



Fisheries Transparency Initiative

DRAFT BALI COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE FISHERIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE (FiTI)

**27 April 2017
Bali, Indonesia**

Communiqué adopted by the participants of the 2nd International Conference of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative

WE, the participants of the 2nd International Conference of the Fisheries Transparency Initiative, gathered in Bali, Indonesia, on 27 April 2017 on the invitation of Her Excellency Susi Pudjiastuti, the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Indonesia:

1. **REITERATE** the importance of transparency and participation to manage marine fisheries sustainably and to ensure that those resources can continue to provide essential sources of livelihood, food security and nutrition to current and future generations;
2. **RECALL** the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 71/123 on sustainable fisheries, including through 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, and related instruments, which encourages greater transparency in various regards, including on fisheries access agreements;

3. **RECOGNISE** that the FiTI contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, most notably Sustainable Development Goal 14 “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources” and Sustainable Development Goal 17 “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development”;
4. **RECOGNISE** that the FiTI complements and supports other national, regional and global efforts for achieving responsible fisheries governance;
5. **RECALL** the February 2016 Nouakchott Declaration on the Fisheries Transparency Initiative, which *inter alia* adopted the FiTI Principles, reflecting the beliefs, objectives and expectations of the FiTI Stakeholders;
6. **RECALL** the intentions conveyed by the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of Senegal, the Republic of the Seychelles and the Republic of Guinea to implement the sign-up steps required for recognition as a FiTI Candidate country;
7. **EXPRESS** our gratitude for the leadership and the significant support of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania as well as for the contribution of the Republic of Guinea to the International Secretariat during the conceptual phase of the initiative;
8. **EXPRESS** our gratitude to the members of the FiTI International Advisory Group, including representatives from governments, large-scale and small-scale fishing sector organisations, multinational and regional fisheries organisations and civil society groups, as well as its Chair, Prof. Dr. Peter Eigen, and the FiTI International Secretariat for developing a conceptual framework for the FiTI;
9. **ESTABLISH** the first global FiTI Standard, which sets out the requirements that countries must adhere to become and maintain a FiTI Compliant country;
10. **WELCOME** the transparency requirements of the FiTI Standard, providing governments, the fishing industry (both large-scale and small-scale), and civil society with a comprehensive and credible way to achieve and maintain high levels of transparency on the management of the marine fisheries sector and the activities of fishers and fishing companies;
11. **APPRECIATE** that the aim of the FiTI Standard is to support national authorities in establishing credible and comprehensive systems for publishing information on the

fisheries sector, and not to duplicate existing efforts to collate and publish fisheries information;

12. **WELCOME** that the FiTI Standard is based on the principle of progressive improvement of transparency over time and is thus designed to ensure that any country can implement it, including those countries, whose resources for collating and publishing information are limited;
13. **APPRECIATE** that the process framework of the FiTI Standard builds on experiences from other international multi-stakeholder transparency initiatives for a more comprehensive and consistent spread of transparency and accountability across industries;
14. **WELCOME** the 1st FiTI International Board, the global executive body of the FiTI, composed of representatives from the constituencies of countries, business and civil society, as well as its Chair;
15. **ENCOURAGE** countries from all around the world to join the FiTI as part of their efforts towards sustainable fisheries management;
16. **CALL** upon donors, business and providers of financial and technical assistance to take active steps to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the FiTI, at the national, regional and international level;
17. **ENCOURAGE** all fisheries stakeholders to promote the FiTI and the importance of transparency and participation in national, regional and global stakeholder fora as well as at major conferences, for 2017 most notably:
 - “The Oceans Conference – Our Oceans, Our Future: Partnering for the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal SDG 14” on 5-9 June 2017 in New York, and
 - “Our Ocean” Conference on 5-6 October 2017 in Malta;
18. **EXPRESS** our gratitude to the Government and People of the Republic of Indonesia for their warm welcome and generous hospitality as well as the excellent organisation of this 2nd International Conference of the FiTI, which marked the starting point of the implementation phase of the FiTI.

Done in Bali, Indonesia, this twenty-seventh Day of April 2017.