

Development of China's Distant-Water Fisheries

中国的远洋渔业发展

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Preamble

Sustainable utilization of the ocean is essential to the survival and development of humanity. China was one of the first countries to utilize the ocean's resources. More than 4,000 years ago, people in coastal areas of China were already living off the sea and fishing and had started exploring the ocean and utilizing its resources along with the people of other countries.

Since its distant-water fisheries industry (DWF) first emerged in 1985, China has been conducting practical and mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries in accordance with relevant bilateral fisheries agreements or arrangements. Conforming to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other applicable international laws, it is deeply involved in multilateral fisheries governance and regional fisheries management under the framework of the United Nations (UN). It actively exercises the right to utilize high seas fisheries resources, and it fulfills to the letter the relevant obligations concerning resource conservation and management.

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2012, under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, China has earnestly advanced the vision of a global community of shared future and a maritime community of shared future, steadily strengthened the conservation of the marine eco-environment, and consistently followed the path of green and sustainable development of the DWF sector. In order to realize scientific conservation and sustainable utilization of fisheries resources and achieve high-quality DWF development, China is committed to optimizing the industrial structure, promoting transformation and upgrading, improving quality and efficiency, strictly controlling the scale of development, strengthening standardized management, and combating illegal fishing.

The Chinese government is publishing this white paper to present a complete picture of China's philosophy, principles, and policies in the DWF sector and its success in honoring international agreements, to share with the world its experience in DWF administration, and to promote international cooperation and exchanges in this field.

前言

海洋的可持续开发利用与人类的生存发展息息相关。中国是世界上最早开发和利用海洋的国家之一，早在4000多年前，中国沿海地区人民就向海而生、以渔为业，与世界各国人民一道，开启了海洋探索开发利用之路。

中国远洋渔业自1985年起步以来，根据相关双边渔业合作协议或安排，与有关国家发展互利共赢的务实渔业合作；根据《联合国海洋法公约》等相关国际法，深入参与联合国框架下的多边渔业治理和区域渔业管理，积极行使开发利用公海渔业资源的权利，全面履行相关资源养护和管理义务。

中共十八大以来，在习近平新时代中国特色社会主义思想指引下，中国深入践行人类命运共同体和海洋命运共同体理念，持续加强海洋生态文明建设，始终坚持走远洋渔业绿色可持续发展道路，坚持优化产业结构，推进转型升级，提高质量效益，严控发展规模，强化规范管理，打击非法捕捞，致力于科学养护和可持续利用渔业资源，努力实现远洋渔业高质量发展。

为全面介绍中国远洋渔业的发展理念、原则立场、政策主张和履约成效，分享中国远洋渔业管理经验，促进远洋渔业国际合作与交流，特发布本白皮书。

I. High-Quality Development of China's DWF Sector

DWF is an important part of China's fishing industry. Based on win-win cooperation, security, stability, green and sustainable development, China has expanded international exchanges, conducted mutually beneficial cooperation through multiple channels and in multiple forms, kept to the path of high-quality development of the industry, and contributed to the development of the global DWF industry and the supply of aquatic products.

1. Steady development of international aquatic production and trade

Aquatic products are globally recognized as healthy foods and play a key role in global food and nutrition security. Sustainable aquaculture development and effective fisheries management are essential to ensuring the supply of aquatic products in the international market.

In recent years, international trade in aquatic products has grown significantly. According to statistics from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in 2020, the European Union (EU) was the largest single importing market, accounting for 16 percent of the global value of aquatic imports (excluding intra-EU trade), and the United States (US) was the largest importing country, accounting for 15 percent of the global value of aquatic imports. The top three exporting countries were China, Norway and Vietnam, with their exports accounting for 25 percent of the global total export value. According to statistics from the General Administration of Customs of China, China exported almost 3.75 million tonnes of aquatic products in 2020, and the worth of its exported aquatic products accounted for 12 percent of the global total. The main destinations included countries and regions such as the EU, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Japan, and the US. As the world's largest exporter of aquatic products, China has made a significant contribution to the global supply and consumption of aquatic products.

According to The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022 released by the FAO, global fisheries and aquaculture production reached an all-time record of 214 million tonnes in 2020. Within this figure, aquaculture production was 122.6 million tonnes, accounting for 57 percent. China is the world's largest source of aquatic products, with a total output of 65.5 million tonnes in 2020. Its aquaculture production—which reached 52.2 million tonnes in the year, or about 80 percent of its total aquatic products—also led the world, accounting for about 40 percent of the global total. The development of China's fisheries and aquaculture industry has made an important contribution to meeting its own and the world's demand for aquatic products, reducing the use and dependence on natural marine fisheries resources, and promoting the scientific conservation and sustainable use of global fisheries resources.

2. China's contribution to the world's DWF development

The world's DWF has a long history, with detailed fisheries statistics dating back to the 1950s. Different countries and regions

一、中国远洋渔业高质量发展

远洋渔业是中国渔业的重要组成部分。中国始终秉承合作共赢、安全稳定、绿色可持续发展理念，深化远洋渔业对外交流，多渠道、多形式开展互利共赢合作，坚持走远洋渔业高质量发展道路，努力为世界远洋渔业发展和水产品供给作出积极贡献。

（一）国际水产品生产和贸易稳步发展

水产品是全球公认的健康食物，在全球粮食和营养安全中发挥关键作用。可持续水产养殖发展和有效渔业管理对保障国际市场水产品供给至关重要。

近年来，水产品国际贸易增长显著。根据联合国粮农组织统计数据，从进口额看，欧盟为最大的单一进口市场，2020年在全球水产品进口总额中占比为16%（不包括欧盟内部贸易）；美国为最大的进口国家，2020年进口额占全球水产品进口总额的15%。从出口额看，前三位出口国家为中国、挪威、越南，三国出口额合计占全球水产品出口总额的25%。据中国海关总署统计，2020年中国出口水产品374.74万吨，出口额占全球水产品出口总额的12%，主要出口目的地包括欧盟、东盟、日本、美国等国家和地区。中国作为世界最大的水产品出口国，为世界水产品的供给和消费作出了重要贡献。

根据联合国粮农组织《世界渔业和水产养殖状况2022》公布的统计数据，2020年全球渔业和水产养殖总产量达2.14亿吨，达历史最高水平，其中水产养殖产量达1.226亿吨，在全球渔业和水产养殖总产量中的比重达57.29%。中国是世界最大的水产品生产国，2020年水产品总产量6549万吨，其中水产养殖产量5224万吨，约占水产品总产量的80%。中国也是世界水产养殖产量最高的国家，全球的水产养殖产品约40%来自中国。中国渔业特别是水产养殖业的发展，为满足中国乃至世界水产品消费需求、减少对天然海洋渔业资源的利用和依赖、促进全球渔业资源科学养护和可持续利用作出了重要贡献。

played a greater or lesser role in different historical periods. These countries and regions, along with other coastal countries, have played a positive role in developing and utilizing global marine fisheries resources, promoting the supply of marine foods and nutrition, and ensuring the livelihoods and development of coastal communities.

China's DWF sector began in 1985. Although it started relatively late, after more than 30 years of hard work, China has made significant progress. For many years, it has signed reciprocal cooperation agreements with relevant countries and regions in Asia, Africa, South America, and Oceania. In accordance with these agreements and the laws and regulations of the relevant countries, China has established orderly fisheries cooperation with more than 40 countries and regions.

In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other international laws, China has joined the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization, the North Pacific Fisheries Commission, the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement and other organizations, and approved the International Agreement to Prevent Unregulated Fishing in the High Seas of the Central Arctic Ocean. China attaches great importance to honoring the international DWF agreements. It actively fulfills the obligations of member states under multilateral fisheries treaties and regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), and carries out the due diligence obligations of flag states [A flag state refers to the country where a vessel is registered and whose flag the vessel flies.] for high seas fisheries that are not yet managed by RFMOs. It actively promotes the establishment of relevant RFMOs, continuously strengthens the regulation of the DWF sector, and champions the scientific conservation and sustainable utilization of global fisheries resources.

In 2022, China had 177 approved DWF enterprises and 2,551 DWF vessels (including 1,498 high seas fishing vessels) operating in the high seas of the Pacific, Indian and Atlantic oceans, and the seas around Antarctica, as well as in the waters under the jurisdiction of cooperating countries. The total catch for the year was around 2.33 million tonnes.

3. Achieving better development of China's DWF sector

As a developing country, China still lags somewhat behind developed countries in terms of fishing vessels and equipment, detection of fisheries resources, and the contribution of science and technology to industrial development. To adapt to and fulfill the new requirements of international fisheries governance, and based on its own development needs, China has released successive policy documents for DWF development, such as the National Plan for Fisheries Development in the 14th Five-Year Plan Period, the Guidelines on Promoting the High-Quality Development of

(二) 中国为世界远洋渔业发展作出积极贡献

世界远洋渔业有很长的发展历史，有较详细渔业统计数据的可追溯到20世纪50年代，不同历史时期均有不同的国家或地区参与。这些远洋渔业国家或地区与沿海国一道，为开发利用全球海洋渔业资源、促进海洋食物和营养供给、保障沿海社区生计和发展发挥了积极作用。

中国远洋渔业从1985年起步。虽然起步较晚，但经过30多年的艰苦奋斗，中国的远洋渔业取得了显著的发展成就。多年来，中国与亚洲、非洲、南美洲、大洋洲的有关国家（地区）签署互惠合作协议，根据协议安排和合作国法律规定，有序开展务实渔业合作，累计合作国家（地区）40多个。依据《联合国海洋法公约》等国际法，中国先后加入大西洋金枪鱼养护国际委员会、印度洋金枪鱼委员会、中西太平洋渔业委员会、南极海洋生物资源养护委员会、美洲间热带金枪鱼委员会、南太平洋区域渔业管理组织、北太平洋渔业委员会、南印度洋渔业协定等组织，核准《预防中北冰洋不管制公海渔业协定》。中国高度重视远洋渔业国际履约，积极履行多边渔业条约和区域渔业管理组织框架下的成员国义务，对尚无区域渔业管理组织管理的公海渔业履行船旗国^①应尽的勤勉义务，并积极推动成立相关区域渔业管理组织，持续加强远洋渔业监管，促进全球渔业资源的科学养护和可持续利用。

2022年，中国拥有经批准的远洋渔业企业177家，远洋作业渔船2551艘（其中公海作业渔船1498艘），作业区域分布于太平洋、印度洋、大西洋公海和南极海域，以及相关合作国家管辖海域，年产量232.8万吨。

(三) 推动中国远洋渔业更好发展

作为发展中国家，中国远洋渔业在渔船和捕捞装备水平、渔业资源探测能力、科技对产业发展的贡献率上，与发达国家相比仍有一定差距。为适应和履行国际渔业治理新要求，在结合自身发展需求基础上，中国陆续发布了《“十四五”全