

## Pan-African Platform of Non-State Actors in Fisheries and Aquaculture (AFRIFISH)

P.O. Box 225-00560 Port Victoria, Kenya. Tel: +254 770 971 284; +254 723 769 916 E-mail: afrifish2021@gmail.com

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To the attention of Mr Ivan Lopez

President of the Long Distance Fisheries Advisory Council

RE: Introduction of the Pan-African Platform of Non-State Actors in Fisheries and Aquaculture (AFRIFISH)

Dear M. Lopez,

This is to kindly introduce to you the *Pan-African Platform of Non-State Actors in Fisheries and Aquaculture (AFRIFISH*), an African continental platform of non-State actors (NSAs) active in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, established within the framework of the African Union (AU). **AFRIFISH** draws its membership from the five (5) African regional Non State Actors (NSAs) platforms, and focusses on the small scale fisheries and aquaculture sustainable development in Africa, informed by the aspirations of the fishers, men and women from coastal communities.

By coordinating the activities of NSAs at the continental level, AFRIFISH promotes dialogue and constructive involvement with decision makers around inland, riverine and marine fisheries and aquaculture, through building and strengthening the institutional and advocacy capacity of the non-state actors,- that include Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), associations of Professional organizations of small-scale fisheries-, to actively involved in relevant fisheries processes, in order to influence policy and reforms at the regional, continental and global levels for sustainable fisheries to the benefit of the African fishing communities.

As the LDAC similarly represents European Civil Society, - fishing sector and NGOs, we hereby seek your consideration in initiating a dialogue and building collaboration that will contribute to strong Africa-EU cooperation, for a collective approach and action to move the sustainable fisheries and aquaculture agenda forward in Africa and globally.

Moreover, in a quest to strengthening the voice of African and European fisheries CSOs, we kindly request your indulgence in collaborating for the drafting of a joint AFRIFISH - LDAC



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position in regard to the upcoming meetings e.g. European Union-African Union (EU-AU) Summit in Belgium, in February, in Belgium and African Caribbean Pacific (ACP) in Ghana

In anticipation we highly appreciate your consideration and support for a good collaboration



