

STATEMENT BY PERU

Peru reaffirms its commitment towards the conservation and responsible use of fishery resources, especially the Jack mackerel whose recovery requires the cooperation of coastal States and States, regional organizations of economic integration and fishing entities interested in fisheries in the SE Pacific area. Furthermore, Peru values the analyses and findings of the Scientific Working Group that held its 11th session in Lima, Peru, in October 2012 and supports its recommendations. In particular, Peru supported and continues to support the recommendation that fishing mortality of *Trachurus murphyi* should be maintained at or below 2012 levels to improve the likelihood of spawning biomass increasing, noting that this would result in a total catch for 2013 on the order of 440,000 t or lower over the whole range of the species. While supporting this recommendation, Peru regrets that in adopting its Conservation and Management Measures (CMM) for *Trachurus murphyi* for 2013 the Commission has decided to allocate a large proportion of this indicative total catch limit, for an amount of 360,000 t, to the fleets operating in the area to which the Commission's CMM applies. It is noted that in most if not all cases this allocation results in an actual and in some cases substantial increase in the 2013 authorized catches in the Convention Area with respect to those catches taken by the same fleets in 2011 and 2012. It is the opinion of the Peruvian Delegation that in so doing, the Commission is not taking properly into account the precautionary principles and the interests, needs and concerns of some of the coastal States regarding the sustainable development and maintenance of their own local fisheries in their own national jurisdictional waters which as per relevant articles of the Convention should be taken into consideration. Furthermore, it is the opinion of this

Delegation that the above CMM have been adopted without giving proper consideration to the most recent developments in the fisheries by coastal States in their own jurisdictional waters, the recent changes in the distribution and local abundance of jack mackerel in the area and the distinct characteristics of the Far-North stock of jack mackerel. Notwithstanding the above mentioned reservations, the Peruvian Delegation wishes to ratify its intention to fully comply with the CMM with respect to its fishing and other related activities in the Convention Area as adopted by this Commission. With respect to the areas under national jurisdiction this Delegation reaffirms that in the exercise of its sovereignty rights, Peru will continue to adopt the management and conservations measures that it would deem more appropriate on the basis of the best and most up to date information available, including the results of the fisheries research work conducted by its own fisheries research institutions, the analyses and results of the Scientific Working Group when applicable, and any other scientifically sound information available.