



# *The African Union's Commitment to Eradicate Child Labour*

## **THE RELEVANCE FOR THE SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT**

*Presented by Nelly Isyagi*

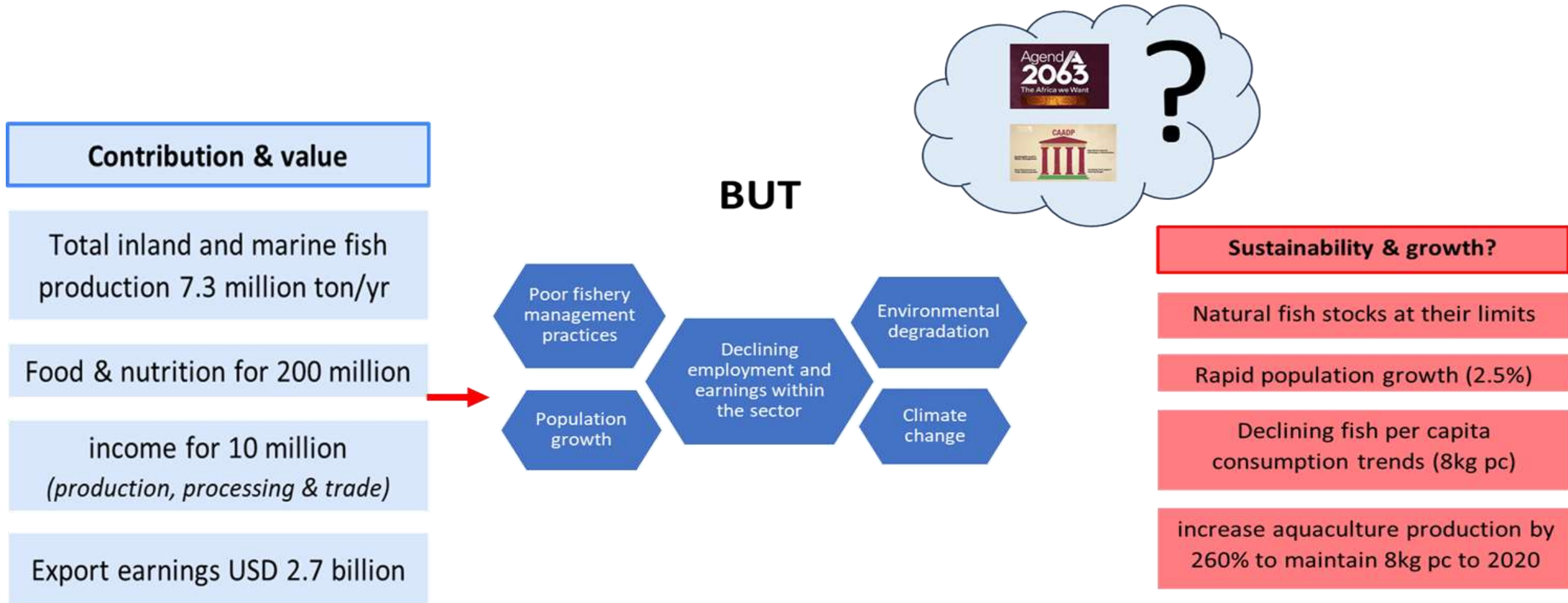
### **WORKSHOP "TO ACCELERATE THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOR IN THE FISHING SECTOR IN AFRICA"**

**Casablanca, Morocco  
27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**



# Background

## Fish for all Summit, 2005: Status of Africa's fish sector





# Background

## 1. *Natural resource potential*

=> water, land, climatic conditions, etc.

## 2. *Species*

=> indigenous commercial species with available production technology

## 3. *Human resource potential*

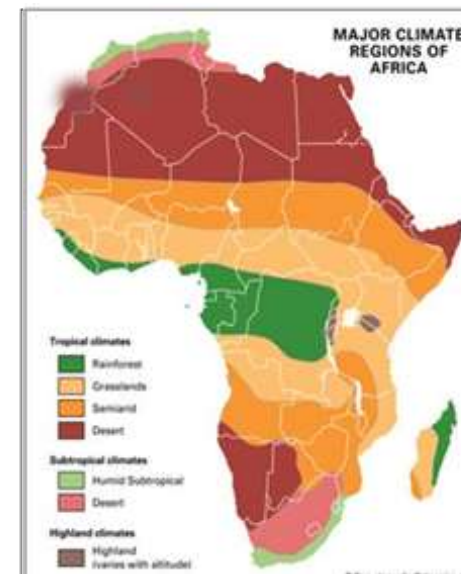
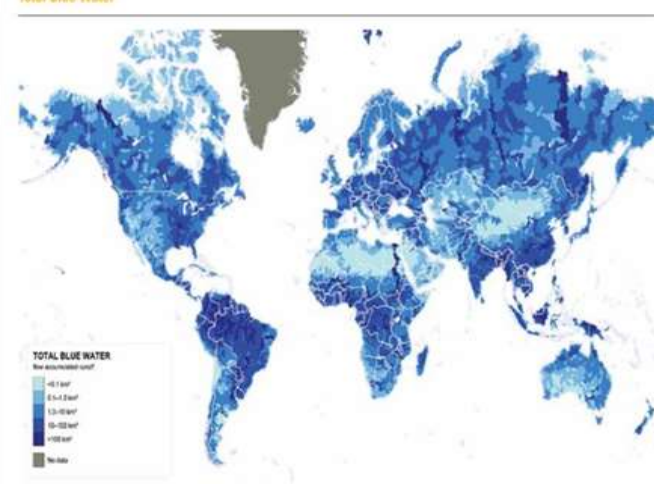
=> young population

## 4. *Resources to produce inputs,*

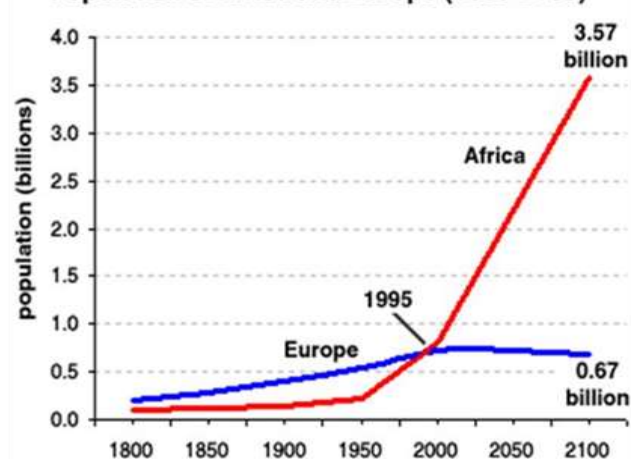
=> feeds

## 5. *Markets*

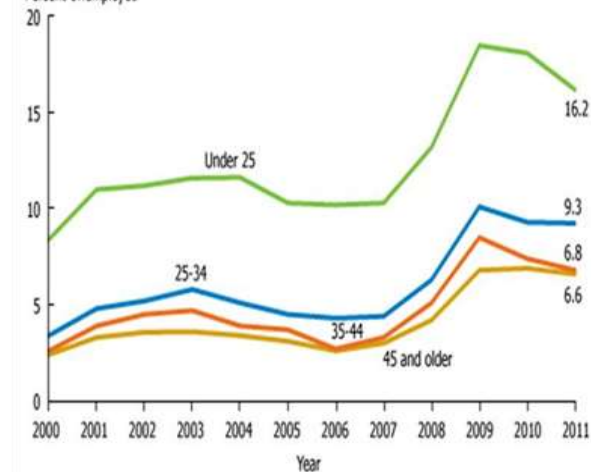
Total Blue Water



Population of Africa and Europe (1800-2100)



Percent Unemployed





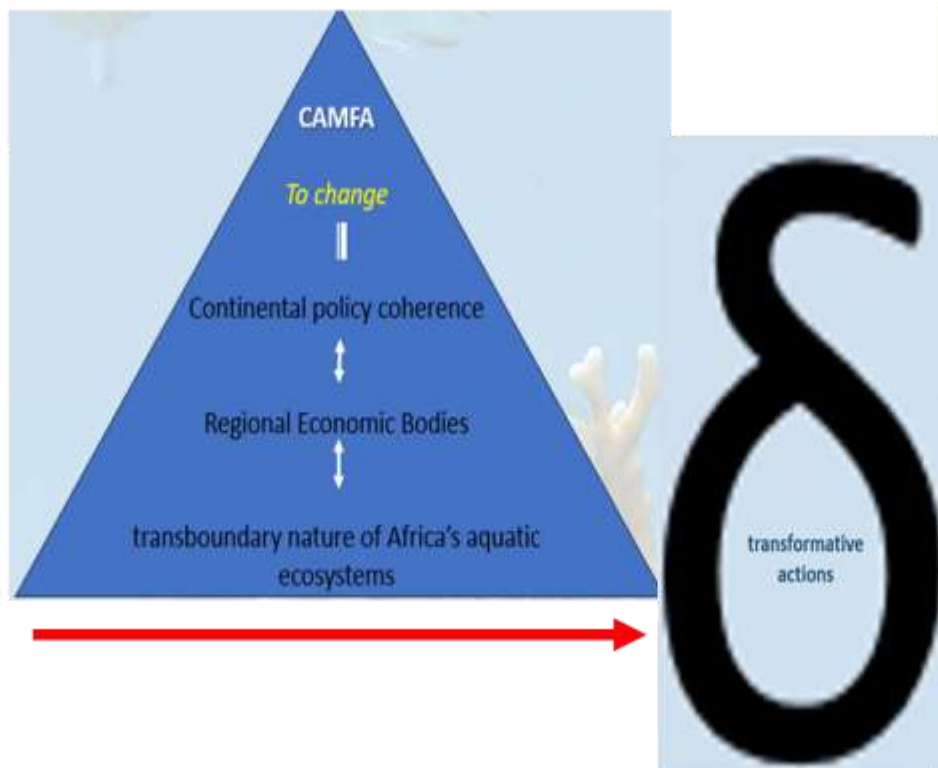


# Background

## The Abuja Declaration on Fisheries and Aquaculture (2005)

Summit recommended to safeguard the sector & benefits:

- (i) improve the management of natural fish stocks
- (ii) develop aquaculture production
- (iii) enhance fish trade in domestic, regional and global markets.



1. *A broad-based participatory continental policy dialogue and fisheries management mechanism => policy coherence AU-MS = CAADP*
2. *A coordination mechanism among Africa's REC and RFB => coherent , fisheries policies + initiatives to regional economic integration agenda.*
3. *AU-MS => adopt fisheries reforms and strengthen institutional arrangements to fisheries and aquaculture productivity*
4. *All AU-MS fisheries and aquaculture development actions => (i) productivity, (ii) profitability, (iii) sustainability, (iv) wealth generation, (v) social welfare, nutrition and food security, (vi) regional management of shared resources and (vi) strengthening south-south (bilateral and regional) cooperation.*



## Thereafter, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Africa's Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA) .....

IUU, poor governance, access to markets, regional integration, coherence in policy and development approaches

### Malabo Declaration, 2014: Policy Framework and Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS)



Africa's blueprint providing structure guidance for transforming the sector to improve sustainable management and utilization of fisheries resources, equity and its contribution socioeconomic development.

#### Policy pillars

1. Conservation and Sustainable Resource Use
2. Small-scale Fisheries Development
3. Sustainable Aquaculture Development
4. Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing
5. Strengthened Regional and Sub-regional Cooperation
6. Awareness Enhancing and Human-Capacity Development
7. High Seas Fisheries

#### CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

- Strengthening Resilience and Reducing Vulnerabilities to Climate Change in African Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Gender and Youth
- Private Sector Investments & Financing Mechanisms for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa

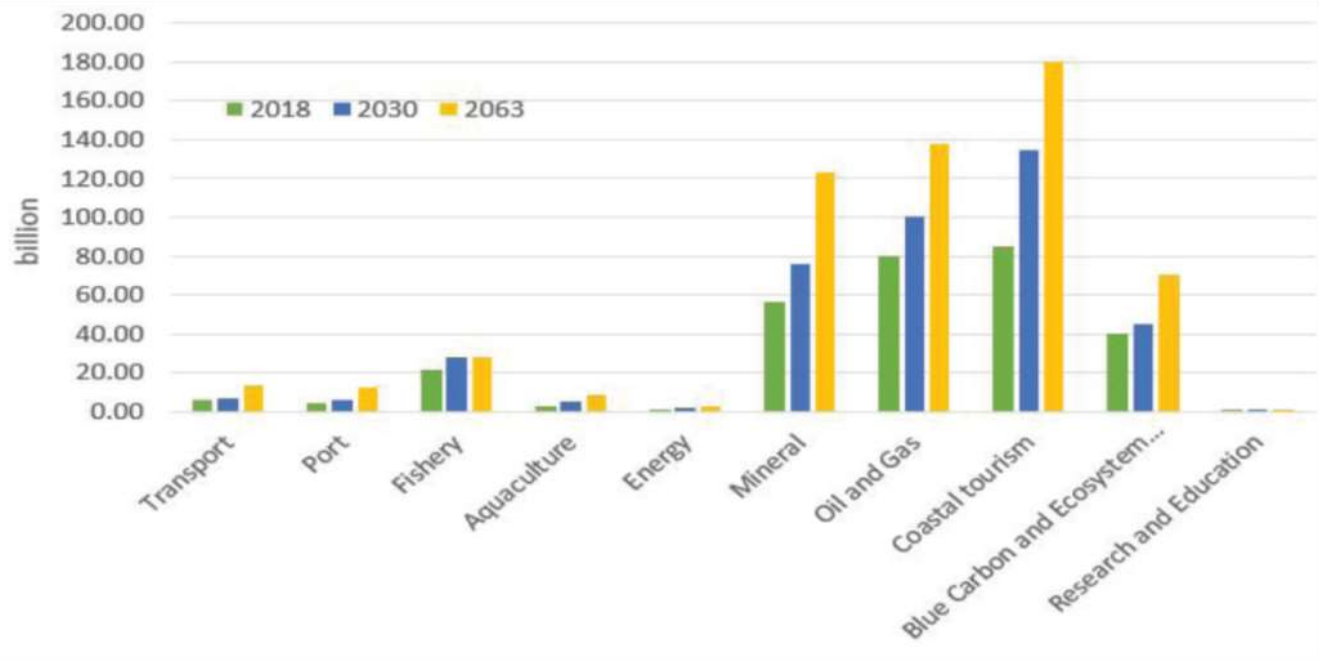
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... by further building on to the SDG's and the AU's Lome Charter & AIMS 2050 since 2019..

develop a sustainable and competitive maritime economy based upon Africa's oceans and inland waters

*status and expectations*





*... to achieve the sectors short and long term development goals*

- Governance (both public and private sector) => principles upon which we manage and utilize resources at hand
- Productive workforce => healthy physically and mentally
- Emerging markets
- value-chain transformation, development
- New set of knowledge and skills => progressively acquired, learning environment

**Who? by who? and for whom?**



# The Right's of the Child





# The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights



Banjul Declaration of the African Union on the 25th Anniversary of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights in 2006

'[T]he African Charter has provided a legal framework for the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights on our continent and the jurisprudence of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights attests to this achievement.'

- A. The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and further standards
- B. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
- C. The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights
- D. The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
- E. The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

## State Parties to the African Charter

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Charter) has been ratified by fifty-four (54) African Union (AU) Member States. The latest AU Member State to become a Party to the African Charter is the Republic of South Sudan, having ratified the Charter on 23 October 2013. To access the full status list of signatures, ratifications, depositions and reservations to the African Charter.

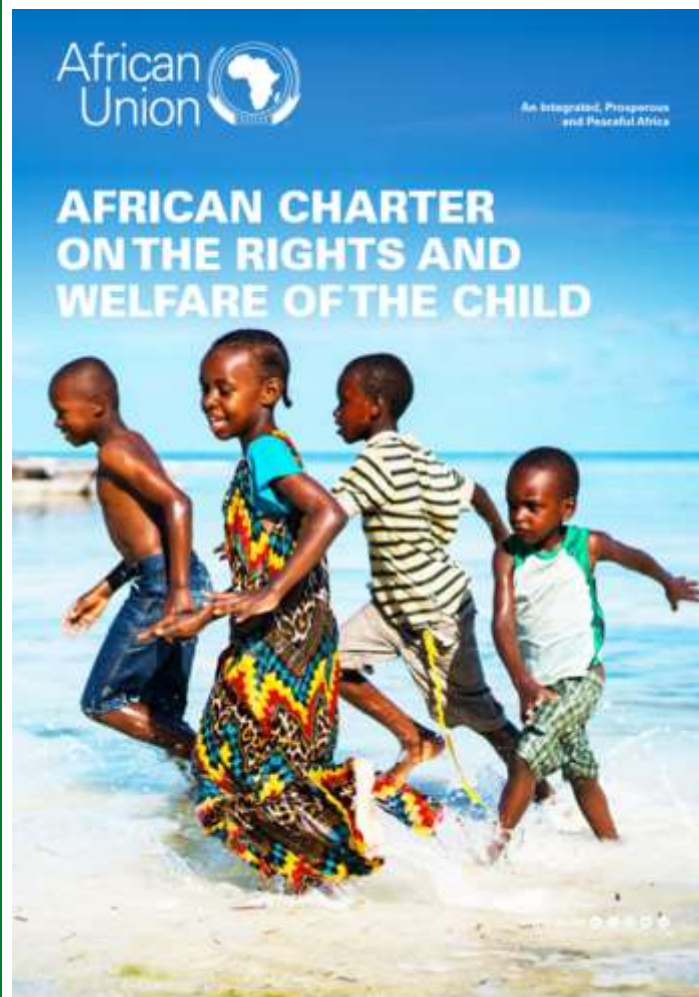


- **First and foremost the cover page reflects the sector**, the opportunities for healthy happy childhood development and learning Africa's fisheries & aquaculture sector and Blue Economy has in store the child and its future

*Hence the sector should become what the cover page portrays,*

## **AFRICA'S FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SECTOR**

### **THE ROLE MODEL FOR THE ERADICATION CHILD LABOR AND PROMOTION OF THE RIGHT'S OF THE CHILD IN AFRICA**



## **Article 2** **DEFINITION OF A CHILD** ■

For the purposes of this Charter, a child means every human being below the age of 18 years.

## **Article 3** **NON-DISCRIMINATION** ■

Every child shall be entitled to the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms recognized and guaranteed in this Charter irrespective of the child's or his/her parents' or legal guardians' race, ethnic group, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national and social origin, fortune, birth or other status.





# The Rights of the Child

## CHAPTER ONE

RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD 08

**ARTICLE 1: OBLIGATION OF STATES PARTIES 08**

**ARTICLE 2: DEFINITION OF A CHILD 09**

**ARTICLE 3: NON-DISCRIMINATION 09**

**ARTICLE 4: BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD 09**

**ARTICLE 5: SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT 09**

**ARTICLE 6: NAME AND NATIONALITY 10**

**ARTICLE 7: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION 10**

**ARTICLE 8: FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION 10**

**ARTICLE 9: FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION 10**

**ARTICLE 10: PROTECTION OF PRIVACY 11**

**ARTICLE 11: EDUCATION 11**

**ARTICLE 12: LEISURE, RECREATION AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES 11**

**ARTICLE 13: HANDICAPPED CHILDREN 13**

**ARTICLE 14: HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES 14**

**ARTICLE 15: CHILD LABOUR 15**

**ARTICLE 16: PROTECTION AGAINST CHILD ABUSE AND TORTURE 15**

**ARTICLE 17: ADMINISTRATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE 16**

**ARTICLE 18: PROTECTION OF THE FAMILY 17**

**ARTICLE 19: PARENTAL CARE AND PROTECTION 17**

**ARTICLE 20: PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES 18**

**ARTICLE 21: PROTECTION AGAINST HARMFUL SOCIAL AND CULTURAL**

**PRACTICES 18**

**ARTICLE 22: ARMED CONFLICTS 19**

**ARTICLE 23: REFUGEE CHILDREN 19**

**ARTICLE 24: ADOPTION 20**

**ARTICLE 25: SEPARATION FROM PARENTS 21**

**ARTICLE 26: PROTECTION AGAINST APARTHEID AND DISCRIMINATION 21**

**ARTICLE 27: SEXUAL EXPLOITATION 22**

**ARTICLE 28: DRUG ABUSE 22**

**ARTICLE 29: SALE, TRAFFICKING AND ABDUCTION 23**

**ARTICLE 30: CHILDREN OF IMPRISONED MOTHERS 23**

**ARTICLE 31: RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHILD 23**



## Article 15: Child Labour

1. Every child shall be protected from all forms of economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development.
  
2. States Parties to the present Charter shall take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures to ensure the full implementation of this Article which covers both the formal and informal sectors of employment and having regard to the relevant provisions of the International Labour Organization's instruments relating to children, States Parties shall in particular:
  - (a) provide through legislation, minimum ages for admission to every employment;
  - (b) provide for appropriate regulation of hours and conditions of employment;
  - (c) provide for appropriate penalties or other sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of this Article;
  - (d) promote the dissemination of information on the hazardous of child labour to all sectors of the community.





Enshrines a rights based approach to foster equity as among the pre-requisites for the sectors sustainability

Empowerment of gender and youth to equitably participate and contribute towards the sector  
*(physical and mental wellbeing, skills, capital, jobs, food/nutrition, social cohesion)*

- *Should a child be working in the fisheries sector*
- *Should their potential for participating and contributing towards sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development and AU Agenda be curtailed in its infancy?*
- *Achieving the sector's objectives => child labor is actually Africa's a risk, bottleneck like a **silent malignant cancer** for achieving PFRS*
- *It can only be treated by **removing it absolutely***

# Thank You



**AU-IBAR: Providing leadership in the development of animal resources for Africa**