

## **FAO short intervention in response to the Panel on Ocean-based priorities in the NDCs at the UNFCCC Annual Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue 2026**

Thank you co-facilitator for the floor. This is Xuechan Ma from Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO).

First, I would like to thank all the panelists for the very insightful discussion. For FAO, it is very encouraging to see that fisheries and aquaculture are increasingly recognized as a priority sector in NDCs.

I would like to take this opportunity to briefly share FAO's work on supporting the NDC implementation in relation to aquatic food systems.

FAO provides a range of **practical tools, guidance and data resources** to help countries move from commitment to implementation. These include:

- o The **NDC-Fish guidelines**
- o **Aqua-Adapt** tool for adaptation planning in aquaculture
- o and **critical climate data**, including [future projections on marine fish biomass under different climate scenarios](#).

This technical work also provides a foundation for **FAO's portfolio of climate projects in fisheries and aquaculture**, which is currently supporting more than 20 countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Finally, it is also exciting to see that mitigation opportunities in fisheries and aquaculture are highlighted in some NDCs. However, one key **barrier** remains: the lack of standardized greenhouse gas accounting methodologies for fisheries and aquaculture has limited the sector's ability to access mitigation finance and to implement credible mitigation measures. To help address this gap, FAO is working with experts to develop **guidelines, methodology and inventory for greenhouse gas emissions from aquaculture**. With this, we hope to support countries in better integrating aquaculture into their national inventories, and to strengthen the role of aquatic foods as low-emission, climate-resilient solutions.

To conclude, the dialogue has a key role to play in strengthening NDC implementation support, including by linking ocean NDC priorities with existing UNFCCC delivery channels and architecture. FAO stands ready to support the dialogue and co-facilitators in this effort. Thank you.