



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL STATEMENT

OCEAN ACTION PANEL 9-SUMMARY

2025 UNITED NATIONS OCEAN CONFERENCE

***Promoting the Role of Sustainable Food
from the Ocean for Poverty Eradication and
Food Security***

NICE, FRANCE

13TH JUNE, 2025

PROMOTING THE ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE FOOD FROM THE OCEAN FOR POVERTY ERADICATION AND FOOD SECURITY

1. Aquatic foods are fundamental to food security and poverty alleviation, especially as climate change and biodiversity loss increasingly threaten global food systems and livelihoods. Ocean-based food sources are rich in essential nutrients that provide high-quality proteins playing a critical role in human health. Moreover, fisheries and aquaculture generate jobs, income and livelihoods for millions of people. When properly managed, many aquatic food systems have a lower environmental footprint and offer climate-resilient alternatives compared to traditional land-based food systems.
2. Kenya targets to reduce malnutrition levels by promoting diversified diets including value chain development in sea food. By focusing on production, consumption, and sustainability, Kenya is working

towards enhance its aquatic food systems and improve the nutrition and livelihoods of its people.

3. The Kenyan government plays a crucial role in developing and implementing policies and programs to promote aquatic food. Local communities, particularly artisanal fishers and women, are key stakeholders in the development and implementation of aquatic food initiatives.
4. Kenya is implementing a range of initiatives to promote sustainable ocean food systems for food security and poverty eradication, leveraging its marine resources within the framework of the Blue Economy Strategy (2020-2030), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and commitments under the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030). These initiatives address climate change impacts on ocean biodiversity while fostering sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, and alternative livelihoods to support coastal communities

5. Kenya has made significant progress in development of research and training centres, fish landing sites and fish ports sites. These developments aim to enhance infrastructure reduce post-harvest losses and support the blue economy's growth.

In conclusion, we must explore innovations geared towards supporting food security by protecting aquatic ecosystems. Communities should be sensitized sustainable practices, nutrition, and the economic value of marine conservation. Programs that offer alternative livelihoods to reduce fishing pressure on aquatic resources should be implemented across the nations.