2024 International Forum on Fisheries and Human Rights: Challenges in Implementing the ILO Work in Fishing Convention 15 April 2024 | Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture

Sustainable Fisheries, Healthy Industry

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Abstract

According to the Fisheries Achievements Report of the Council of Agriculture, since formulating the "Fisheries Sector Development Plan" in 1987, distant-water fisheries have become a crucial aspect of our nation's fishery development goals, leading to a rapid increase in distant-water fishery production. The Council has also continued to advance the transformation and development of the fisheries sector to become a major player in high-sea fishing. Taiwan has been striving to achieve a balance between fishermen's livelihood, industrial progress, and sustainable resource utilization. Considerable effort has been devoted to collaborating with international fishery organizations and implementing scientific management practices to ensure sustainable fishery operations.

At the same time, many international organizations are assessing the present state of affairs. Since the 1950s, global fishing capacity has more than doubled, driven by subsidies, technological advancements, and increased demand for fish products. Most of the capacity growth comes from distant-water fishing vessels. These fleets operate in the waters of lower-income countries, utilizing a cheaper foreign workforce, often without adequate legal oversight, and facing reduced legal risks, thus resulting in higher output values.

Taiwan's distant water fisheries have also attracted much attention. It is crucial to thoroughly examine the existing issues and address the lack of transparency within the industry, while also dispelling doubts about its association with illegal activities. This requires joint efforts among the government, industry players, and international organizations. It is an ongoing process that demands constant review and cooperation from stakeholders.

Speaker Profile

Kaili Lee is the Director of GOH-Migrants at the Garden of Hope Foundation. She has years of experience in assisting victims of human trafficking, offering support services for migrant workers and their families, and engaging in policy advocacy and the integration of inter-professional networks. She is also actively involved in program innovation and international cooperation projects. Deeply involved in non-citizen issues, Lee has led teams in drafting NGO response reports regarding the domestic implementation of international conventions, such as CEDAW, CRC, and ICERD.

Kaili Lee delivers lectures nationwide, offering training for professionals aimed at improving migrant services and enhancing human trafficking prevention knowledge. She serves as an internship supervisor at both domestic and foreign universities. She

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also contributes to the revision of relevant laws and policies. Drawing on her professional background in sociology and Christian theology, she has demonstrated unwavering dedication as a staunch advocate for human rights and peace.