decision to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not earlier than 2020.

The General Assembly, in its resolution 75/89 of 8 December 2020, requested the Secretary-General to resume the Review Conference, convened pursuant to article 36 of the Agreement, in New York for one week in the first part of 2022, with a view to assessing the effectiveness of the Agreement in securing the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks. It further recalled its request to the Secretary-General, in paragraph 60 of resolution 74/18 of 10 December 2019, to submit to the resumed Review Conference an updated report, prepared in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to assist the Conference in discharging its mandate under article 36, paragraph 2, of the Agreement. In this regard, the Assembly reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to develop and circulate to States and to regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements a voluntary questionnaire regarding the recommendations made by the Review Conference in 2016, taking into account the specific guidance to be proposed at the fifteenth round of informal consultations in 2021. Subsequently, the fifteenth round of informal consultations was postponed to March 2022 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The present questionnaire, sent out to States parties to the Agreement, States non-parties and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (RFMO/As), is aimed at facilitating the preparation of the updated report of the Secretary-General to the resumed Review Conference to be held in 2023. A

compilation of the full text of the recommendations has been provided in an annex to the present questionnaire.

It would be appreciated if responses could be received (via email to doalos@un.org, with a copy to amerim@un.org, and note verbale) by no later than 15 October 2022. An electronic version of the questionnaire is also available for download at:

[TO BE INSERTED]. The questionnaire may also be completed online, following the instructions at: [TO BE INSERTED]. Kindly note that a note verbale must be uploaded in conjunction with any questionnaire completed online.

DRAFT

Name of State/Organization/Arrangement: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>State Party</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>State non-party</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>RFMO/A</i>
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I. Conservation and management of stocks

Please indicate whether your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken any action regarding the recommendations in paragraph A.1 to A.18 of the Outcome of the 2016 Review Conference.¹ In this regard, please provide information and/or attach relevant documentation,² in particular, regarding the actions your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken, if any, or challenges it has faced with regard to:

(Please insert a brief narrative and/or relevant references in the spaces below each bullet point or on additional pages)

- Adoption and implementation of measures (see para. A.1);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Application of the precautionary and ecosystem approaches (see para. A.2);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Determination of reference points or provisional reference points for specific stocks (see para. A.3);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Environmental factors affecting marine ecosystems, including adverse impacts of climate change and ocean acidification (see para. A.4);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>
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¹ A/CONF.210/2016/5, annex.

² It is kindly requested that any documentation provided in a language other than an official United Nations language be accompanied by a courtesy translation.

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- Achievement of compatible measures (see para. A.5);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Development of area-based management tools (see para. A.6);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Reduction of fishing capacity to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks (see para.A.7);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Elimination of subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, overfishing and overcapacity (see para. A.8);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear including marine debris (see para. A.9);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Data collection and sharing of information (see para. A.10);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) data arrangements and the global fisheries statistics database (see para. A.11);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Conservation and management of sharks (see para. A.12);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Conservation and management measures for deep-sea fisheries (see para. A.13);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Strengthening of science-policy interface (see para. A.14);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Establishment of rebuilding and recovery strategies (see para. A.15);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- By-catch management and discards (see para. A.16);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Compliance with obligations as members or cooperating non-members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. A.17);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Establishment of new regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements (see para. A.18).

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

DRAFT

II. Mechanisms for international cooperation and non-members

Please indicate whether your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken any action regarding the recommendations in paragraph B.1 to B.7 of the Outcome of the 2016 Review Conference. In this regard, please provide information and/or attach relevant documentation, in particular, regarding the actions your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken, if any, or challenges it has faced with regard to:

(Please insert a brief narrative and/or relevant references in the spaces below each bullet point or on additional pages)

- Strengthening mandates and measures in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. B.1);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Performance reviews and best practice guidelines (see para. B.2);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Strengthening and enhancing cooperation and coordination among regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. B.3);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. B.4);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Improvement of decision-making rules and procedures in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. B.5);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Implementation of interim measures (see para. B.6);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Effective control by flag States as members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. B.7);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

DRAFT

III. Monitoring, control and surveillance, compliance and enforcement

Please indicate whether your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken any action regarding the recommendations in paragraph C.1 to C.12 of the Outcome of the 2016 Review Conference. In this regard, please provide information and/or attach relevant documentation, in particular, regarding the actions your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken, if any, or challenges it has faced with regard to:

(Please insert a brief narrative and/or relevant references in the spaces below each bullet point or on additional pages)

- Strengthening of flag State responsibility (see para. C.1);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Assessment of flag State performance (see para. C.2);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Fishing vessels without nationality (see para. C.3);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Participation in the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and the adoption of port State measures (see para. C.4);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Control overfishing activities of nationals (see para. C.5);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Strengthening compliance, cooperation and enforcement schemes in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. C.6);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Development of alternative mechanisms for compliance and enforcement in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (see para. C.7);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Regulation of trans-shipment, supply and refuelling vessels (see para. C.8);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Strengthening fisheries access agreements (see para. C.9);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Market-related measures (see para. C.10);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Participation in and provision of support to the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities (see para. C.11);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Participation in the FAO Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas and development of a global record of fishing vessels (see para. C.12).

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

DRAFT

IV. Developing States

Please indicate whether your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken any action regarding the recommendations in paragraph D.1 to D.6 of the Outcome of the 2016 Review Conference. In this regard, please provide information and/or attach relevant documentation, in particular, regarding the actions your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken, if any, or challenges it has faced with regard to:

(Please insert a brief narrative and/or relevant references in the spaces below each bullet point or on additional pages)

- Taking concrete measures to enhance the ability of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including facilitating access to such fisheries (para. D.1);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Enhancing the participation of developing States in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements (para. D.2);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Strengthening the capacity of developing States (para. D.3);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Strengthening of capacity-building mechanisms and programmes, including the Part VII Assistance Fund (para. D.4);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Avoiding adverse impacts on, and ensuring the access to fisheries of, subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers and women fish workers, as well as indigenous peoples in developing States (para. D.5);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

- Avoiding the transfer of a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States (para. D.6).

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

Please provide specific information on the capacity-building needs of developing States in relation to the implementation of the Agreement.

V. Non-parties

Please indicate whether your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken any action regarding the recommendations in paragraph E.1 of the Outcome of the 2016 Review Conference. In this regard, please provide information and/or attach relevant documentation, in particular, regarding the actions your State, Organization or Arrangement has taken, if any, or challenges it has faced with regard to such actions:

(Please insert a brief narrative and/or relevant references in the spaces below each bullet point or on additional pages)

- Promotion of wider participation in the Agreement (para. E.1);

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>

VI. Other

Please provide any other relevant information regarding the actions taken regarding the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement by your State, Organization or Arrangement, including by drawing attention to specific achievements and/or challenges encountered.

<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Actions taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>No action taken</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not applicable</i>
		