

**Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance by Belize of the Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies Motion, 2023.**

**WHEREAS**, the Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) was adopted in Geneva on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022, by the 12<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference;

**AND WHEREAS**, the objective of the Agreement seeks to discipline harmful fisheries subsidies by prohibiting subsidies to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, to fishing on overfished stocks, and to fishing on the unregulated high seas to promote sustainable marine fisheries. The Agreement also seeks to prohibit members from granting or maintaining subsidies for fishing or fishing-related activities in areas of the high seas that are outside the competence of a Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO) and commit members to exercise special care and restraint when granting subsidies to vessels not flying that member’s flags and exercise restraint when considering subsidies for fish stocks whose status is unknown;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Government of Belize is desirous of accepting the Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies pursuant to paragraph 3 of the Protocol;

**AND WHEREAS**, section 61(A)(2)(a) of the Belize Constitution, as amended by the Belize Constitution (Sixth Amendment) Act (No. 13 of 2008), provides that the Senate shall authorize the ratification of any treaty by the Government of Belize;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate authorizes the Government of Belize to accept the Protocol Amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, and all other documents associated therewith.