

## STATEMENT

The Russian Federation attaches great importance to the Convention on Conservation and Management Fishery Resources in the South Pacific High Seas. It was a special privilege for my delegation to sign the Convention in the course of the Second Preparatory Conference in a beautiful city of Cali. We were impressed and delighted by the highest level of hospitality and organizational management provided by our Colombian hosts. Thank you very much for this.

The main purpose of our meetings was to agree upon urgent fishery management measures aimed at conservation and restoration of pelagic stocks in the Convention Area. This goal has been reached through long and sometimes hard discussions. The proposed catch reductions are painful and costly for some Participants.

Nevertheless, taking into account a depressed and declining status of the Jack Mackerel stock in the South Pacific, the Russian Federation, being guided by precautionary approach, will voluntarily reduce its annual catch in 2011 down to **50 (fifty) per cent** of its 2010 catch. The Russian Federation calls upon other Participants to be more restraint in their pelagic fisheries and apply higher catch reductions than it is agreed for this year.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.