

**STATEMENT BY SENEGAL TO PLENARY ON STACFAD**

Senegal takes due note of the Report of the STACFAD Chair and the Virtual Working Group on Sustainable Finance (VWG-SF) [**STF-205/20**], approved by STACFAD and its two Appendices submitted to STACFAD for approval.

With regard to the review of progress under the Virtual Working Group on Sustainable Finance (VWG-SF), Senegal would like to make the following comments on documents **STF-205-APP2/20** and **STF-205-APP3C/20**.

The work of the Virtual Working Group on Sustainable Finance (VWG-SF) concerning the Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) should guarantee that the Fund is managed in a way that allows greater participation of developing States, particularly those that most in need.

Senegal had included changes to both documents regarding the proposed threshold, based on the number of official delegates attending the meeting using other funds.

Senegal would like to thank the Chair and the CPCs for allowing the adoption of these new acceptable proposals.

However, Senegal recalls that the initial objective of the Fund is to promote the participation of CPCs from developing countries and would like this issue concerning the assistance to those States to continue being a standing agenda item of annual Commission meetings, as decided in 2005.

Senegal understands that “official delegation” refers to all persons participating in ICCAT meetings duly authorised by the competent authority of the CPC. These include shipowners, fishermen and fishing Masters.

Moreover, Senegal proposes that the concept of an “official delegate” needs further clarification and that the period that begins should be used a test to measure the effects of the new procedures and recommendations regarding the participation of developing CPCs.

For all these reasons, Senegal approves the two Appendices and supports their adoption by STACFAD and the Commission.