

**QUESTIONNAIRE to be used for biennial reporting
on the application of the IUU Regulation**

Member State: The Slovak Republic

Organisation: The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic

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Name, position and contact details of responsible official:

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May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States?

Yes: X

Yes except for questions (list):

No:

Section 1: Legal framework

1.1 Has your country transposed into national law or issued any administrative guides for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation)?

YES__X____ NO_____

If yes, please detail and provide copies.

In the Slovak Republic there are no transposed provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 into national law. Some changes in our national law in respect of competencies concerning Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 and application of imposing of sanction are planned in the year 2014. The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic has issued administrative guide for District Veterinary and Food Administrations, which are responsible for performing of the controls.

Administrative guide was sent to the Commission with the previous report in 2012.

Section 2: Administrative Organisation

2.1 How has your country organised its services to deal with the implementation of the IUU Regulation (verification of catch certificates, validation of catch certificates for own vessels, etc.)?

a) internal co-operation (between local/regional Fisheries authorities and head-quarter);

The competent authority in the field of organization of the common fisheries policy is the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic (MA and RD SR). From the delegation of the MA and RD SR, the State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as the „SVFA SR“) is responsible for the implementation of the IUU Regulation and activities arising from this Regulation. The execution of the control is ensured through the District Veterinary and Food Administrations.

The Slovak Republic is landlocked country without approved fishing vessels.

b) co-operation with other authorities and allocation of tasks for various authorities in the implementation of the IUU Regulation (Health, Customs, Navy, etc.);

The execution of the control is performed in cooperation with the Financial Administration of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as the „FA SR“). The agreement on cooperation was signed between the SVFA SR and the FA SR in which the conditions of cooperation are agreed also in this activity. The trainings for subordinated organizations and meetings between authorities for the purpose of exchange of information, preparation of further trainings and directions according to the current legislation are organized in cooperation with the FA SR.

c) how many persons are involved in the implementation of the catch certificate?

For the management and implementation 2 veterinary inspectors are responsible. The execution of the control is ensured by 40 official veterinarians at the DVFAs that cover the whole territory of the Slovak Republic and 3 official veterinarians at the Border Inspection Posts.

If different, please distinguish between direct landings of 3rd country fishing vessels and other imports (processed products)

2.2 Do the authorities of your country have the possibility to audit/verify a company for the purposes laid down in the IUU Regulation? If yes, have they undertaken such audits/verifications yet? Please detail.

For the present, the authority which could perform the audit/verification of a company in connection with the IUU Regulation is not determined in the Slovak Republic.

2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports in which activities relevant to importation/exportation/processing of fishery products are authorised?

The Slovak Republic has no approved freezones/freeports for fishery products where temporary import or processing could be realized.

Section 3: Direct landings of third country fishing vessels (only applicable if designated ports)

The Slovak Republic has no designated ports.

Please list your designated ports:

3.1 How many landings and transshipments of third country vessels have been recorded by your country since 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013?

Port name*	No. of landings	Comments	No. of transshipments	Comments
Total		--		--

** If the port is designated also for an RFMO, please indicate which RFMO in brackets.*

3.2 Approximately, what percentage of the third country fishing vessel landings arrives in transit in your country?

Not applicable

3.3 Has your country had any problems with third country fishing vessels when implementing Articles 6 (prior notice) and 7 (authorisation) of the IUU Regulation.

Not applicable

YES_____ NO_____

If yes, please detail:

- a) in which ports;
- b) the nature of problem;
- c) vessel details (name, flag, master, etc.);

3.4 Since January 2012, have you refused access to your port services to a fishing vessel for activities of landing or transshipment of fishery products? Was this refusal based on the conditions of the regulation?

Not applicable

YES_____ NO_____

If yes, please detail:

- a) in which ports;
- b) the nature of problem;
- c) vessel details (name, flag, master, etc.);

3.5 Do third country fishing vessels accessing your ports use the templates for prior notifications and pre-landing/pre-transshipment provided by the Implementing Regulation 1010/2009 or those used in RFMOs? Please detail, when RFMO forms are used.

Not applicable

Section 4: Port inspections in accordance with Section 2 of the IUU Regulation

Not applicable. There are no designated ports in Slovakia.

4.1 Between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2013, how many fishing vessels of third countries had access to the designated ports for landing or transhipment of fishery products?

Not applicable.

4.2 How many fishing vessels were inspected between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2013?

Reason for inspection :	Flag State
Sighted at sea in activities that may be considered illegal, unreported and unregulated	0
Based on the EU IUU vessel list	0
Other (please detail)	0

4.3 How many fishing vessels were inspected between 1 January 2012 and 31 December 2013?

Not applicable.

4.4 Does your country use risk assessment criteria for the port inspections?

Not applicable.

YES_____ NO_____

If yes, please detail.

4.5 Has your country detected any infringements?

Not applicable.

YES_____ NO_____

- If yes, how many and of what nature? Please specify.
- If yes, did your country apply the procedure in case of infringements as foreseen in article 11?

Section 5: Catch certification scheme for importation

Please state your notified authorities under articles 17.8 and 21.3:

***The State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic
The District Veterinary and Food Administrations***

5.1 How many catch certificates were presented to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013?

If possible, please provide details per flag State.

Flag State \ Year	2012	2013
USA	3	4
Vietnam	1	0
Thailand	43	58
Russian Federation	1	7
Peru	15	4
Norway	3	0
Morocco	11	8
Korea	2	12
Iceland	2	2
Philippines	1	9
Ecuador	11	15
China	11	13
Argentina	4	4
Chile	0	3
Taiwan	0	5
Indonesia	0	7
Solomon Islands	0	1
Total	108	152

5.2 From the number above, how many recognised RFMO catch certificates accompanied imports into your country? Please detail per type of RFMO certificate and year.

RFMO \ Year	2012	2013
ICCAT BFT	0	0
Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)	0	0
CCSBT CDS	0	0
Total	0	0

5.3 How many processing statements under Article 14.2 accompanied imports into your country?

If possible, please provide details per year and per processing country.

Processing State \ Year	2012	2013
USA	1	2
Vietnam	1	1
Thailand	38	59
Peru	14	4
Iceland	1	1
Philippines	1	5
Ecuador	8	5
China	4	4
Total	68	81

5.4 Please explain if the information in processing statements referring to the corresponding catch certificates is retained and recorded.

We do not have any findings in this matter. Corresponding catch certificates are recorded.

5.5 How many requests to authorise APEOs have you received and how many APEOs have you authorised?

The SVFA SR has not received any requests to authorise APEOs.

5.6 Please explain briefly the administrative rules referring to the management and control of APEO.

The Slovak Republic has not issued any administrative rules referring to the management and control of APEO.

5.7 How many re-export certificates were validated by your country for imported products from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013? Please detail per year and, if possible, per destination country.

There were no re-export certificates validated by DVFA from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013.

5.8 Do you monitor if the catches for which you validated a re-export certificate actually leave the EU?

We do not have created any procedure for monitoring of re-export consignments. However, we did not have any such consignments until now.

5.9 Has your country established any IT tools to monitor the catch certificates and processing statements accompanying imports? Does it include a module for re-exportation of imported catches?

YES X NO

If yes, please detail.

Our national IUU IT system, based on authorized access, allows inspectors performing controls to record data from Catch certificates, re – export certificates, Statements under Article 14(2) of IUU Regulation. The system also allows to support recorded data with attached documents (doc., xls., pdf.,...). There is possibility to create statistic data and export them to xls format.

5.10 Does your country implement the provisions regarding transit under Article 19.2 at the point of entry or the place of destination?

We have notified to the Commission that in Slovakia we are implementing the provisions of Articles 16, 17 and 18 at the point of entry.

Section 6: Catch certification scheme for exportation

Please state your notified authorities under article 15.2:

Not applicable for Slovakia. We do not have any own vessels.

6.1 Has your country established a procedure for validation of catch certificates for exportation of catches from own vessels?

Not applicable.

YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please explain briefly the established procedure.

6.2 If yes: How many catch certificates did your country validate from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2013? If possible, please provide details per requesting country/country of destination in the following table.

Destination State	IUU Regulation	Year	
	(art. 14.2 / art. 15)	2012	2013
Third Country 1			
Third Country 2			
Third Country 3			
Third Country x			
Total	--		

6.3 Has your country establish any IT tool to monitor the catch certificates validated for exports stemming from own vessels?

Not applicable.

YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please detail.

6.4. Do you monitor that the catches for which you validated Catch Certificates actually leave the EU?

Not applicable.

If yes, please detail.

6.5. Have you ever refused the validation of a catch certificate?

Not applicable.

If yes, please detail.

Section 7: Verifications of catch certificates for importation

7.1 Has your country established a procedure for verification of catch certificates for importation?

YES X _____ NO _____

If yes, please detail

7.2 How many catch certificates have been verified from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013?

Based on low number of the consignments we perform 100% checks.

7.3 Does your country use a risk assessment approach for verification of catch certificates?

YES_____ NO__X_____

The Slovak Republic, with regard to the frequency of consignments, has not created a risk assessment. Each consignment is controlled (100% documentary control), which is subject to control according to the IUU Regulation.

If yes, please detail.

7.4 Does your country also physically verify the consignments?

YES_____ NO__X_____

If yes, please detail (reason, method of selection, number, etc.).

Section 8: Verification requests to flag States

8.1 How many requests for verifications have been sent to third country authorities?

The SVFA SR sent one verification request for assistance of the competent authority of the flag State as it is referred in Article 17 paragraph 6 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008.

What were the main reasons for these requests? Please specify by using the reasons provided in articles 17.4 and 17.6 of the IUU Regulation.

Verifications were carried out in accordance with Article 17(4)(a) - the verifying authority of the Member State had grounds to investigate the authenticity of the catch certificate itself, of the validation seal or of the signature of the relevant authority of the flag State.

8.2 How many requests for verification were not replied to by the third country authorities within the deadline provided in article 17.6 of the IUU Regulation? Does your country in these situations send a reminder to the third country authorities?

We sent one verification request which was answered in the time.

8.3. Was the quality of the answers provided overall sufficient and satisfactory enough to satisfy the request?

Yes.

Section 9: Refusal of Importations

9.1 Has your country refused any imports from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013? If yes, please provide details in the table below:

The Slovak Republic did not refuse imports from 1 January 2010 until 31 December 2011.

Reason for refusal of importation	2012		2013	
	Flag State	No.	Flag State	No.
Non-submission of a catch certificate for products to be imported.				
The products intended for importation are not the same as those mentioned in the catch certificate.				
The catch certificate is not validated by the notified public authority of the flag State				
The catch certificate does not indicate all the required information.				
The importer is not in a position to prove that the fishery products comply with the conditions of Article 14(1) or (2).				
A fishing vessel figuring on the catch certificate as vessel of origin of the catches is included in the Community IUU vessel list or in the IUU vessel lists referred to in Article 30.				
Further to the request for verification (Article 18(2))				

9.2 If the answer to 9.1 is yes, what did your country do with the fishery products?

9.3 In case of refusal of importation, did the operators contest the decision of the authorities of your country?

YES_____ NO_____

If yes, please detail.

Section 10: Trade flows

10.1 Did you note a change of imports of fishery products since the introduction of the IUU regulation? Please provide information, deriving from your statistical data, concerning change of trade patterns in imports into your country of fishery products.

The Slovak Republic did not note any change of imports of fishery products in connection with the application of the IUU Regulation.

Section 11: Mutual Assistance

11.1 How many mutual assistance messages of the Commission has your country replied to?

The Slovak Republic sent 8 answers to the Commission concerning mutual assistance messages.

11.2 Has your country sent any mutual assistance message to the Commission/other Member States?

YES _____ NO X _____

If yes, please detail.

Section 12: Nationals

Please state your notified authorities under Article 39.4:

12.1 What measures has your country implemented since 1 January 2012 or already had in place on 1 January 2012 to ensure that your country can take appropriate action with regards to nationals involved in IUU fishing?

No, we have not implemented any measures.

12.2 What measures has your country taken to encourage nationals to notify any information on interests in third country vessels (Article 40.1)

No, we have not taken any measures.

12.3 Has your country endeavoured to obtain information on arrangements between nationals and third countries allowing reflagging of their vessels? If yes, please list of vessels.

No.

Section 13: Infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation) and Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)

13.1 How many infringements did your country record from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013? _____

Please detail.

In the time from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013 no infringements in respect of the IUU Regulation were recorded in our country.

13.2 Has your country applied or adapted its levels of administrative sanctions in accordance with Article 44?

Yes, we have.

13.3 How many sighting reports were issued by your country from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2013? _____

No, we have not issued any sighting reports.

Please detail.

13.4 Has your country received any sighting reports for its own vessels from other competent authorities?

Not applicable.

YES _____ NO _____

If yes, please detail.

14. General

14.1 What have been the main difficulties that you have encountered in implementing the catch certification scheme?

14.2 What changes would you suggest to the regulation that would make implementation smoother?

15. Any other comments

Thank you for your cooperation!