

STATEMENT OF THE ORGANISERS¹ AND THE PARTICIPANTS

REGIONAL WEBINAR ON THE RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2012 CAPE TOWN AGREEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

A regional webinar on the 2012 Cape Town Agreement for the Latin-American and the Caribbean region took place on 23 and 24 November 2024.

The International Conference on the Safety of Fishing Vessels ("the International Conference") held in Cape Town, South Africa, on 11 October 2012, adopted the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977 ("the Agreement").

The Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and IUU Fishing held in Torremolinos, Spain, from 21 to 23 October 2019, adopted the *Torremolinos Statement on the Cape Town Agreement of 2012, relating to fishing vessel safety, and combating illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing*.

The 51 signatory States of the *Torremolinos Declaration on the Cape Town Agreement of 2012* ("the Torremolinos Declaration") expressed their determination to take action so that the entry-into-force criteria of the Agreement are met by the target date of 11 October 2022, the tenth anniversary of its adoption.

The webinar addressed the importance of global cooperation and partnerships to promote the Agreement, recognizing that the ultimate effectiveness of the instrument depends upon the widespread support of States, in their capacities as flag States, port States and coastal States.

In this regard, it stressed the technical cooperation and technical assistance, including with the participation of countries of the same region, are important elements for building and strengthening capacity for the implementation of international instruments

The participants were highly appreciative of the efforts and contributions made by the Government of Chile, ILO, IMO, FAO, the Pew Charitable Trusts to support the Regional Webinar.

They also recognized the moderators, speakers and participants for their support of the aims and objectives of the Regional Webinar and the information and expert advice they provided on the latest developments being undertaken by Administrations and the fishing sector to enhance fishing vessel safety.

The participants highly appreciated the technical cooperation activities of the Organization to promote the benefits of the Agreement and contribute to building and strengthening capacity.

The role of IMO and other relevant international organizations and States with technical expertise on matters relating to fishing vessel safety was recognized in the context of provision of technical assistance.

The Secretariat of the IMO invited the participants, all State officials, to inform IMO should any difficulty arise in the process of becoming Party to the Agreement, so that consideration can be given to providing support in this respect, including necessary technical assistance.

The IMO will continue to monitor the progress made regarding the entry into force of the Agreement.

¹ IMO, PEW and DIRECTEMAR CHILE

REGIONAL WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS

IMO MEMBER STATES:

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ARGENTINA
BAHAMAS
BARBADOS
BELIZE
BOLIVIA (Plurinational State of)
BRAZIL
CHILE
COLOMBIA
COSTA RICA
DOMINICA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
ECUADOR
EL SALVADOR
GRENADA
GUATEMALA

GUYANA
HONDURAS
JAMAICA
MEXICO
NICARAGUA
PANAMA
PERU
SAINT VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES
SURINAME
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA (Bolivarian Republic of)

UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES:

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

The PEW Charitable Trusts
Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

