



M'bour, 3 December 2021

To the attention of the Secretary General  
Organisation of  
African, Caribbean and Pacific States  
H.E. Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti

Excellency,

The African Confederation of Artisanal Fishing Organisations (CAOPA) brings together men and women working in small scale maritime and inland fisheries from 27 African countries.

The LMMA Network International works with small scale fishers and coastal communities across 7 Pacific Island member countries and affiliates in other Indo-Pacific Island and African countries.

From 19 to 21 November 2021, CAOPA held a meeting in Sénégal with the participation of the Pacific LMMA network on the occasion of the launch of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA).

Inspired by the FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries, we confirmed on this occasion our advocacy priorities, which will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular Goal 14 b, which calls on States to ensure access to resources and access to markets for artisanal fisheries.

Our members are particularly interested to contribute, by sharing experiences and innovative initiatives, to address issues faced by ACP countries such as securing

access for artisanal fisheries to coastal fisheries resources through rights based approaches, promoting the role of women in artisanal fisheries, and protecting ACP artisanal fisheries activities in the context of the blue economy.

We would welcome the possibility to engage in a dialogue with the ACP Group of States on these issues, including during the ACP Council of Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture, to be held in Accra in April 2022.

Yours sincerely,



Gaoussou Gueye  
President  
CAOPA



Alifereti Tawake  
Council Chair  
LMMA Network International Trust