



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK



AGRICULTURE CONSULTATIVE FORUM

**Conference on fisheries and aquaculture development for economic prosperity in Zambia**



**Overall Conference Theme: *“Reinvigorating the Fisheries and Aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, through the Value Chain Approach.”***

**Held at  
Mulungushi International Conference Centre  
On  
15 September, 2022**

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**List of abbreviations**

ACF	Agriculture Consultative Forum
ADAZ	Aquaculture Development Association of Zambia
ADB	African Development Bank
AUC	African Union Commission
DoF	Department of Fisheries
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAOR	Food and agriculture Organisation Representative
IYAFA	International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture
MFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MSMLE	Micro, small, medium and large enterprises
SDGs	Sustainable development Goals
SSA	Sub-Sahara Africa
TWGs	Technical Working Groups
UN	United Nations
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
UTF	Unilateral Trust fund
WFP	World Food Programme
ZAEDP	Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project
ZFSFA	Zambia Forum for Sustainable Fisheries and aquaculture

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL) in partnership with the Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF) organized a one-day Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre (MICC) whose theme was ***“Reinvigorating the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, through the Value Chain Approach”***. The Conference was held on 15 September, 2022 and was the first of its kind in Zambia and is planned to be held annually. The Conference drew 108 participants, representing government line ministries, semi-quasi government institutions/agencies/authorities/commissions, government projects, policy research institutions, unions/associations/NGOs, United Nations agencies, embassies/multilateral agencies, financial institutions/insurance companies, fish feed industry, Committee on Agriculture at National Assembly of Zambia and fish farming companies and farmers/aggregators.

The conference was aimed at setting an agenda for regular policy dialogues to amplify the contribution of the fisheries and aquaculture sector to economic development. The specific objectives of the Conference were:

- a) To provide a platform for all value chain players (scientists, fish farmers, processors, input suppliers, policy makers, etc.) in the fisheries and aquaculture industry to speak with one voice, exchange and share practical experiences and results, for the growth and development of the fisheries and aquaculture subsector in Zambia.
- b) To create synergies within the fisheries and aquaculture subsector and contribute to the policy direction and aspirations of the new dawn government, regarding fisheries and aquaculture development in Zambia.

The conference was organized around five presentations that provided participants with a wealth of information for identification of the priorities for the sub-sectors. This was followed by a panel discussion, wherein, the panelists proposed and discussed potential priorities, which were then debated and adopted by all the conference participants.

The Conference was officially opened by the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Honourable Makozo Chikote MP, with remarks from the ACF Board Chairperson, Mr. James Kasongo; the Director of Fisheries in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock Dr. Harris Phiri, the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC) Ms. Beatrice Mutali, and the FAO Country Representative, Ms. Suze Percy Philippine. A key note speech was given by the FAO Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Professor Manuel Barange.

**Key Conference Outcomes:** The Conference came up with the following key action points or priorities, as summarized below;

- a) Access to markets is fundamental to the development of the fisheries and aquaculture subsector. This is so as markets drive production. The MFL should therefore adopt fish farming as a business and ensure that it is embedded in all its activities. To this end the ministry should promote access to market information through innovative mobile technology

as one of the most priority areas. Over and above this, there is need for infrastructure development (feeder roads & cold chains) in support of capture fisheries and aquaculture.

- b) The Department of Fisheries should regulate the provision of extension services to fish farmers. This is because of the proliferation of un-accredited training taking place at private farms, which could negatively affect the productivity of the sector and turn away potential aquaculture entrepreneurs. Making use of the ZAEDP Training Curriculum and Practical Manual on Sustainable Aquaculture should be spear-headed by the MFL in order to improve and standardize the aquaculture capacity building.
- c) The MFL and other relevant government agencies should facilitate the adoption and enforcement of improved standards in capture fisheries and aquaculture. The lapses in enforcing standards have been noted to be contributing to increased costs of production, poor yields and returns. The examples given included supply of sub-standard fingerlings and fry really, dam liners that did not meet official quality standards and fish feed that were neither properly packaged nor labelled.
- d) Stakeholder consultations in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector should be encouraged by the government as this will improve private sector participation in the governance of the capture fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors. In addition, strengthened stakeholder partnerships for improved capture fisheries and aquaculture values chains should be facilitated by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
- e) The MFL should continue applying the precautionary principle, on introduction of new species and translocation between regions within the country as exotic species are near impossible to eradicate once they are introduced into open water or other riverine systems. This is in light of current knowledge that inbreeding between a newly introduced species and the local ones could result in less productive progeny, making the fishery less productive over time.
- f) The MFL should ensure that the aquaculture financing window pays cognisance to how the production and marketing of commercially adopted species can be funded through regular financial institutions. In addition, the ministry should ensure that grants are made available for the conservation and development into commercial production of fish species that are currently used for subsistence.
- g) Improved knowledge management for better knowledge transfer and evidence-based decision making for both the capture fisheries and aquaculture; Establish a strong self-sustaining research and development unit within the fisheries and aquaculture industry to undertake cost-effective and state of the art research that is problem oriented

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL), in partnership with the Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF), organized a one-day Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre (MICC) whose theme was ***“Reinvigorating the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, through the Value Chain Approach”***. The Conference was held on 15 September, 2022 and was the first of its kind in Zambia and is planned to be held annually.

The conference was aimed at setting an agenda for regular policy dialogues to amplify the contribution of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector to economic development. The specific objectives of the Conference were:

- i). To provide a platform for all value chain players (scientists, fish farmers, processors, input suppliers, policy makers, etc.) in the fisheries and aquaculture industry to speak with one voice, exchange and share practical experiences and results, for the growth and development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia.
- ii). To create synergies within the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector and contribute to the policy direction and aspirations of the new dawn government, regarding fisheries and aquaculture development in Zambia.

The expected outcomes of the conference were;

- i. Shared understanding and appreciation of the existing gaps and challenges plaguing the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- ii. Galvanized consensus and proactive efforts aimed at addressing the challenges by both state and non-state actors.
- iii. Formalized and regularized stakeholder (State and Non-state) policy engagements for providing an enabling environment for fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector growth and development.

The following were the expected outputs;

- i. Identification and synthesis of key issues and challenges that are hindering the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- ii. Identification of key priority areas and/or topics for future discussions in the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- iii. Creation of (specialized) sub-committees to deal with the identified and prioritized issues/challenges/topics in the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- iv. A roadmap for Zambia’s Fisheries and Aquaculture sub-sector transformation.
- v. Consensus on the establishment of a regular and formal discussion platform for all the fisheries and aquaculture value chain stakeholders, on various issues affecting the development of the sub-sector.

The workshop was sponsored by;

- Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

- Agricultural Consultative Forum
- WorldFish, and the
- Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)

In their speeches, the Honourable Minister of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Mr. Makozo Chikote MP, ACF Board Chairperson, Mr. James Kasongo, - United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRC), Mrs. Beatrice Mutali and Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations Representative (FAOR), Ms. Suze Percy Filippine paid tribute to the conference sponsors for their generous contributions.

The Conference was attended by 108 participants drawn from government line ministries, semi-quasi government institutions/agencies/authorities/commissions, government projects, policy research institutions, unions/associations/NGOs, United Nations agencies, embassies/multilateral agencies, financial institutions/insurance companies, fish feed industry, Committee on Agriculture at National Assembly of Zambia and fish farming companies/farmers/aggregators (**See Appendix 2**).

This Conference report contains detailed summaries of the presentations. This is to facilitate access to enough information for the readers to fully grasp the context of how and why the priorities were decided upon. This makes it a stand-alone report that can fully inform readers and next year's conference without recourse to the actual presentations.

## 2.0 OFFICIAL OPENING

### 2.1 Welcome Remarks by Mr. James Kasongo, ACF Board Chairperson

Mr. James Kasongo, the ACF Chairperson, welcomed the participants to the conference. He



*Mr. James Kasongo, ACF Chairperson*

informed the conference that ACF was an innovative public-private sector policy dialogue platform, that provides an opportunity for multi-stakeholder consultations on government's agricultural policies, strategies and programmes and other agricultural-related policy interventions or issues, in Zambia, in particular; and the Region and Globally, in general. It contributes to information sharing, coordination and networking among agricultural stakeholders. ACF also

monitors the implementation of government agricultural policies, strategies and programmes and undertakes agricultural policy analysis and research. Over the years, ACF has contributed to the increased stakeholder-ownership of various policies and programmes, and participation in their formulation processes.

Mr. Kasongo noted that the Conference would be characterized by keynote speeches and expert presentations. These would be followed by group and plenary sessions to get the stakeholders' views and suggested actions for the way forward on the rejuvenation and/or transformation of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, to enhance its performance and contribution to the national economy and livelihoods of Zambians.



He took the opportunity to thank MFL, FAO and WorldFish for partnering with ACF in hosting the conference. The Chairperson appealed to all the participants, to take the deliberations of the dialogue seriously, as the outcomes of the conference, would make a timely and useful contribution to the development of the second-generation National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP 2) and other future fisheries and aquaculture-related policies, programmes and plans, in Zambia (**See Mr. Kasongo's speech at Appendix 3**)

## 2.2 Remarks by Dr. Harris Phiri, Director – Department of Fisheries.



*Dr. Harris Phiri, Director - DoF*

Dr. Harris Phiri, Director - Department of Fisheries, complemented Mr. Kasongo's welcome remarks. In his remarks, he recognized that valuable natural resources exist that support capture fisheries and aquaculture. He acknowledged some of the challenges facing the capture fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors. He further identified the need for concerted partnerships to respond to these challenges in order for the sub-sector to increase its' contribution to GDP. Lastly, he appreciated the participants, both attending physically and those participating virtually, for attending the conference as they would facilitate its success.

## 2.3 Remarks by Ms. Beatrice Mutali, the United Nations Resident Coordinator.

The UNRC, Her Excellency Ms. Beatrice Mutali, framed the conference within the context of the global capture and aquaculture fisheries. She highlighted that the conference was held during a time when the world was also reflecting and celebrating two crucial subjects for the sustainability of life on earth, i.e., the “Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development” and the “UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration”.



*Ms. Beatrice Mutali, UNRC*

Despite Zambia not having an ocean coastline, Mrs. Mutali reminded the conference that whatever happened in the ocean in the region, for example of Mozambique, Seychelles or South Africa could affect Zambia in terms of weather and climatic conditions.

She further zeroed in on the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration from a fisheries and aquaculture perspective including efforts to minimize impacts on ecosystems structure and function by collateral effects of human activities. This included rebuilding fish stocks in our lakes and rivers, policy development, management strategies and implementation mechanisms supported by science-based monitoring and scientific advice, and for which she recognized her colleagues from the Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) who are the UN competent authority.

Mrs. Mutali shared with the conference some of the interventions that were possible in the sub-sector. These included; Integrated agriculture-aquaculture, to mitigate degraded systems and as part of a broader agro-ecological; creating additional refuge and nursery spaces in aquatic environments for fish and other terrestrial animals; implementation of strict banning of destructive fishing gears and methods; restocking freshwater bodies with native species; and introducing watershed management and erosion control approaches, among many other actions that she was sure would be discussed during the conference.

Mrs. Mutali called on the participants to join the wave for transformative steps to secure sustainable, efficient, and equitable agri-food systems, while also creating new job opportunities for the youth.

Finally, she reiterated that the UN support to the sub-sector shall continue through the implementation of the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2026 focusing on the 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships) that shape the Sustainable Development Goals and make them an intertwined framework, with the aim of leaving no one behind. **Ms. Mutali's remarks are attached as Appendix 4.**

#### 2.4 Remarks by Ms. Suze Percy Filippine, FAO Representative

The FAO Representative, (FAOR) Ms. Suze Percy Filippine, complemented the UN Resident Coordinator's remarks by wishing the Government of the Republic of Zambia goodwill in the implementation of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector activities.



*Ms. Suze Percy Filippine, FAOR*

Ms. Filippini conveyed, on behalf of FAO, its best wishes for the Ministry's success in the year 2022-2023 in placing aquaculture and fisheries sub-sector in the government top priority agenda and presenting aquaculture to the citizenry as a serious and viable business opportunity.

As outlined in the Eighth National Development Plan (8th NDP), the Government of the Republic of Zambia plans to put in place key interventions in fisheries and aquaculture to promote investments for increased fingerlings production and establish and operationalize fish breeding and freezing centres as measures to bridge the domestic fish deficit and expand into the regional market. FAO congratulated the Government of the Republic of Zambia for this vision. FAO also acknowledged the efforts that have been made by various players to fill up the fish supply deficit.

FAO recognized that the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to end poverty, hunger and malnutrition and enable sustainable development in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, and combat and adapt to climate change, leaving no one behind, is dependent on strong partnerships. As such, Ms. Filippini recognized that the success of the Zambia Aquaculture Enterprises Development Project (ZAEDP) was made possible by the unwavering support of donors, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other technical and financial partners.

Ms. Filippini, was happy to share some of the results that FAO had committed to assist the Government of the Republic of Zambia to implement the development of the aquaculture sub-sector in the country. One example was FAO's provision of technical assistance for the execution of the ZAEDP, through a Unilateral Trust Fund (UTF) project. Ms. Filippini informed the conference on some of the ZAEDP achievements, which were summarized in the booklet titled ***"Sustainable Fish for All: an overview of aquaculture development in Zambia in partnership with FAO"***.

She proceeded to recognise some of the factors necessary for the development of the aquaculture such as the creation of knowledge, strengthening of institutional and technical capacities, the combination of technical principles with enviro-socio-economic and governance principles. Formal and non-formal education was prioritized to increase the level of expertise, competency and skills of the different actors in the aquaculture industry. Innovative education and training programmes were developed to enhance knowledge and skills and improve food security, nutrition, economic growth and employment and to advance the industry in Zambia and all of Africa. For the effect, she

informed the meeting that through the ZAEDP, FAO had engaged in the preparation and publication of a dual document titled “*Training Curriculum and Manual on Aquaculture Best Practices*”, which was amply distributed to all participants.

Ms. Filippini informed the conference that 2022 was declared by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022). IYAFA 2022 is an important recognition of the millions of fish farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers who provide healthy and nutritious food to millions of people and contribute to zero hunger. She thanked the European Union, the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the African Union Commission (AUC) for their incredible support and partnership with FAO.

She further paid recognition to the special support from the AfDB that not only provided the funds for this important project, but also followed-up its implementation with keen interest on its sustainability and expansion to other parts of the African continent.

Finally, Ms. Filippini thanked all the participants for their presence, for their combined efforts to accelerate the country’s growth through enhancing the participation of Zambians in aquaculture value chain’ enterprises. FAO was committed to helping the Government of the Republic of Zambia to make fisheries and aquaculture contribute to people’s food and nutrition security and improved livelihoods. The afore-mentioned are of paramount importance to the FAO mandate. **Ms. Filippini’s remarks are attached as Appendix 5.**

## 2.5 Key Note Speech by Professor Barange, FAO Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture

A key note speech was given by the FAO Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Professor Manuel Barange. His speech was on Blue Transformation and the Role of Aquaculture on Food Security, Nutrition, Economic Growth and Balance of Trade.



*Professor Manuel Barange, FAO  
Director of Fisheries*

Professor Barange’s presentation highlighted that the per capita consumption of fish in 2020 was 20.2 kgs for the world, 9.9 kgs for Africa and 8.6 kgs for Sub-Saharan Africa. He also highlighted how population growth was higher than the growth in fish production. These two elements were cardinal in the workshop’s deliberations, especially in the need to improve the efficiency and viability of the aquaculture value chain. The FAO strategy for blue transformation included the following;

- Feeding the world through aquaculture intensification; this would involve scaling-up and transferring knowledge through targeted development
- Transforming fisheries through better management; This involved addressing overfishing and rebuilding over exploited stocks; and
- Improving the fish value chain efficiency, viability and inclusiveness; intensification and management solutions are necessary but not sufficient

To localise some of the presentation to the regional level, Professor Barange called for attention to the SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2026, which could inform the conference processes.

In informing the conference on potential FAO partnership support, Professor Barange outlined some of the support it had provided in sub-Saharan Africa and in Zambia as;

- Establishment or enhancement of necessary institutional frameworks

- Training of decision makers and extension officers
- Production of training materials and investment tools
- Implementation of development projects and provision of start-up packs
- Technical support to farmers and extension services
- Marketing strategies /linkages
- Partnership models to boost youth interest and school feeding programmes
- Livelihood diversification by using Integrated crop-aquaculture systems
- Employment creation through universities and vocational training

He concluded his presentation, by challenging the audience to look at the strong untapped characteristics of the aquaculture industry in Zambia, such as: Strong economic growth; relatively large; ranked #5 in Africa in terms of production (excluding plants); production increased tenfold from 2000 to 2020 (12%pa); Import of fish (~80 000 tonnes in 2020) could be substituted by domestic production and per capita consumption could grow closer to global standards. However, he stressed that the Zambian aquaculture industry needs 15% growth per year to cover demand by both population growth and to become self-sufficient, which means that the national capacity to sustain this growth will need to be strengthened.

## 2.6 Remarks by the Acting Permanent Secretary

The Acting Permanent Secretary, Mr. William Katongo, called upon the conference to come up with proposals for the rejuvenation of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors. He proceeded to call upon the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock to open the conference.



*Mr. William Katongo, Acting Permanent Secretary - MFL*

## 2.7 Official Opening by the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Hon. Makozo Chikote MP

The Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Hon. Makozo Chikote MP, opened the conference. He welcomed all the participants to the conference and thanked them for responding positively to the invitation. This was a clear demonstration of a joint aspiration to transform the sub-sector. He informed the conference that the meeting had been organized jointly by his Ministry in partnership with the Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF). He registered appreciation to his ministry's staff and ACF for a well-organized conference.



*Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Hon. Makozo Chikote MP*

In his speech, the Minister emphasized that his ministry had competent staff of which he expected great outputs. He further called on the participants to provide him with practical solutions to turn the potential of fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector into

reality in order to contribute to employment, income generation and food and nutrition security.

The Minister noted the encumbrances that the sub-sector was facing including low availability of quality fingerlings, inadequate extension services, adverse environmental effects, low availability of good quality and affordable feed and competition from cheaper imported inputs. He further informed the conference that, fish production and marketing in Zambia remained largely subsistence rather than commercial thus limiting its potential contribution to people's livelihoods.

Despite the foregoing, the Minister recognised opportunities to come up with tangible, effective and smart strategies to meet the current and future demand for fish products locally and regionally. The Minister reflected that the value chain approach enables a comprehensive analysis of all the facets of input supply, production, processing, distribution and marketing, which in turn facilitates more efficient and effective decision-making leading to better quality products and increased return on investments. He further stated that the new dawn government attaches utmost importance to the development of fisheries in Zambia and places its development highly on its list of priorities. **The Honourable Makozo Chikote's opening speech is attached as Appendix 6.**

### 3.0 CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Four presentations were made which informed the plenary session and these were:

- a) Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, and way forward for enhanced development of the sub- sector (Government perspective) by Dr. Harris Phiri, Director - Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL)
- b) Presentation by Professor Cyprian Katongo, Interim Chairperson for the Zambia Forum for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (ZFSFA)
- c) Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, and way forward for enhanced development of the Zambian Fisheries sub- sector (Private sector perspective) by Mr. Fisho Mwale, Chairman and Mr. Likando Mukumbuta ADAZ, Vice Chairman
- d) FAO Interventions in other Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) by Dr. Ana Menezes

#### 3.1 Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, and way forward for enhanced development (Government perspective), by Dr. Harris Phiri, Director - Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL)

##### ***Capture fisheries***

Zambia has a surface area of 75.3 million hectares, of which 15 million hectares is water (Rivers and Lakes) and 8 million hectares of wetlands. This translates to water covering almost 30 percent of Zambia's surface at some periods of the year. It also has a rich ground water system. This provides for huge potential in both capture fisheries and aquaculture. is presentation contained Figure 1 that illustrates the major capture fisheries areas in Zambia.

The capture fisheries in Zambia has the following characteristics; it is multi-species, multi-fisheries, multi-gear and resilient. The resilience in freshwater fisheries is anchored on biodiversity.

Twenty-one fish species, out of more than four hundred, make up commercial fish stocks with the rest being exploited on a subsistence basis.

More than 1 million people are supported directly or indirectly along the capture fisheries value chain. It is also estimated that more than 80,000 people are engaged in various forms of commercial fishing. MFL estimated that fish production had increased from 69,364mt 2011 to 95,625mt in 2021.

Figure 1: Zambia's major capture fisheries



Source; DoF Conference Presentation, 2022

The presentation highlighted the following challenges in capture fisheries;

- Over-fishing (both recruitment and growth)
- Illegal fishing (fishing without licenses and use of bad fishing methods)
- Environmental degradation (sedimentation, pollution, loss of fish habitats/ breeding grounds)
- Invasive Alien Species
- Fish Disease Outbreaks
- High post-harvest losses
- Climate change

The presentation also highlighted the following opportunities in capture fisheries;

- Estimation of riverine fish stock biomass
- Estimation of optimum fishing pressure
- Development of new value chains
- Development of new/ alternative fishing gears
- Development and promotion of post-harvest technologies and landing sites
- Development of cost-effective data collection technologies
- Development of fish trade and marketing systems
- Development of effective MCS systems; and
- Development of fishery specific management plans

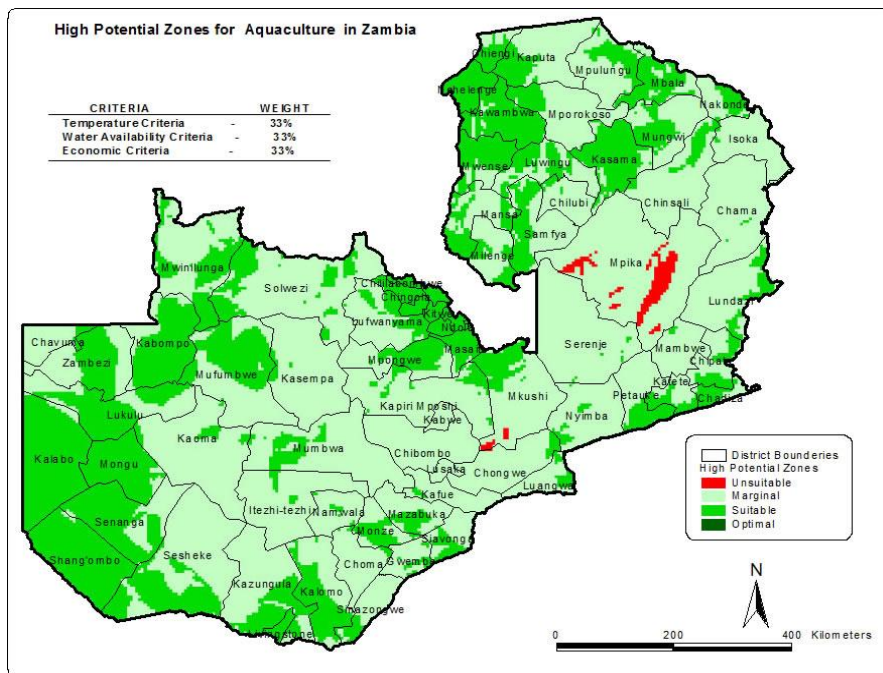
## Aquaculture

The aquaculture sub-sector is dominated by small-scale land-based fish farmers in terms of numbers. The sub-sector is driven by youths and women, who generally have low production and have limited technological application. It is estimated that there are more than 20,000 small scale fish farmers. However, there are a few large-scale fish farmers who mainly use cages to culture fish, who have high productivity and production.

There are seven officially recognized fish species used in aquaculture. The farmers produced an estimated 63,000 metric tonnes of fish in 2021. The fish is produced in seven types of facilities that include ponds, cages, tanks, weirs, dams, pens and recirculatory systems. The last facility is rarely used as it is costly.

Figure 2, illustrates the suitability of various geographic areas for aquaculture. The water availability and conducive climatic conditions make for a good natural environment for aquaculture production.

**Figure 2: High potential zones for aquaculture in Zambia**



Source: DoF Conference Presentation 2022,

The presentation highlighted the following challenges in the aquaculture sub-sector;

- Low production and productivity
- Limited access to aquaculture inputs (fish feed and fish seed)
- Market access for fish farmers
- Limited access to finance
- Inadequate access to post harvest and marketing facilities
- Limited access to extension services
- Climate variability



The presentation also highlighted the following opportunities in the aquaculture sub-sector;

- Fish breeding and genetics
- Fish nutrition (Fish feed production)
- Supply chain development
- Value-chain development
- Studies for the Identification of other culturable fish species
- Provision of quality trainings and extension services to small-scale fish farmers

The following emerging issues in the aquaculture sub-sector were highlighted during the presentation;

- Improving market access and prices of fish from aquaculture
- Increasing demand to use exotic fish species in aquaculture
- Supplying of sub-standard inputs to fish farmers
- Impact of climate change on aquaculture
- Unregulated training/extension services
- Water and Soil pollution

### **3.2 Presentation by Professor Cyprian Katongo, Interim Chairperson for the Zambia Forum for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (ZFSFA)**

The meeting was informed that ZFSFA's aim is to provide support to the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, through the Department of Fisheries, aimed at the development and transformation of capture fisheries and aquaculture management, through the development of strategies and policies..

Its objectives include providing liaison/bridge between Government and stakeholders; facilitating and promote policy and legal reforms; advocating for an increased consumption of fish and fish-based diets, advocating for increased support for Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture programmes, contributing to improved governance of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, promoting increased accountability of actors working in the sub-sector, creating a neutral platform for fisheries and aquaculture issues to be deliberated in an open manner; and promoting relationships based on trust, mutual respect and dialogue.

ZFSFA targeted stakeholders include Public Sector, Private Sector, Development Partners, Civil Society Organisations and NGOs, Research and Academia, Fish Farmer Associations and/or Cooperatives and/or Fish farmer groups and Fishers and/or Fisher groups, Conservation Groups, and Traditional Leaders

The ZFSFA has a Governing Council (GC) and five Technical Working Groups (TWGs).

The TWGs are comprised of the following; 1. Capture Fisheries, Conservation & Governance; 2. Sector Growth, Trade and Value Chains Development; 3. Fisheries/Aquaculture Research and Development; 4; Aquaculture Management and 5. Communications & Outreach.

### 3.3 Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, and way forward for enhanced development (Private sector perspective) by Mr. Fisho Mwale, Chairman and Mr. Likando Mukumbuta ADAZ Vice Chairman

The private sector perspective was represented by the Aquaculture Development Association of Zambia (ADAZ). This presentation was co-presented by Mr. Fisho Mwale, Chairman ADAZ and Mr. Likando Mukumbuta, ADAZ Vice Chairman.

As a background to the PowerPoint presentation, both presenters highlighted the important contribution the private sector had made to the increased aquaculture production in Zambia. They further recognized the need for a self-regulating private sector. To this effect they informed the conference that ADAZ intended to transition into a statutory body with authority to regulate private sector engagement in aquaculture. The rest of the presentation was mainly based on the proposed ADAZ 2022-2026 strategic plan.

Its objective is that “The ADAZ 2022-2026 Strategic Plan seeks to consolidate ADAZ as the apex representative body for the private sector and civil society in the aquaculture sector in Zambia as well as to become an active partner of Government for implementing aquaculture programmes, for increasing knowledge in the sector and for building capacity in order to promote the competitiveness and prosperity of its members while increasing its relevance to Zambia’s GDP growth, to national food security and to household nutrition”.

The strategic plan had the strategic objectives and strategic priorities listed below.

#### *Strategic objective 1: Increased access to markets*

Its’ strategic priorities included;

- Prioritize markets for tilapia, catfish and crayfish
- Address marketing constraints at all nodes of value chains
- Promote access to market information: profitability market linkage

#### *Strategic objective 2: Improved business development services (BDS)*

Its’ strategic priorities included;

- Public/private partnership in delivery of extension services to farmers
- Strengthened training of capacity builders
- Increased participation in productivity enhancement programmes by ADAZ micro, small, medium and large enterprises (MSMLE) members
- Increased adoption of recommended bio-safety promotion protocols by ADAZ MSMLE members

#### *Strategic objective 3: Increased access to capital*

Its’ strategic priorities included;

- Support DoF in the operationalization of the Fisheries & Aquaculture Development Fund
- Promotion of more capital sourcing options, especially incisive ones
- Increasing public/private partnerships in management of access to capital

- Increasing financial discipline and compliance amongst those supported with capital

*Strategic objective 4: Improved sector knowledge*

Its' strategic priorities included;

- Development of a comprehensive database and information system of ADAZ members
- Development of a database of associate consultants
- Development of a virtual aquaculture library

*Strategic objective 5: More conducive enabling environment*

Its' strategic priorities included advocacy & facilitation activities;

- Developing and implementing its aquaculture policy agenda
- Developing and implementing aquaculture research agenda
- Effective representation of Aquaculture stakeholders in various institutions, programmes and fora
- By 2024, securing a statutory body status for the Association, to ensure self-regulation of private sector stakeholders in the aquaculture sub-sector
- Contribute to the review of the Fisheries Act and other regulations

**3.4 FAO Interventions in other Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) by Dr Ana Menezes**

Dr Ana Menezes, the FAO Lead Technical Officer for the project UTF ZAEDP, made this presentation. The full title of the presentation was, "FAO Interventions in other Countries in the SSA, what works and not. The case of the UTF-MFL-FAO ZAEDP project: The lessons learned from an aquaculture value chain project in a multilayer coordination and implementation mode".

Due to the forward-looking nature of the conference, she preferred to present a summary of the various presentations within the commonalities of the solution-problem approaches used in SSA and Zambia from a lessons learnt perspective using questions for group/ panel discussions. She shared her perspective and experience of Aquaculture as intensive resource based activity, be it from production inputs, human capacities, and land, water or market issues. It requires finances and qualified human resources.

It was clear from her presentation that some challenges still remain to be addressed even though ZAEDP and many other initiatives have been making an effort to address the initial stubborn blocks of Aquaculture development in Zambia. She particularly stresses that as the sector is leaping forward and sometimes the pace of the industry and private sector is bigger than that of the development partners and public sector, there is a need to work together. She proposes some strategic elements for consideration.

The potential priority area that could be focused on include the following (list is not showing any specific prioritization at this point and serves for stakeholder to reflect upon) ;

- Prioritization of Research: Local species, diseases, feeds
- Interdisciplinary Research Planning Involving Several Ministries
- Use of systems Thinking and Open Innovation
- Evidence Based Decisions through Participatory Governance
- Adoption of a food systems approach to aquaculture, to ensure contribution of aquaculture to nutritious diets
- Formulate/update Policies, Strategic Plans and Institutional Frameworks
- Land Tenure and Land Ownership Policies
- Encourage National and International Investments in Aquaculture
- Vertical Integration, Specialization and Entrepreneurship
- Develop Public Private Partnerships
- Technological Modernization,
- Use of Digitization in Production and Marketing
- Increased Transparency and accountability along the value chain
- International Agreements - Search for Common Criteria for Clear, Transparent Rules

In closing her presentation, Dr. Menezes put forward some ideas for consideration by the conference. These included investing in the youths' access to land water and financial resources; mitigation of financial risks and insurance to enable them get on the aquaculture investment ladder, make them real business incubators and not targets of the project moment; consideration of adoption/adaptation of the FAO – Model on Partnerships to boost youth interest in Aquaculture; development of infrastructure that facilitate aquaculture development; and the the supportive role of FAO and other development partners.

Finally, Dr. Menezes observed that aquaculture will continue to grow only if we sustain it and continue invest on it.

#### 4.0 IDENTIFYING SUBSECTOR PRIORITIES

In order to come up with the industry priorities, the Conference organized a panel discussion which was informed by the opening remarks in Section 2 and the presentations in Section 3. A panel was set up to lead the dialogue on each of the four priority thematic areas. These thematic areas were identified in advance to facilitate an efficient and effective stakeholders' engagement.

The panel was comprised of five members as listed below;

- Mr. Likando Mukumbuta, Vice Chairperson - Association for the Development of Aquaculture (ADAZ) in Zambia. He led the dialogue on **aquaculture development and management**
- Dr. Nestayi Noris.Mudege, Senior Scientist at World Fish. She led the dialogue on the **impact of climate change and environment**
- Dr. Harris Phiri, Director Fisheries who led the dialogue on **capture fisheries management**
- Professor Cyprian Katongo, Interim Chairperson for ZFSFA, who led the dialogue on **research and development**
- Mr. Succeed Mubanga, Director Policy and Planning at MFL, **who provided guidance on the policy issues relating to each presentation and the contributions in plenary.**

The panel process took the format of a round-robin. The lead panelist for each thematic area presented the priorities as they had distilled them from the morning's presentations, the lessons



learned from their work and their knowledge of other programmes. The other four members of the panel then took turns to agree with, make variations to, add to or differ with the lead panelist. The output from this process was then subjected to a review by all the conference participants. The result was a consensus on the priorities presented in sections 4.2-4.6 below.

From left to right Dr. Nestayi Noris.Mudege; Mr. Likando Mukumbuta; Dr. Harris Phiri; Mr. Succeed Mubanga and Professor Cyprian Katongo

During the panel presentations and discussions four critical areas were navigated;

1. Having forward-looking perspectives, rather than reporting on what was currently obtaining in the field. The latter had largely been addressed by the presentations in the morning
2. Each lead panelist had to address the priorities of the sub-sector, not the organization they worked for. The round robin format was used as a safeguard against ending up with narrowly defined priorities that catered to the needs of an individual organisation
3. Ensuring that the dialogue did not devolve into one wherein the specific challenges and problems of individual organisations were being addressed instead of sub-sector wide priorities. In this instance, the conference had to acknowledge its lack of information, competence and/or authority to address some issues that were put forward for discussion
4. Investing in addressing strategic priorities, rather than detailed activities, as these could later be unpacked through the ZFSFA processes once it was launched

The results of the round robin are presented below.

#### **4.1 Aquaculture Development and Management priorities**

During the plenary, some issues were raised that were pertinent to finalizing the proposed priorities. They are presented below to provide a context to how the priorities were formulated.

- The draft fisheries and aquaculture policy is being finalised by the end of 2022. It streamlines and harmonises the roles government, private sector and other institutions in the sub-sector's development. It provides proposals on the sub-sector coordination to establish coherent support to the sub-sector. The policy also addresses other key issues such as health, marketing and production.
- In terms of access to markets, access to information is one of the priority areas that should be driven by innovative mobile technology. This should inform price discovery and making information dissemination awareness for profitability for farmers and other entrepreneurs to be aware of as it relates to factors of production in the region and the species of fish. Over and above this there is need for infrastructure development in support of capture fisheries and aquaculture. Furthermore, market information would be critical for aquaculture planning and targeted fish marketing.
- Concerns were raised on the quality of the capacity building towards developing the aquaculture sub-sector. This was because of the proliferation of un-accredited training taking place at private farms. The training covered both the technical and business case of aquaculture. Poor capacity building could negatively affect the productivity of the sub-sector and turn away potential aquaculture entrepreneurs. This made the ZAEDP Training Curriculum and Practical Manual on Sustainable Aquaculture ever more relevant in the process of improving and standardizing the aquaculture capacity building.
- The lapses in enforcing standards were contributing to increased costs of production, poor yields and returns. The examples given included supply of sub-standard fingerlings, fry being sold as fingerlings, dam liners that did not meet official quality standards and fish feed that were neither properly packaged nor labelled. The environmental effects of the poor-quality inputs are an area that requires research. To complement public sector standards setting and regulatory roles, the private sector could undertake self-regulation. However, given the aforementioned failure to abide by standards by some private sector organisations, it would be prudent to build in safeguards against poor adherence to available standards by the

private sector. A defined complementary role of the Government's in standards setting and enforcement may help limit private sector drive for profit at the expense of some stakeholders and the environment. Further, some actions may cut across ministries/agencies thus a need for greater coordination is required. For instance, imported inputs are cleared at the border by the Zambia Revenue Authority, thus it needs capacity to identify and regulate these imports. The aquaculture sub-sector self-regulation can learn from the Law Association of Zambia on how its profession can be self-regulating.

- There was concern that the fish species approved for aquaculture may not be the most commercially viable as they took longer to grow than some other species. The ban on translocation of some more viable species from one part of the country was also seen as negatively affecting the productivity of the sub-sector. Given the foregoing, a request was made to government to allow introduction of new fish species and allow for translocation of more commercially viable species. Over and above this, there was a request that temporal permits be granted for use of new species and translocation between regions within the country. A concern was raised that inbreeding between a newly introduced species and the local one could result in less productive progeny, making the fishery less productive over time. However, Government was of the opinion that it was best to apply the precautionary principle as a species, once released into the wild, could become invasive. It would thereafter be practically impossible to eliminate it.
- The calls for aquaculture fish price regulations was seen as unnecessary, given the liberalised market. The call was by producers facing competition with bigger fish producers who had the productivity and economies of scale to sell their fish at a lower price. The lower price was also attributed to aggressive market behaviour and unfair trading practices by some producers. It was recommended that market and business development services (BDS) are required to assist fish producers improve their productivity, segment and differentiate their market to facilitate profitable returns. To this effect, a call was also made for value addition, that may also include creation of premium markets and supply of live fish that increase returns.
- The aquaculture financing window should pay cognisance to how the production and marketing of commercially adopted species can be funded through regular financial institutions. However, the fish that are currently mostly used for subsistence may need to be conserved to assure household food and nutrition security and conservation of Zambia's fish genetics. This may call for deployment of a separate financing window that could include grants. Further dialogue on fisheries and aquaculture can be informed by the Fisheries and Aquaculture Funds component of the National Aquaculture Development Plan 2015-2020. However, addressing aquaculture financing requires an evidence-based approach to prove that aquaculture is a bankable business venture.

The priorities for aquaculture are elaborated below.

Table 1: Aquaculture Priorities

Priority Areas	Actions to be undertaken
1. Market system development	Making markets work for fish farmers there is need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Design a market information system which should include software development</li> <li>b) Adopt mobile technologies for marketing</li> <li>c) Operationalize the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Development</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fund for provision of market capital</li> <li>d) Develop physical infrastructure for aquaculture development</li> <li>e) Develop cold chains for the fish market, and</li> <li><b>f) Differentiate and segment fish markets</b></li> </ul>
2. Financing strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Create investment promotion through commercial financing</li> <li>b) Research commercialisation of more fish species through grants</li> <li>c) Specify grants for conservation of fish species</li> <li>d) Create evidence on bankability of aquaculture enterprises</li> </ul>
3. Policy Framework Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Introduce private industry self-regulations</li> <li>b) Improve standard setting and enforcement capacities</li> </ul>
4. Improved Business Development Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Increase aquaculture infrastructure, e.g., aquaculture parks and other private infrastructure</li> <li>b) Enhance private public partnerships for efficiency and effectiveness of extension services</li> </ul>
5. Improved Knowledge Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Develop a virtual aquaculture library, for increased access to aquaculture knowledge. By definition it is open 24/7 and is accessible wherever the internet is available</li> <li>b) Improve knowledge management to generate and document lessons learned, good practices and best practices</li> </ul>
6. Private Sector Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Streamline the coordination roles of all stakeholders in the draft fisheries and aquaculture policy.</li> <li>b) Launch and operationalise ZAFAS, for enhanced fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector</li> <li>c) Increase the role of private sector in aquaculture development</li> </ul>
7. Production costs management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Research of ways to reduce aquaculture costs of production</li> <li>b) Make the already formulated feed content and packaging standards compulsory</li> </ul>
8. Research & Development	<p>Undertake research and development on fish species to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) improve fish species for their commercialisation</li> <li>b) maintain parent stock to retain genetic qualities, &amp; heritage conservation</li> <li>c) protect local genetic resources to avoid genetic contamination</li> <li>d) compare growth and profitability of fish species to inform decisions on fish species for commercial use and environmental effect</li> <li>e) investigate introduction of new fish species for commercial</li> <li>f) use in different localities, including their productivity and market acceptability</li> <li><b>g) fill gaps identified in current knowledge</b></li> <li>h) generate information on aquaculture fish food safety</li> <li>i) research feed content in relation to fish growth and commercial value</li> <li><b>j) Research feed content in relation to environmental effects</b></li> <li>k) Research on aquaculture fish food safety</li> </ul>
9. Climate Change & Environment	<p>Promote climate smart aquaculture through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) access to quality climate resilient seed (genetic improvement)</li> <li>b) equipping extension officers with up-to-date knowledge on climate resilient aquaculture</li> <li>c) better water management practices for smallholder farmer –use of solar energy</li> </ul>

#### 4.2 Capture Fisheries Priorities

The plenary session on capture fisheries noted that healthy natural water systems are able to restock themselves as long as the fish biomass exists. Given the expense of restocking and its low success rates, it was generally agreed that it is better to put resources towards promoting



sustainable capture fisheries, and setting aside breeding sanctuaries and fresh water protected areas to fulfil the function of restocking the wild fisheries<sup>1</sup>.

However, addressing capture fisheries is a multisectoral issue, as fish performance in water bodies is affected by factors like forest degradation, building of dams for agriculture, commercial and domestic use of the environment as well as environmental pollution. As such sector coordination of capture fisheries was seen as requirement towards ensuring a fishery that sustainably contributes to the economy.

A concern was raised about the post-harvest losses from point of catch to the consumer. As such, value addition within the fish value chain was considered appropriate. This included improvement of the cold chain, fish smoking and improved handling and packaging. Research may be required on how more fish species can be made commercially viable as only 40 of the available 400 fish species are commercially managed.

The following are thus the key action areas that came out of the plenary session on capture fisheries:

Table 2: Capture Fisheries Priorities

<b>Priority Areas</b>	<b>Action to be undertaken</b>
1. New species introduction	This is affected by heritage conservation, where the precautionary principle is applied. The possible activities include the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Improving local species for commercialisation</li> <li>b) Have evidence-based decision making, especially on impact of exotic species on local species and the environment</li> </ul>
2. Use of illegal gear	The activities shall include the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Increasing community participation in fisheries management</li> <li>b) Rolling out the guidelines that have been developed on use of fishing gear</li> <li>c) Introducing community extension services in fisheries management</li> <li>d) Partnering with NGOs in fisheries management</li> </ul>
3. Sector coordination	The activities shall include the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Setting up the multi stakeholder platform and cascading these stakeholder platforms to the district and grassroots levels</li> <li>b) Partnering with stakeholders whose mandates affect fisheries, organisations responsible for land, dams and forests</li> </ul>
4. Co-Management	The activities shall include the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Partnering with communities to implement fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance.</li> <li>b) Build capacities for communities to effectively participate in fisheries co-management</li> </ul>
6. Financing	The activities shall include the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Implement fisheries and aquaculture development fund that is in the Act</li> <li>b) Fully re-capitalise capture fisheries to enable it deliver its mandate</li> </ul>
7. Regulations	The activities shall include the following; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Regularly review legislation on an on-going basis to ensure it is current with the needs of the sub-sector</li> <li>c) Timely develop statutory instruments to respond to emerging issues</li> <li>d) Partner with ZRA to facilitate import of only approved fisheries gear</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Virtual contribution

8. Research and Development	<p>This can involve the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) undertake policy research on capture fisheries for evidence based decision making</li> <li>b) undertake market research to generate market data that should include information on women and youths as well as post-harvest losses</li> <li>c) encourage private sector participation in research</li> <li>d) Build capacity for research for both public and private sector players</li> <li>e) <i>Ensure commercial value protection by protecting research knowledge as well as the value of commercialised products</i></li> <li>f) Generate stock assessment information through the following activities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Undertake monitoring, control and surveillance</li> <li>✓ Develop models of fish growth for harvest decisions</li> <li>✓ Generate information on fish production and productivity in relation to profit</li> <li>✓ Produce an inventory of fish for each specific water body</li> <li>✓ Undertake taxonomic studies on relationships between fish and the environment</li> <li>✓ Undertake studies on fish behaviour, movement and feeding</li> <li>✓ Undertake studies on local fish species conservation, e.g., breeding areas protection</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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## 5.0 WAY FORWARD

The purpose of the Conference was to come up with action points aimed at getting the fisheries and aquaculture subsector back on track in pursuing its development agenda towards economic prosperity. Seven priorities/action points were extracted from the ones presented and adopted during the panel discussions. These action points, summarized below, apply to both the capture fisheries and aquaculture subsector.

- a) Access to markets is fundamental to the development of the fisheries and aquaculture subsector. This is so as markets drive production. The MFL should therefore adopt fish farming as a business and ensure that it is embedded in all its activities. To this end the ministry should promote access to market information through innovative mobile technology as one of the most priority areas. Over and above this, there is need for infrastructure development (feeder roads & cold chains) in support of capture fisheries and aquaculture.
  
- b) The Department of Fisheries should regulate the provision of extension services to fish farmers. This is because of the proliferation of un-accredited training taking place at private farms, which could negatively affect the productivity of the sector and turn away potential aquaculture entrepreneurs. Making use of the ZAEDP Training Curriculum and Practical Manual on Sustainable Aquaculture should be spear-headed by the MFL in order to improve and standardize the aquaculture capacity building.
  
- c) The MFL and other relevant government agencies should facilitate the adoption and enforcement of improved standards in capture fisheries and aquaculture. The lapses in enforcing standards have been noted to be contributing to increased costs of production, poor yields and returns. The examples given included supply of sub-standard fingerlings and fry really, dam liners that did not meet official quality standards and fish feed that were neither properly packaged nor labelled.

- d) Stakeholder consultations in the fisheries and aquaculture subsector should be encouraged by the government as this will improve private sector participation in the governance of the capture fisheries and aquaculture sub-sectors. In addition, strengthened stakeholder partnerships for improved capture fisheries and aquaculture values chains should be facilitated by the MFL
- e) The MFL should continue applying the precautionary principle, on introduction of new species and translocation between regions within the country as exotic species are near impossible to eradicate once they are introduced into open water or other riverine systems. This is in light of current knowledge that inbreeding between a newly introduced species and the local ones could result in less productive progeny, making the fishery less productive over time.
- f) The MFL should ensure that the aquaculture financing window pays cognisance to how the production and marketing of commercially adopted species can be funded through regular financial institutions. In addition, the ministry should ensure that grants are made available for the conservation and development into commercial production of fish species that are currently used for subsistence.
- g) Improved knowledge management for better knowledge transfer and evidence-based decision making for both the capture fisheries and aquaculture; Establish a strong self-sustaining research and development unit within the fisheries and aquaculture industry to undertake cost-effective and state of the art research that is problem oriented.

## 6.0 CLOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

The Acting Permanent Secretary, Mr. Katongo, was at hand to close the meeting. He observed that the conference came at an opportune time when the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector was facing a number of challenges that could only be addressed through concerted efforts. The conference provided an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss various issues negatively affecting the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector and suggest some actions/solutions, which can rejuvenate the sub-sector, for both short-term and long-term growth

Mr. Katongo expressed the government's appreciation for the open dialogue and valuable contributions from the stakeholders on how the sub-sector can be transformed for economic prosperity. The government was committed to providing leadership in addressing the challenges that are hindering the sub-sector from realizing its full potential and to provide an enabling policy environment for enhanced development of the sub-sector.

Mr. Katongo thanked the Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF) for partnering with the government, and through the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, in bringing together participants from across the country to take part in the conference. He proceeded to thank all the participants for participating in the conference. Lastly, he thanked all the various sponsors for their contribution to the successful hosting of this event.

The Acting Permanent Secretary Mr. Katongo finally declared the conference officially closed.

## **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1: Conference Concept Note**



**AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

**CONCEPT NOTE**

**Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture Development for Economic Prosperity in Zambia**

**Presented to the**

**Permanent Secretary**

**Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock**

**Mulungushi House**

**LUSAKA**

**CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ECONOMIC  
PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA**

**Date: 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2022**

**Venue: Mulungushi International Conference Center**

***Overall Conference Theme: “Reinvigorating the Fisheries and Aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, through the Value Chain Approach.”***

## 1.0 Background information

The Zambian fisheries industry is a major part of the country’s economic transformation agenda. This is reflected in part, by the creation of the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock in 2015. Before this, fisheries and livestock were mere departments in the Ministry of Agriculture.

According to FAO (2022), Zambia has about 15 million hectares of water in form of rivers, lakes, and swamps, which provide the basis for extensive freshwater fisheries. The fisheries sub-sector consists of two production systems, namely; capture fisheries and aquaculture. Capture fisheries involves the harvesting of naturally occurring fish resources in the naturally occurring water bodies whereas aquaculture is breeding, raising, and harvesting fish in aquaculture facilities.

Capture fisheries and aquaculture contribute about 3.2% to the Country’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and provide significant jobs in rural areas. Per capita fish consumption amounted to about 11 kg in 2020. Both capture and aquaculture products contribute to the domestic market, but additional fish needs to be imported as the country is unable to meet its demand. In recent years, the government of Zambia fostered the development of aquaculture fish production, in order to reduce imported fish.

The development of fisheries and aquaculture is one of the Government policies. However, there are several challenges that impact the performance of the sub-sector. The key issues include limited processing chain to add value to fish and fish products, limited competition among service providers to the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, uncoordinated marketing systems, over-exploitation of the resources, limited access to high quality feed and fingerlings, inadequate knowledge and technical skills, limited access to affordable financing and limited presence of government extension officers.

Therefore, there is a need to reinvigorate the Zambian fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector-, so as to exploit its optimal potential in contributing to the country’s socio-economic development, especially in ameliorating rural poverty and malnutrition.

It is, therefore, proposed that a one-day conference be held to bring key fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders together to discuss various issues negatively affecting the sub-sector, and suggest some actions/solutions, in order to rejuvenate the sub-sector, for both short-term and long-term national growth and development objectives.

## 2.0 Conference Aims and Objectives

The conference is aimed at setting an agenda for regular policy dialogues to amplify the contribution of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector to economic development.

## 2.1 Specific objectives include:

- iii). To provide a platform for all value chain players (scientists, fish farmers, processors, input suppliers, policy makers, etc.) in the fisheries and aquaculture industry to speak with one voice, exchange and share practical experiences and results, for the growth and development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia.
- iv). To create synergies within the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector and contribute to the policy direction and aspirations of the new dawn government, regarding fisheries and aquaculture development in Zambia.

## 3.0 Main Conference Presentations

The following are the proposed presentations and discussions for the conference:

- a. Two presentations, i.e. (i) by the Private sector and (ii) by the Government/Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, on the “Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, including the way forward for enhanced development of the sub-sector”. This is so as to understand and appreciate the perspectives of both the private sector and public sector on the status and progress of Zambia’s fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- b. A panel and plenary session will be held after the above presentations, to get the stakeholders’ views and suggested actions for the way forward on the rejuvenation and/or transformation of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, to enhance its performance.

## 4.0 Outputs

The expected outputs from the Fisheries and Aquaculture conference include:

- vi. Identification and synthesis of key issues and challenges that are hindering the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- vii. Identification of key priority areas and/or topics for future discussions in the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- viii. Creation of (specialized) sub-committees to deal with the identified and prioritized issues/challenges/topics in the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- ix. A roadmap for Zambia’s Fisheries and Aquaculture sub-sector transformation.
- x. Consensus on the establishment of a regular and formal discussion platform for all the fisheries and aquaculture value chain stakeholders, on various issues affecting the development of the sub-sector.

## 5.0 Outcomes

The following are the expected outcomes of the fisheries and aquaculture conference:

- iv. Shared understanding and appreciation of the existing gaps and challenges plaguing the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- v. Galvanized consensus and proactive efforts aimed at addressing the challenges by both state and non-state actors.

- vi. Formalized and regularized stakeholder (State and Non-state) policy engagements for providing an enabling environment for fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector growth and development.

## 6.0 Conclusion

It is believed and hoped that this proposed conference will bring out current issues/topics that will eventually lead to the creation of action plans/points that will spur the growth and development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia; by efficient and maximum utilization of the Country's human, economic and natural resources potential.



**TENTATIVE PROGRAMME FOR THE CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE  
DEVELOPMENT FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
08:00– 08:30	Registration	ACF/DOF	Ndona, Malili,Ruth, Milia, Lutangu & Namangolwa
	Courtesy-call (Side meeting for Minister MFL and FAO Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture)	DOF & PPID directors	T. Tonga & Francis
08:30-08:35	National Anthem and Prayer		To be played
08:35-08:45	Introductions and Objectives of the Conference	Mr. Masiye Nawiko	Mr. Masiye Nawiko
08:45-08:50	Welcoming Remarks	Mr. James Kasongo	Mr. Masiye Nawiko
08:50 -08:55	Welcoming Remarks	Dr. Harris Phiri Fisheries	Gregory Chilufya
09:00 -09:05	Remarks contributing to the achievement of the SDG and UN decades on the Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and Ecosystem Restoration	UNRC – Ms Beatrice Munthali	Gregory Chilufya
09:05 – 09:15	FAO Representative Remarks and calling on the FAO Director of Fisheries & Aquaculture	Ms. Suze Percy Filippini	Gregory Chilufya
09:15 – 09:30	Key Note Speech Blue Transformation and the role of Aquaculture on food security, nutrition, economic growth and balance of trade”	FAO - Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture - Professor Manuel Barange	Gregory Chilufya
09:30 -09:40	Remarks by the Permanent Secretary and call upon the Minister for Official Opening Remarks	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. Dr. Anna Songolo	Gregory Chilufya
09:40 – 10:00	Official Opening	Minister of Fisheries and Livestock – Honorable Makozo Chikote	Permanent Secretary. Dr. Anna Songolo
10:00 – 10:15	<b>Photo Session and Tea Break</b>		
	<b>Presentations</b>		
10:15 – 10:45	i). Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, and way forward for enhanced development of the sub-sector ( <u>Government perspective</u> )	Director-Department of Fisheries; MFL - Dr. Harris Phiri	Gregory Chilufya

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10:45 – 11:00	ii) Presentation by Zambia Forum for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (ZFSFA) on their role in Fisheries and Aquaculture Development	Prof. Cyprian Katongo University of Zambia	Gregory Chilufya
11:00 – 11:30	iii) Past and present developments of the Zambian Fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector, and way forward for enhanced development of the Zambian Fisheries sub-sector ( <u>Private sector perspective</u> )	Mr. Likando Mukumbuta and Mr. Baldwin Chibuta	Gregory Chilufya
12:00 -12:30	Iv) FAO interventions in other countries in the SSA, what works and not. The case of the UTF-MFL	<u>Dr. Ana Menezes</u>	Gregory Chilufya
12:30 – 13:00	Plenary Sessions and feedback on the presentations	All	Gregory Chilufya
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>		
14:00-15:30	Panel Discussions (7 Key thematic issues)	All	Gregory Chilufya
15:30 – 16:00	<b>TEA BREAK</b>		
16:00- 16:30	Communique	ACF	Gregory Chilufya
16:30 – 16:45	Official Closing	PS/Minister	Gregory Chilufya

### Conference Steering Committee

1. Mr Masiye Nawiko – Agricultural Consultative Forum
2. Mr Christian Chomba- Agricultural Consultative Forum
3. Mr Timothy Tonga – Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
4. Mr. Mbamwai Mbewe – Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
5. Mr. Martin Mwale - Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
6. Dr. Evans Mutanuka- Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
7. Ms Zyangani Chirambo – -Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
8. Mr. Badwin Chibuta – Aquaculture Development Association of Zambia (ADAZ)
9. Mr. Francis Chimpangu – Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
10. Mr. Lizzen Moono \_ Zambia Aquaculture Enterprise Development Project

**Appendix 2: List of participants**

**ATTENDANCE LIST – CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA, MULUNGUSHI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE, LUSAKA – 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2022**

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**Appendix 3: Welcome speech, Mr. James Kasongo, ACF Board Chairperson**



**Opening Remarks by the ACF Chairperson**

At the CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ECONOMIC  
PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA

*Theme: “Reinvigorating the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, through the Value  
Chain Approach.”*

**Held**

**In, Lusaka, Zambia**

**On 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**at**

**Mulungushi International Conference Centre (MICC)**

The Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Hon. Makozo Chikote

The UN Resident Coordinator – Ms. Beatrice Mutali

The FAO Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture - Professor Manuel Barange

The FAO Country Representative, Ms. Suze Percy-Filippini

The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Dr. Anna Songolo

Your Excellencies

Distinguished invited guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my great pleasure and honour to welcome all of you to this **conference on fisheries and aquaculture development for economic prosperity in Zambia**.

This Conference has been organized by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, in partnership with the Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the WorldFish.

The conference is aimed at setting an agenda for regular policy dialogues to amplify the contribution of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector to Zambia's household and national socio-economic growth and development.

The objectives of this Conference include:

- i). To provide a platform for all value chain players (scientists, fish farmers, processors, input suppliers, policy makers, etc.) in the fisheries and aquaculture industry to speak with one voice, exchange and share practical experiences, ideas, and results, for the growth and development of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia; and
- ii). To create synergies within the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector and contribute to the policy direction and aspirations of the new dawn government, regarding fisheries and aquaculture development in Zambia.

**Hon Minister, Your Excellences, Dear Participants,**

ACF is an innovative public-private sector policy dialogue platform, that provides an opportunity for multi-stakeholder consultations on government's agricultural policies, strategies and programmes and other agricultural-related policy interventions or issues, in Zambia, in particular; and the Region and Globally, in general. It contributes to information sharing, coordination and networking among agricultural stakeholders. ACF also monitors the implementation of government agricultural policies, strategies and programmes and undertakes agricultural policy analysis and research. Over the

years, our institution, has contributed to the increased stakeholder-ownership of various policies and programmes, and participation in their formulation processes.

**Guest of Honour, Your Excellences, Distinguished invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

This Conference will be characterized by keynote speeches and expert presentations. These will be followed by group and plenary sessions to get the stakeholders' views and suggested actions for the way forward on the rejuvenation and/or transformation of the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector in Zambia, to enhance its performance and contribution to the national economy and livelihoods of Zambians.

The expected outcomes from this fisheries and aquaculture conference include;

- i. Shared understanding and appreciation of the existing gaps and challenges plaguing the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.
- ii. Galvanized consensus and proactive efforts aimed at addressing the challenges by both state and non-state actors.
- iii. Formalized and regularized stakeholder (State and Non-state) policy engagements for providing an enabling environment for fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector growth and development.

**Guest of Honour,**

Let me take this opportunity to thank your Ministry, FAO and WorldFish for partnering with ACF in hosting this Conference. The outcomes of this conference will obviously augment Zambia's efforts in developing the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector.

**Guest of Honour, Distinguished invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In conclusion, on behalf of the ACF Members and the Board, I have the pleasure and honour to once again welcome you all to this Conference.

I also wish to appeal to all the invited participants present here, to take the deliberations of this dialogue seriously. The outcomes of this conference, I am convinced will make a timely and useful contribution to the development of the upcoming second-generation National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP 2) and other future fisheries and aquaculture-related policies, programmes and plans, in Zambia.

Thank you for your attention and participation.

**Appendix 4: UNRC opening remarks, Mrs. Beatrice Mutali**



**Remarks by the UN Resident Coordinator, Mrs. Beatrice Mutali during the Fisheries and Aquaculture Conference on 15 September 2022 at Mulungushi International Conference Center.**

- Honorable Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Hon. Makozo Chikote, MP.
- Your Excellences,
- Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Dr. Manuel Barange
- The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
- The FAO Representative and Heads of UN Agencies Represented here
- Your Excellences
- Senior Government Officials and Representatives from line Ministries present here
- Ladies and Gentlemen
- Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the United Nations System in Zambia, I am honored to attend this important forum of national reflection on the important sub-sectors of the economy such as Fisheries and Aquaculture.

This INDABA takes place in a very crucial moment not only for Zambia but when the world is also reflecting and celebrating two crucial subjects for the sustainability of life on earth: the “Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development” and the “UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration”.

When talking about the UN Decade of the Oceans and Ecosystem Restoration from fisheries and aquaculture context, our immediate image is of the Marine environment, the Ocean, and we tend to sit in our places and think that those matters do not concern us because we are a landlocked country. Scientific understanding of the ocean’s responses to pressures and appropriate corresponding management action is fundamental for sustainable development.

Ocean and coastal bodies’ observations and research are essential to predict the consequences of change, design mitigation and guide adaptation. Whatever happens in the ocean in the region, for example of Mozambique, Seychelles or South Africa can affect Zambia in terms of weather and climatic conditions.

Moreover, the socio-economic status can be affected due to imbalances that might be created in the fish supply and consumption, trade and so forth. I further recognise the importance of ocean science in providing useful weather information used to predict extreme weather events. The oceans influence climate by absorbing solar radiation and releasing heat needed to drive the atmospheric circulation, by releasing aerosols that influence cloud cover, by emitting most of the water that falls on land as rain, by absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration provides a unique opportunity to transform food, fiber, and feed production systems to the needs of the 21st century, and to eradicate poverty, hunger and malnutrition through effective and innovative landscapes and seascapes management. The

restoration of forest landscapes, farming, livestock and fish-producing ecosystems should primarily contribute to restoring these ecosystems to a healthy and stable state, so that they are able to support human needs for sustainable food production and livelihoods. The ultimate objective of these restorative efforts should be to reverse the trend in many unsustainable agricultural systems, optimizing the ecological interactions between plants, animals, humans, and the environment, while leaving no-one behind.

Ecosystem Restoration from a fisheries and aquaculture perspective include efforts to minimize impacts on ecosystems structure and function by collateral effects of human activities. This includes rebuilding fish stocks in our lakes and rivers, policy development, management strategies and implementation mechanisms supported by science-based monitoring and scientific advice, and for which I would like to recognize my colleagues from the Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) who are the UN competent authority.

There are many ecosystem restoration and coastal science interventions in freshwater aquatic ecosystems that need our individual and collective attention. Let me mention just a few related to today's INDABA:

Integrated agriculture-aquaculture, to mitigate degraded systems and as part of a broader agro-ecological; creating additional refuge and nursery spaces in aquatic environments for fish and other terrestrial animals; implementation of strict banning of destructive fishing gears and methods; restocking freshwater bodies with native species; and introducing watershed management and erosion control approaches, among many other actions that I am sure you will discuss in this forum.

It is my hope that this forum will reflect on these matters and not look solely at the production aspects. I am calling upon this wide audience of policymakers, managers, scientists, farmers, and fisher folks, and so many stakeholders interested in the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector to join the wave for transformative steps to secure sustainable, efficient, and equitable agri-food systems, while also creating new job opportunities for the youth. Fisheries and Aquaculture are part of them.

**Honorable Minister,**

Let me also take this opportunity to renew the engagement of the UN system to continue supporting the Government of Zambia in achieving the Sustainable development Goals (SDGs). This support will continue through the implementation of the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2026 focusing on the 5 Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships) that shape the SDGs and make them an intertwined framework instead of a group of siloed goals, with the aim of leaving No one behind.

I thank you.

**Appendix 5: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Representative in Zambia, Ms. Suze Percy Filippini**



**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations**

**Remarks given by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Representative in Zambia Ms. Suze Percy Filippini during the INDABA Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture Development for Economic Prosperity in Zambia**

**15 September 2022**

- Honourable Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Hon. Makozo Chikote, MP.
- Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Dr. Manuel Barange
- The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Dr. Anna Songolo
- Heads of UN Agencies represented here
- Your Excellences
- Representatives from the various International Agencies and development partners
- All Directors present here
- Representatives from Academic and Research Institutions, Professional Bodies
- Colleagues from the FAO
- Distinguished Participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

**Good Morning,**

May I take this opportunity to sincerely thank you all for finding time from your busy schedules to attend this INDABA Conference on Fisheries and Aquaculture Development for Economic Prosperity in Zambia. Allow me, Honourable Minister, to convey on behalf of FAO our best wishes for the Ministry's success in the year 2022-2023 in placing aquaculture and fisheries sub-sector in the government top priority agenda and presenting aquaculture to the citizenry as a serious and viable business opportunity.

As outlined in the Eighth National Development Plan (8th NDP), the Government of Zambia plans to put in place key interventions in fisheries to promote investments for increased fingerling production and establish and operationalize fish breeding and freezing centres as measures to bridge the domestic fish deficit and expand into the regional market. We congratulate the Government of Zambia for this vision. FAO wishes to acknowledge the efforts that have been made by various players to fill up the deficit.

FAO would like to recognize that the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to end poverty, hunger and malnutrition and enable sustainable development in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, and combat and adapt to climate change, leaving no one behind, is dependent on strong partnerships. Success of the ZAEDP would not have been possible without the unwavering support of donors, the African Development Bank and other technical and financial partners.

**Guest of Honour and Distinguished Participants**

Today, I am happy to be here and share some of the results that, as FAO, we have committed to assist the Government of Republic of Zambia to implement for the development of the aquaculture sub-sector in the country. As you are aware, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United

Nations (FAO) has been providing technical assistance for the execution of the ZAEDP, through a Unilateral Trust Fund (UTF) project.

The ultimate goal of this project is to develop a domestic aquaculture sub-sector as a viable and inclusive business opportunity through enhanced production and productivity to improve the livelihoods of the beneficiaries along the aquaculture value chain.

The ZAEDP component entrusted to FAO addresses critical issues that at the time of its formulations were recognized as the main challenges faced by the aquaculture sub-sector and where FAO would have a comparative technical advantage due to our extensive knowledge. Since its inception, FAO has been working hand in hand with our government partners, specially the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, academic and research institutions and farmers on the following areas:

1. Improve feed quality assurance capacity;
2. Improve capacity areas of the Zambian Finance Institutions, government officers, extension services and farmers with respect to best aquaculture practices and related risks;
3. Food Safety related to fishery and aquaculture products;
4. Aquatic Animal Health Management; and,
5. Capacity aspects related to National Aquaculture Statistics Information System.

Today, I am happy to inform you on some of the achievements of this project, which are summarized in the booklet which has been circulated here titled ***“Sustainable Fish for All: an overview of aquaculture development in Zambia in partnership with FAO”***. You will notice that to deliver those Five outputs, main actions have been around three main pillars: Institutional development and legal frameworks, Infrastructure development and promotion of best practices and Capacity building and knowledge sharing.

For the sake of time, I would not go on detail of the various deliverables of this project. Instead, I would like to invite you to read the booklet and use this conference to reflect on the advantages of building articulated and integrated projects that address the various aspects of one efficient aquaculture value chain.

#### **Honourable Minister and Distinguished Participants,**

I would like to recognize the special support from the AfDB that not only provided the funds for this important project, but also follows its implementation with keen interest on its sustainability and expansion to other parts of the African continent.

**Ladies and Gentlemen allow me to specially mention that Output 2** of this project, has been fully accomplished. This output had a strong foundation on capacity building of financial and technical institutions. Some of the factors identified as necessary for the development of the aquaculture sector are the creation of knowledge and the strengthening of institutional and technical capacities, the combination of technical principles with enviro-socio-economic and governance principles. Formal and non-formal education was prioritized to increase the level of expertise, competency and skills of the different actors in the aquaculture sub-sector. Innovative education and training programmes were developed to enhance knowledge and skills and improve food security, nutrition, economic growth and employment and to advance the sub-sector in Zambia and all of Africa.

AfDB, has strongly supported us to this end and urged us to make a curriculum and a manual that would transpose the borders of Zambia. With the support of farmers around all Sub-Saharan Africa, dedicated colleagues from government and FAO, academia and practitioners, FAO produced a training curriculum and practical manual on sustainable aquaculture for Zambia, and it is foreseen



that other African countries will adopt and adapt this curriculum and training materials dependent upon their specific context.

I am delighted, in this INDABA conference, to present to you this important project output, which has been distributed here, as we strongly believe that this product will not only serve the MFL but the Ministry of education, the Ministry of Science and technology, Universities, technical and vocational schools, financial institutions and all aquaculture farmers in general. Designed as a resource guide, the document includes two parts such as: (Part I) a training curriculum, and Part II in the form of a comprehensive training manual on sustainable aquaculture, made of five technical Modules.

**Ladies and gentlemen,** the results of this project should contribute to the development of commercial aquaculture in Zambia, the overall efforts of various players in the economy of Zambia to safeguard supply of fish to all Zambians, especially the poor rural and urban consumers, improve markets at national and regional level, and improve access to nutritious food for the whole population.

Finally yet importantly, allow me to mention that 2022 was declared by the United Nations General Assembly as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA 2022). IYAFA 2022 is an important recognition of the millions of fish farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers who provide healthy and nutritious food to millions of people and contribute to zero hunger. FAO remains committed to promoting the contribution of these sub-sectors in sustainable food systems, and in Zambia we are committed through other initiatives such as the ACP and the OYA projects, among others. We thank the European Union, the UNIDO and the AUC for their incredible support and partnership with FAO.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Without taking much of your time, I wish to thank you all for being with us today, as we together combine efforts to accelerate the country' growth through enhancing the participation of Zambians in aquaculture value chain' enterprises. FAO would like to assure its commitment to the government of Zambia to take this project to a good end ensuring that people's food and nutrition security and improved livelihoods are of paramount importance to the FAO mandate.

Thank you all, and God bless.

**Appendix 6: Opening speech by the Minister of Fisheries and Livestock, Honourable Makozi Chikote**



**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

**SPEECH BY THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK**

**HON. MAKOZI CHIKOTE, MP**

**CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ECONOMIC  
PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA**

**HELD**

**ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

**AT MULUNGUSHI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE (MICC), LUSAKA, ZAMBIA.**

**CHAIRPERSON - THE AGRICULTURE CONSULTATIVE FORUM**  
**DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE - FAO**  
**YOUR EXCELLENCES,**  
**COOPERATING PARTNERS,**  
**SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS**  
**DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUESTS,**

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

IT IS INDEED A GREAT HONOUR TO OFFICIATE AT THIS FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA WITH THE THEME ***“REINVIGORATING THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR IN ZAMBIA THROUGH THE VALUE CHAIN APPROACH”***. I WISH TO WELCOME ALL OF YOU TO THIS CONFERENCE AND THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING POSITIVELY TO THE INVITATION. THIS IS A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF A JOINT ASPIRATION TO TRANSFORM THE SUB-SECTOR. THE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN ORGANIZED JOINTLY BY MY MINISTRY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIVE FORUM (ACF). I REGISTER APPRECIATION TO MY MINISTRY STAFF AND ACF FOR A WELL-ORGANIZED CONFERENCE.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

THE POTENTIAL FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR GROWTH IS IMMENSE IN THIS COUNTRY. THE SUB SECTOR IS IMPORTANT IN THE ECONOMY OF ZAMBIA AS IT HAS POTENTIAL TO BE ONE OF THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO EMPLOYMENT, INCOME GENERATION AND FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY. CURRENTLY, OVER ONE MILLION PEOPLE IN ZAMBIA EARN THEIR INCOME DIRECTLY AS FISHERS AND FISH FARMERS OR INDIRECTLY AS TRADERS, PROCESSORS, AND OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

ALTHOUGH ZAMBIA IS ENDOWED WITH ABUNDANT WATER RESOURCES THAT OFFER SIGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITIES, ABOUT 50% OF THE ESTIMATED FISH DEMAND IS UNMET. IN RESPONSE TO HIGH DEMAND WHICH OUTSTRIPS SUPPLY FOR FISH AND THE DECLINING PER CAPITA FISH CATCH IN OUR NATURAL WATER BODIES, GOVERNMENT IS PROMOTING INVESTMENT (BOTH LOCAL AND FOREIGN) INTO THE FISHERIES SUB-SECTOR IN A BID TO FOSTER GOWTH. FURTHER, GOVERNMENT HAS CONTINUED TO PROMOTE AQUACULTURE AND SUSTAINABLE FISHING TECHNOLOGIES.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

GOVERNMENT IS FULLY AWARE OF THE ENCUMBRANCES THAT THE SUB-SECTOR IS FACING. THESE INCLUDE LOW AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY FINGERLINGS, INADEQUATE EXTENSION SERVICES, ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS, LOW AVAILABILITY OF GOOD QUALITY AND AFFORDABLE FEED AND COMPETITION FROM CHEAPER IMPORTED INPUTS. FURTHER, FISH PRODUCTION AND MARKETING IN ZAMBIA REMAINS SIGNIFICANTLY SUBSISTENCE RATHER THAN COMMERCIAL, THE SUBSISTENCE NATURE OF FISHERIES LIMITS ITS POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOODS AND THE SUB-SECTOR'S VALUE ADDITION AND CONTRIBUTION TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IS STILL RELATIVELY LOW.

THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS POSES A CHALLENGE BUT ALSO AND MORE IMPORTANTLY PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO REASSESS THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR'S PERFORMANCE. THIS REQUIRES COMING UP WITH TANGIBLE, EFFECTIVE AND SMART STRATEGIES TO POSITION THE SUB-SECTOR TO NOT ONLY MEET THE IMPENDING INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR FISH PRODUCTS, BUT ALSO TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE REGIONAL MARKETS AND TO CONTRIBUTE MORE MEANINGFULLY TO THE LIVELIHOODS, GDP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

THIS CONFERENCE, WHOSE THEME IS "***REINVIGORATING THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR IN ZAMBIA, THROUGH THE VALUE CHAIN APPROACH***", HAS COME AT AN OPPORTUNE TIME, FOR IT WILL ENABLE STAKEHOLDERS TO REVIEW THE PERFORMANCE AND COME UP WITH PROPOSALS FOR REVIVING THE SUB-SECTOR. THE VALUE CHAIN APPROACH TO FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT IS BEING ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE MOST PRACTICAL AND COST-EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPING THE SUB-SECTOR WORLDWIDE, AND WHERE IT HAS BEEN USED, SIGNIFICANT STRIDES HAVE BEEN MADE IN POSITIONING THE SUB-SECTOR AS A FORMIDABLE VEHICLE FOR DEVELOPMENT.

THE VALUE CHAIN APPROACH ENABLES A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF ALL THE FACETS OF INPUT SUPPLY, PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION AND MARKETING, WHICH IN TURN FACILITATES MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE DECISION-MAKING LEADING TO BETTER QUALITY PRODUCTS AND INCREASED RETURN ON INVESTMENTS. THE NEW DAWN GOVERNMENT ATTACHES UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES IN ZAMBIA AND PLACES ITS DEVELOPMENT HIGHLY ON ITS LIST OF PRIORITIES

THE GOVERNMENT IS, HOWEVER, CONCERNED THAT DESPITE MILLIONS OF PUBLIC SECTOR FUNDS BEING INVESTED IN THE SUB-SECTOR IT HAS STILL NOT YIELDED THE DESIRED RESULTS. IT IS IN THIS LIGHT THAT GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO SEE A

RADICLE TRANSFORMATION OF THE SUB-SECTOR TO ENSURE THAT IT ACHIEVES ITS INTENDED PURPOSE OF ENHANCING LIVELIHOODS AND BEING A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR TO THE NATION'S GDP AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. SUCH TRANSFORMATION SHOULD BE BASED ON ADOPTING THE MOST APPROPRIATE PRODUCTION METHODOLOGIES AND TECHNOLOGIES, SCIENCE-BASED AND COST-EFFECTIVE DISEASE CONTROL MEASURES, INTEGRATION OF SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS AND OTHER MARKET REQUIREMENTS. CAPACITY BUILDING FOR VALUE CHAIN PLAYERS IN SUCH METHODOLOGIES AND TECHNOLOGIES, AS WELL AS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MARKETING SKILLS WILL BE CARDINAL IN THIS TRANSFORMATION.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I AM VERY CONFIDENT THAT WITH THE HIGH-LEVEL PARTICIPATION AND DIVERSITY OF STAKEHOLDERS AT THIS CONFERENCE, PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS WILL BE FOUND TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES FACING THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR. I AM ALSO HOPEFUL THAT THE DISCUSSIONS FROM THE CONFERENCE WILL GENERATE MEANINGFUL RESOLUTIONS THAT WOULD CATALYZE THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE SUB-SECTOR IN ZAMBIA.

WITH THESE FEW REMARKS, ALLOW ME TO THANK YOU ALL, ONCE AGAIN, FOR JOINING US AT THIS FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE; AND ACF AND MY MINISTRY FOR ORGANIZING THIS MEETING, AND THE VARIOUS SPONSORS FOR FUNDING THIS EVENT.

IT IS NOW MY SINGULAR HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE TO OFFICIALLY DECLARE THIS CONFERENCE OPEN.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

**Appendix 7: Closing speech by the Permanent Secretary for Fisheries and Livestock, Dr. Anna Songolo**



**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY DR. ANNA SONGOLO, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF  
FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK**

**AT THE**

**CONFERENCE ON FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ECONOMIC  
PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA**

**HELD**

**IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA**

**ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2022**

**AT MULUNGUSHI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE (MICC).**

THE ACF CHAIRPERSON,  
YOUR EXCELLENCES,  
COOPERATING PARTNERS,  
DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUESTS,  
**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO OFFER THE CLOSING REMARKS AT THIS FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY IN ZAMBIA WITH THE THEME “**REINVIGORATING THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR IN ZAMBIA THROUGH THE VALUE CHAIN APPROACH**”.

THIS CONFERENCE HAS COME AT AN OPPORTUNE TIME WHEN THE FISHERIES SUB-SECTOR IS FACING A NUMBER OF CHALLENGES THAT CAN ONLY BE ADDRESSED THROUGH CONCERTED EFFORT. THIS WORKSHOP HAS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STAKEHOLDERS TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ISSUES NEGATIVELY AFFECTING THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR. WE HAVE SUGGESTED SOME ACTIONS/SOLUTIONS, AND IDENTIFIED SOME OPPORTUNITIES, WHICH, IF IMPLEMENTED WITH SUPPORT FROM ALL OF YOU, WILL REJUVENATE THE SUB-SECTOR, FOR BOTH SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM GROWTH.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

THROUGHOUT THE DAY WE HAVE LISTENED AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE VARIOUS INTERESTING AND PRACTICAL PRESENTATIONS FROM VARIOUS PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS, AND DISCUSSIONS ON KEY ISSUES AFFECTING THE SUB-SECTOR. AS GOVERNMENT, WE APPRECIATE THE OPEN DIALOGUE AND VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS ON HOW THE SUB-SECTOR CAN BE TRANSFORMED FOR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY. YOUR GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN ADDRESSING THESE CHALLENGES THAT ARE HINDERING THE SUB-SECTOR FROM

REALIZING ITS FULL POTENTIAL, AND TO PROVIDE AN ENABLING POLICY ENVIRONMENT FOR ENHANCED DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUB-SECTOR.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I WISH TO THANK ALL OF YOU, OUR STAKEHOLDERS, FOR YOUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND SERIOUSNESS SHOWN IN REFLECTING ON THE ISSUES AFFECTING THE SUB-SECTOR DURING THIS CONFERENCE. I THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR PUTTING FORWARD PRACTICAL PROPOSALS AND RESOLUTIONS THAT NEED TO BE IMPLEMENTED TO TRANSFORM THE SUB-SECTOR IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S SUB-SECTOR POLICIES AND STRATEGIES, AS OUTLINED IN OUR NATIONAL POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS.

I KNOW THAT THIS CONFERENCE ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES THAT HAVE AFFECTED THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUB-SECTOR FOR MANY YEARS. HOWEVER, I AM COMFORTED THAT THERE ARE ALREADY PROGRESSIVE DIALOGUES BEING HELD BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND STAKEHOLDERS IN THE SUB-SECTOR, TO COMPLEMENT THESE RESOLUTIONS AND PROPOSED ACTIONS. THESE POSITIVE DIALOGUES WILL ENSURE THAT THE AGREED RESOLUTIONS FROM THIS CONFERENCE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT FAIL. THIS CONFERENCE SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS A MERE FORMALITY BUT A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION TO ACHIEVING POSITIVE RESULTS. WE ALL KNOW THAT THE SUB-SECTOR HAS HUGE MARKETS, BOTH LOCALLY AND OUTSIDE, BUT THE QUESTION IS HOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SATISFY THE MARKET DEMAND. THERE IS, THEREFORE, NEED TO PRIORITIZE THE MEASURES THAT HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON DURING THIS CONFERENCE.



I THEREFORE WANT TO THANK THE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIVE FORUM (ACF) FOR PARTNERING WITH THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH MY MINISTRY, IN BRINGING TOGETHER PARTICIPANTS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO TAKE PART IN THIS CONFERENCE.

WITH THESE FEW REMARKS, ALLOW ME TO THANK YOU ALL ONCE AGAIN FOR JOINING US AT THIS CONFERENCE, AND ACF AND MFL STAFF FOR ORGANIZING THIS CONFERENCE. I ALSO THANK ALL THE VARIOUS SPONSORS FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESSFUL HOSTING OF THIS EVENT.

IT IS NOW MY SINGULAR HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE TO DECLARE THIS CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY CLOSED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

**Appendix 8: The Conference in Pictures**



Left to right; Mr. Fisho Mwale – ADAZ Chairman, Mr. Katongo – Acting Permanent Secretary MFL, Mr. James Kasongo – Chairman ACF Board, Honourable Makozi Chikote – Minister of MFL, Professor Manuel Barange – Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture at FAO and Her Excellency Mrs. Beatrice Mutali - UN Resident Coordinator



The Minister for Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, the Honourable Makozi Chikote MP



UN Resident Coordinator, Zambia, Her Excellency Mrs. Beatrice Mutali



Acting Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock. Mr. Katongo



Director for Fisheries and Aquaculture, FAO-UN, Professor Manuel Barange



Representative, FAO-UN Zambia, Ms. Suze Percy Filippini



Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Dr. Harris Phiri



Conference participants



Workshop participants



Workshop participants



Workshop participants



Workshop participants



Workshop participants