

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

Reporting period 2022-2023 (deadline for submission 30 April 2024)

Member State:	GREECE
Organisation:	Ministry of Rural Development and Food Directorate General for Fisheries Directorate of Fishing Activities and Products Control IUU Department
Date:	
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> IUU Department e-mail: <div style="background-color: #cccccc; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div> @minagric.gr, <div style="background-color: #cccccc; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div> @minagric.gr telephone No.: <div style="background-color: #cccccc; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div>

May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States?	
Yes:	X
Yes except for questions (list):	
No:	
May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to the European Fisheries Control Agency for a horizontal assessment¹?	
Yes:	X
Yes except for questions (list):	
No:	

Please check if your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation (Articles 15(2), 17(8) and 21(3)) correspond with the latest version of the Official Journal:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022XC0408%2802%29&qid=1701963740421>

¹ This assessment is for internal use of the Commission. EFCA will present to Member States a summary of this assessment in the EFCA's Plenary and Steering Group meeting.

If not, please provide the updated notification to DG MARE through the Functional mailbox: MARE-NOTIFICATIONS-IUU-1005-2008@ec.europa.eu

Please state your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation in accordance with Article 39(4) (nationals):

**Ministry of Rural Development and Food
Directorate General for Fisheries
Directorate of Fishing Activities and Products Control
IUU Department
Tel: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]@minagric.gr
150 Sygrou Avenue
17671 ATHENS**

Section 1. Information on legal framework²

Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country adopted/modified national law or any administrative guides for the application of any of the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please detail and provide copies or provide link to the official national database.

Section 2. Information on administrative organisation³

2.1. Please provide information on your administrative organisation for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation), in particular as regards:

- port inspections (Chapter II);
- catch certification scheme (Chapter III);
- nationals (Chapter VIII).

When providing the above requested information, please specify if different authorities/services are involved in the implementation of the IUU Regulation for:

- *the control of the access and use of ports, including for landings and transshipments, of third country fishing vessels in accordance with Chapter II of the IUU Regulation;*

Port Authorities

- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for fishery products arriving on board of third country fishing vessels at designated ports;*

IUU Department

- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for imports of consignment with fishery products arriving by other means than fishing vessels (e.g. by containers, planes, trucks);*

² This section 1 is to be filled-in by all Member States i.e. coastal and landlocked Member States.

³ This section 2 is to be filled-in by all Member States i.e. coastal and landlocked Member States.

IUU Department & Control Unit of Fishery Products – located at Athens International Airport

- *validation of catch certificates for exports;*

IUU Department

- *validation and verifications of re-exports.*

IUU Department & Control Unit of Fishery Products – located at Athens International Airport

- *Nationals*

Directorate of Fishing Activities and Products Control in cooperation with Fisheries Control Directorate of the Hellenic Coast Guard

In addition (if different authorities/services are involved), please explain and describe:

- a) *vertical co-operation (between local/regional authorities and their headquarters/central authorities);*

Central and Regional Fisheries Administration are involved in the implementation of the provisions of Reg (EC) 1005/2008 and specifically regarding the procedures of control and validation of export CCs, as well as control and approval of the import CCs. The procedures of access and inspection of third country vessels in the designated ports, are carried out by the competent Port Authorities.

- b) *horizontal co-operation between different authorities and allocation of tasks for various authorities in the implementation of the IUU Regulation (Fisheries, Health, Customs, Coast Guard, Navy, etc.).*

The procedures of Reg (EC) 1005/2008 provisions are implemented through the cooperation of the IUU Department with the Port, Veterinary and Customs authorities.

If written agreements on cooperation between different authorities/services have been concluded, please provide copies.

When providing the above requested information, if there were any changes in the administrative organisation since the previous reporting period (2020-2021), please underline those changes.

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2.2. How many officials are involved in the implementation of the catch certification scheme?

Please specify the number of officials expressed in Full Time Equivalent (FTE); please specify which authority they belong to:

- for checks and verifications in accordance with Articles 16 and 17 of the IUU Regulation;
- for validation of catch certificates for exports and of re-export certificates in accordance with Articles 15(2) and 21(3) of the IUU Regulation.

Four (4) officials are in charge of the duties deriving from the aforementioned provisions of the IUU Regulation

2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports⁴ in which activities relevant to importation/exportation/processing of fishery products are authorised?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide a list of such zones/ports.

1. Free Zone of Piraeus
2. Free Zone of Thessaloniki
3. Free Zone of Heraklio
4. Free Zone of Platigiali, Astakos Etoloakarnanias

Section 3. Information on access to ports, including for landings and transshipments of fishery products, by third country fishing vessels⁵ (and information on related port inspections and confirmed infringements)⁶

3.1. Does your country have designated ports for access to port services or landings or transhipment of fishery products by third country fishing vessels (Article 5 of the IUU Regulation⁷)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please check if your list of designated ports in accordance with Article 5(3) corresponds to the latest version of the Office Journal:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023XC01237>

If not, please provide the updated notification to DG MARE through the Functional mailbox: MARE-NOTIFICATIONS-IUU-1005-2008@ec.europa.eu

3.2. In years 2022 and 2023 respectively, how many times have third country fishing vessels been granted authorisation to access designated ports in your country only for repair/maintenance/supply?⁸

Never

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones_en

⁵ Fishing vessels as defined in article 2(5) of the IUU Regulation.

⁶ This section 3 refers to Chapter II (Articles 4 to 11) of the IUU Regulation and is applicable to coastal Member States. Landlocked Member States should not fill in this section.

⁷ Please note that ports designated under Regional Fisheries Management Organisations must also be designated under the IUU Regulation with restrictions if necessary (species, etc.).

⁸ It is reminded that provisions of Chapter II apply to third country fishing vessels aiming to access EU ports for port services, even in cases where they do not carry fishery products on board and therefore no landing or transhipment operation is foreseen. Third country fishing vessels shall only access ports designated in accordance with Article 5.

3.3. How many landings and transshipments in designated ports by third country fishing vessels have been recorded by your country between 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? How many inspections did your country carry out and how many infringements have been detected?

None

Please fill-in the table below (2022):

Inspections of third country fishing vessels in Member States ports (2022)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2022)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ⁹					
			Example: IS	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	Total
Landings	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					
		Number of inspections	10					
		% of inspections / landings	10%					
		Number of infringements	3					
Transshipments	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	2					
		Number of inspections	0					
		% of inspections / transshipments	0					
		Number of infringements	0					

⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Please fill-in the table below (2023):

Inspections of third country fishing vessels in Member States ports (2023)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2023)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ¹⁰					
			Example: IS	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	Total
Landings	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					
		Number of inspections	10					
		% of inspections / landings	10%					
		Number of infringements	3					
Transshipments	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	2					
		Number of inspections	2					
		% of inspections / transshipments	100%					
		Number of infringements	0					

3.4. From the figures above, in the cases where your country detected infringements concerning third country fishing vessels, please specify for each infringement the flag, the vessel's name, the type of infringement and the measures taken / sanction imposed (Article 11 of the IUU Regulation).

Please fill-in the table below (2022):

Flag of the third country vessel ¹¹	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			
FS2			
...			
FSx			

Please fill-in the table below (2023):

Flag of the third country vessel ¹²	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			

¹⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

FS2			
...			
FSx			

3.5. Please provide:

- the quantities of fish landed by third countries' fishing vessels in your designated ports in 2022 and 2023, respectively (by species and flag of the catching vessels);
- the quantities of fish transhipped from third countries' fishing donor vessels (to third countries or EU fishing receiving vessels) in your designated ports in 2022 and 2023, respectively (by species and flag of the vessels):

Please fill-in the table below (landings):

Landings in 2022		Landings in 2023	
Flag of the third country vessel that caught the fish ¹³	Landed quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel that caught the fish ¹⁵	Landed quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)
FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
...
FSx	...	FSx	...

Please fill-in the table below (transhipments):

Transhipments in 2022		Transhipments in 2023	
Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁶	Transhipped quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁷	Transhipped quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)
FS1	Species 1:	FS1	Species 1:

¹³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁴ Please use the FAO Alpha-3 codes (ASFIS).

¹⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁷ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

	Species 2: Species x:		Species 2: Species x:
FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
...
FSx	...	FSx	...

3.6. Has your country recorded any case of non-compliance by third country fishing vessels with the provisions of Articles 6 (prior notice) and 7 (authorisation) of the IUU Regulation?

☐ *Yes*

☐ *No*

If yes, please detail the nature of the infringement and the measures taken / sanctions applied:

In 2022:

In 2023:

3.7. Since January 2022, has your country denied access to its ports to a fishing vessel for port services, landing or transhipment of fishery products based on the conditions of the IUU Regulation?

☐ *Yes*

☐ *No*

If yes, please describe the case for each vessel concerned (please include the flag of the vessel and its name) and detail the reasons for the denial:

In 2022:

In 2023:

3.8. Do you have cases of third country fishing vessels landing in your ports with the landed products destined to another Member State? [Article 19(3) of the IUU Regulation]

☐ *Yes*

☐ *No*

If yes, please indicate the number of landings meant for transit:

In 2022:

In 2023:

3.9. In order to identify the vessels to be subject to port inspection, do you use risk assessment criteria [cf. benchmarks for port inspections, Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1010/2009]?

☐ *Yes*

☐ *No*

☐ *Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of landings/transhipments from third countries)*

If yes, please detail, in order to reach the objective of at least 5% of landing and transshipment operations as set in Article 9(1) of the IUU Regulation, which benchmarks you use and rank them:

.....

Section 4. Information on catch certification scheme for importation¹⁸

4.1. How many catch certificates¹⁹ from non-EU countries were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please complete the following table by flag State validating the catch certificates, including cases where catch certificates are accompanied by processing statements.²⁰ Please only provide information on catch certificates accompanying the consignments to be imported in your country; for consignments meant for transit to another Member State (Article 19(1) of the IUU Regulation), please see the question 4.7. of this questionnaire.

Flag State (non-EU) ²¹	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³
AL	51	0	71	0
AR	88	0	86	0
AU	4	0	10	0
BZ	0	2	0	0
CA	133	0	203	0
CL	10	1	0	2
CN	191	0	202	0
EC	19	0	15	0
FK	0	0	1	0
FO	2	0	3	0
GH	1	2	5	2
GL	3	0	4	0
GM	13	5	12	7
ID	166	139	142	91
IN	0	443	0	495
IS	105	0	135	0
JM	2	0	17	0
KE	0	5	0	8
KR	3	0	4	0
LK	6	0	3	9
MA	82	53	172	110
MG	0	3	0	4

¹⁸ Section to be filled-in by all Member States.

¹⁹ Please provide only the number of catch certificates i.e. not the number of all transactions (imports/declarations) where the same certificates have been (re)used.

²⁰ If catch certificates are submitted only for transshipment purposes, please specify.

²¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

MM	0	0	1	0
MR	2	49	3	36
MX	5	7	0	2
MU	1	0		
MV	20	0	29	0
NA	6	0	3	0
NI	0	0	2	0
NO	52	0	49	0
NZ	229	0	115	0
OM	2	7	0	5
PA	12	0	4	0
PE	0	45	28	87
PG	6	0	2	0
PH	115	5	75	0
RU	68	0	75	0
SB	2	0	0	0
SC	3	0	0	0
SN	166	1044	84	1104
SV	3	0	0	0
TH	23	7	15	3
TN	3	60	50	64
TR	834	0	729	0
TW	22	0	16	0
TZ	0	1	0	0
UK	49	0	44	0
US	69	0	92	0
UY	0	0	7	0
VE	0	0	0	5
VN	47	0	42	0
YE	0	1	0	6
ZA	41	0	63	0
Total	2659	1879	2613	2040

4.2. From the number above, how many recognised RFMO catch certificates (Annex V to Commission Regulation 1010/2009) accompanied consignments destined to your country? *Please detail per RFMO certificate and year.*

RFMO document	2022	2023
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>		
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	10	
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>		
Total	10	

4.3. How many catch certificates from EU Member States (including from your country) were presented to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Flag State (EU)	2022	2023
DK	1	1
ES	27	13
FR	11	2
HR	0	2
IE	4	2
IT	1	0
SW	2	0
Total	46	20

4.4. From the number above, how many recognised RFMO catch certificates from EU Member States accompanied imports into your country? *Please detail per RFMO certificate and year.*

RFMO document	2022	2023
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>		
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>		
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>		
Total		

4.5. How many processing statements (Article 14(2) – Annex IV) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and per processing country.

Processing non-EU State ²²	2022	2023
<i>AL</i>	0	2
<i>CN</i>	276	281
<i>EC</i>	35	14
<i>ID</i>	0	4
<i>IN</i>	9	18

²² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<i>MK</i>	1	4
<i>NO</i>	8	5
<i>PG</i>	28	9
<i>PH</i>	3	17
<i>SC</i>	4	0
<i>SV</i>	1	0
<i>TH</i>	82	53
<i>TR</i>	9	13
<i>TW</i>	39	30
<i>GB</i>	6	13
<i>VN</i>	2	6
<i>Total</i>	505	474

4.6. How many single transport documents referred to in Article 14(1)(b)(i) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and by third country concerned.

Non-EU State concerned²³ – single transport document	2022	2023
<i>S 1</i>		
<i>S 2</i>		
...		
<i>S x</i>		
<i>Total</i>		

4.7. How many documents referred to in Article 14(1)(b)(ii) (the so-called non-manipulation declarations) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and per country that issued such a document.

Non-EU State issuing a document in line with Article 14.1.b.ii²⁴	2022	2023
<i>NO</i>	1	0
<i>GB</i>	2	5
<i>Total</i>	3	5

4.8. Please indicate if you retain and record the information contained in processing statements (Article 14.2 – Annex IV) referring to the corresponding catch certificates (quantity management):

☒ *Yes*

☐ *No*

²³ Country through which fishery products went when transported from the territory of the flag State and before arriving to your country.

²⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

☐ *Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of processing statements received from non-EU countries in 2022-2023)*

4.9. Do you have cases where third country fishery products arriving to your country (entry point) were destined to another Member State? [Article 19(1) of the IUU Regulation]

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please indicate the number consignments meant for transit:

In 2022:

In 2023:

4.10. Has your country received requests to authorise APEOs²⁵ in 2022-2023?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, how many requests has your country received and how many APEOs have been authorised?

.....

4.11. Has your country adopted administrative rules referring to the management and control of APEOs in 2022-2023?

☐ Yes ☐ No

☒ *Not applicable (e.g. absence of APEO request)*

If yes, please provide details:

.....

4.12. Has your country validated re-export certificates for products imported from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, how many re-export certificates? Please detail per year and, if possible, per destination country:

Destination country (non-EU)²⁶	2022	2023
<i>GB</i>	1	14
<i>US</i>	2	6
<i>TR</i>	1	0
Total	4	20

4.13. Does your country monitor if the catches for which your country has validated a re-export certificate actually leave the EU?

²⁵ Approved Economic Operators – IUU Regulation, Article 16 and Implementing Regulation (EC) No 1010/2009, Chapter II

²⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

☒ *Yes* ☐ *No*

☐ *Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of re-export certificates in 2022-2023)*

If yes, please provide details:

Every Re-Export case is closed upon receipt of the Customs Declaration.

4.14. Has your country established any IT tools to monitor the catch certificates and processing statements accompanying imports?

☒ *Yes* ☐ *No*

If yes, does it include a module for re-exportation of imported catches?

☒ *Yes* ☐ *No*

4.15. Does your country implement the provisions regarding transit under Article 19(2) at the point of entry or the place of destination?

☐ *At the point of entry* ☒ *At the place of destination*

☒ *Not implemented because no consignments were placed under transit procedure as laid down in Article 19(2)*

Section 5. Information on catch certification scheme for exportation²⁷

5.1. Have you established a procedure for validation of catch certificates for exportation of catches from own vessels in accordance with Article 15?

☒ *Yes*

☐ *No*

☐ *Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023)*

If yes, please explain briefly the established procedure and answer questions 5.2 to 5.5.

The exporter submits an Exportation Application Form, accompanied by a receipt from the Integrated Fisheries Monitoring System, which refers to the exported quantity, the purchase invoice, a pro-forma invoice of the sell and the transport documents. The accompanying documents are examined by the officials of the IUU Department and if everything is in order, a Catch Certificate is issued.

5.2. Have you validated catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023 in accordance with Article 15?

☒ *Yes*

☐ *No*

If yes, how many catch certificates did you validate from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023? Please provide details per requesting third country/country of destination in the following table:

Destination State ^{28, 29}	Year	
	2022	2023
<i>AL</i>	91	4
<i>GB</i>	91	166
<i>NO</i>	1	1
<i>CN</i>	0	5
<i>AE</i>	0	2
<i>IT</i>	13	5
<i>ES</i>	0	3
Total	196	186

5.3. Have you established any IT tool to monitor the catch certificates you have validated for fish caught by your own vessels?

☒ *Yes*

☐ *No*

5.4. Do you monitor that the catches for which you have validated catch certificates actually leave the EU?

☐ *Yes*

☒ *No*

²⁷ Section to be filled-in by flag Member States.

²⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

²⁹ It is recommended that the validation of a catch certificate for exportation takes place when the country of destination is known.

☐ Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023)

5.5. Has your country refused the validation of a catch certificate between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2023?

☐ Yes ☒ No

☐ Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of request for validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023)

If yes, please provide details on:

Number (per year):

Reason:

Follow-up:

Section 6. Information on checks and verifications of catch certificates and related documents according to Articles 16(1) and 17(1)-(5) of IUU Regulation³⁰

Please note: points 6.1 to 6.3 in this Section refer to checks of catch certificates in accordance with Article 16(1) whereas points 6.4 to 6.11 refer to verifications of catch certificates in accordance with Article 17.

The clear separation between checks and verifications in this Section thus reflects the provisions of the mentioned Articles of the IUU Regulation.

It is therefore important to provide the requested information in line with this separation.

6.1. Has your country established a procedure for checks of catch certificates in accordance with Article 16(1)?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please provide relevant instruction manuals/ guidance documents.

We use the “COMMON APPROACH CHECKS AND VERIFICATIONS” guidelines.

6.2. Do you check all catch certificates in light of the information provided in the notifications received from the flag States in accordance with Article 20 (i.e. (i) if all required data are provided in a catch certificate and (ii) if these data correspond to the notification from the flag State in question³¹)?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you do not check all catch certificates as indicated above (i.e. for data completeness and correspondence with information from the flag State notification) and instead you apply risk management for checks, please provide the following:

- risks identified in 2022 and 2023 on the basis of risk management used to check catch certificates, and
- number of catch certificates checked:

Please fill-in the table below:

³⁰ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³¹ Based on comparison of the information in the catch certificate with the information provided in the flag State notification available to Member States authorities on the Commission website (in CIRCABC database).

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ³²	2022		2023	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>
<i>Country 1</i>				
<i>Country 2</i>				
...				
<i>Country x</i>				
Total				

6.3. What exactly do you check in catch certificates in accordance with Article 16(1)? Please describe the precise scope and the procedure used in detail³³:

We use the “COMMON APPROACH CHECKS AND VERIFICATIONS” guidelines.

6.4. Has your country established a procedure for verification of catch certificates for importation in accordance with Article 17?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please provide relevant instruction manuals/ guidance documents.

6.5. Do you verify all catch certificates linked to consignments of fishery products intended for importation into the EU or do you verify only part of the catch certificates by applying (or not) risk management?

☐ All ☒ Only part by applying risk management
☐ Only part without applying risk management ☐ No verifications

6.6. If you apply risk management to verifications (Article 17(3)), do you use Union (Article 31 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1010/2009) or national criteria for identification of risks on which verifications shall focus?

☒ Union criteria ☒ National criteria

If you apply Union criteria, please detail the methodology used (and which criteria are used always/regularly, often, occasionally, never):

(a) Importation, exportation or trade in fishery products obtained from species of high commercial value; **regularly**

(b) introduction of new kinds of fishery products or discovery of new trade patterns; **regularly**

³² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

³³ Please provide a complete description (not only examples of what and how is checked).

- (c) inconsistencies between the trade patterns and the known fishing activities of a flag State in particular in respect of species, volumes or characteristics of its fishing fleet; **occasionally**
- (d) inconsistencies between the trade patterns and the known fishing-related activities of a third country in particular in respect of the characteristics of its processing industry or its trade in fishery products; **occasionally**
- (e) trade pattern not justified in terms of economic criteria; **never**
- (f) involvement of a newly established operator; **occasionally**
- (g) significant and sudden increase in trade volume for a certain species; **often**
- (h) submission of copies of catch certificates accompanying processing statements according to Annex IV of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008, for instance when the catch has been split during production; **often**
- (i) prior notification, required under Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008, not transmitted at the proper time or information incomplete; **never**
- (j) inconsistencies between catch data declared by the operator and other information available to the competent authority; **occasionally**
- (k) vessel or vessel owner suspected of being or having been involved in IUU fishing activities; **regularly**
- (l) vessel having recently changed name, flag or registration number; **regularly**
- (m) flag State not notified according to Article 20 of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 or information available on possible irregularities in the validation of catch certificates by a given flag State (e.g. stamps or validation seal from a competent authority lost, stolen or forged); **regularly**
- (n) presumed deficiencies in the control system of a flag State; **often**
- (o) operators concerned who have already been involved in illegal activities constituting a potential risk in respect of IUU fishing. **regularly**

If you apply national criteria, please detail them and the methodology used³⁴:

1. Number refusals of importation
2. Country investigated by DG MARE
3. Non-cooperating country
4. Ability to issue electronic certificates
5. New country
6. For direct & indirect imports
 - Kilos/country
 - CCs/country
 - Verification
 - Number of imports

For statements

- Kilos/country
- Number of imports

.....

- 6.7. If you apply risk management to verifications, please provide information on the risks identified in 2022 and 2023 respectively (Article 32 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1010/2009) on the basis of the criteria used. Please also provide information on whether all consignments identified as risky have been covered by verifications. If this is not the case, please specify the percentage of consignments identified as risky that have been covered by verifications and the reasons of such situation.

³⁴ Please provide a complete description (not only examples of national criteria and of their use).

We verify a number of CCs each year, according our Risk management analysis. The selection is either random or based on requests of mutual assistance. In some cases, we use EFCAs risk analysis calculator. Nevertheless, according to this methodology, all our consignments are low risk.

6.8.If you do not apply risk management to verifications, please describe the procedure used³⁵:
.....

6.9.How many catch certificates have been verified by your administration from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please specify, separately for each year:

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ³⁶	2022		2023	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>
AL	51	2	71	2
AR	88	7	86	5
AU	4	0	10	0
BZ	2	0	0	0
CA	133	7	203	6
CL	11	1	2	1
CN	191	15	202	15
EC	19	2	15	1
FK		0	1	0
FO	2	0	3	0
GH	3	0	7	1
GL	3	0	4	0
GM	18	2	19	2
ID	305	20	233	14
IN	443	10	495	27
IS	105	6	135	8
JM	2	0	17	2
KE	5	0	8	0
KR	3	0	4	0
LK	6	1	12	1
MA	135	11	282	17
MG	3	0	4	0
MM			1	0
MR	51	4	39	3
MX	12	1	2	0
MU	1	0	0	0
MV	20	1	29	1

³⁵ Please provide a complete and accurate description

³⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

NA	6	0	3	0
NI		0	2	0
NO	52	2	49	3
NZ	229	10	115	3
OM	9	2	5	0
PA	12	1	4	0
PE	45	4	115	9
PG	6	0	2	1
PH	120	10	75	6
RU	68	4	75	6
SB	2	0	0	
SC	3	1	0	
SN	1210	95	1188	70
SV	3	0	0	
TH	30	2	18	1
TN	63	2	114	5
TR	834	49	729	44
TW	22	2	16	1
TZ	1	1	0	0
UK	49	3	44	1
US	69	16	92	7
UY		0	7	3
VE		0	5	1
VN	47	4	42	3
YE	1	0	6	1
ZA	41	2	63	4
SUM	4538	300	4653	275

6.10. Please reply to the following questions:

- a) How many catch certificates have you verified in the context of the application of Article 17(4)?

2022: 37

2023: 31

- b) How many catch certificates have you verified on the basis of risk identified in accordance with Article 17(3)?

2022: 233

2023: 216

- c) How many catch certificates have been verified at random (Article 17(5))?

2022: 30

2023: 28

6.11. Does your country also physically examine the consignments in the context of verifications?
Please note that under this point you are asked to provide information on physical examinations based only on IUU-related grounds.

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide details on:

a) Number of physically examined consignments (per year) and percentage in relation to all verifications made:

2022: 6

2023: 7

b) Method of selection of consignments:

New importer, new country and random selection.

Section 7. Assistance requests to third countries³⁷

7.1. Have you sent assistance requests for verifications under Article 17(6) of the IUU Regulation to flag States' authorities in 2022-2023³⁸?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, how many assistance requests for verifications? Note: please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023:

Flag States ³⁹	Number of assistance requests for verifications	Justification	Number of assistance requests for verifications	Justification
	2022	(please provide a brief description)	2023	(please provide a brief description)
AL	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
AR	2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
CA	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	

³⁷ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³⁸ Please note that assistance requests for verifications sent to countries other than flag States should be listed under point 7.4.

³⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<i>CL</i>	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>CN</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>GH</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>GM</i>	2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>JM</i>	0		2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>LK</i>	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>MR</i>	2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>MX</i>	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>MV</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>NZ</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>OM</i>	2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>PE</i>	2	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>PG</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>RU</i>	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	6	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>SC</i>	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>SN</i>	4	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	3	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>TN</i>	0		5	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>TZ</i>	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	0	
<i>US</i>	16	Based on Article 17.4.a and b	1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>UY</i>	0		3	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>VE</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
<i>YE</i>	0		1	Based on Article 17.4.a and b
Total	37		31	

7.2. How many assistance requests for verifications were not replied to by the other flag States' authorities within the deadline provided in Article 17(6) of the IUU Regulation? In these cases, do you send a reminder to the authorities of the country in question? Could you please specify when the assistance request, despite reminder(s), remained unanswered? What measures have you taken in that case (i.e. have you denied the importation)? [Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023]

2022 none

2023 none

7.3. Was the quality of the answers provided overall sufficient to satisfy the assistance request? If no, please explain why the quality was not sufficient, and the measures you have taken in such case(s).

The quality of all answers was satisfactory. In some cases, we had to send a reminder, which always resulted in a satisfactory answer.

7.4. Have you sent assistance requests for verifications to other countries than the flag State? If yes, please specify the number, the reasons and the countries concerned, and the quality of the feedback provided.

Yes, we have sent requests for verifications to countries issuing a processing statement. Reasons include requests for corrections on the statement (vessel/species names, fishing dates), as well as requests to provide an original CC, in cases with depleted quantities. The quality of feedback was satisfactory.

<u>State</u>	Number of assistance requests	Number of assistance requests
	2022	2023
<i>AL</i>	0	1
<i>CN</i>	1	1
<i>PG</i>	1	0
<i>PH</i>	1	0
<i>SC</i>	1	0
<i>VN</i>	0	1
<i>Total</i>	4	3

7.5. If you have been using IT systems developed by third countries allowing for a full or partial verification⁴⁰ of catch certificates, please indicate these countries and the number of verifications that were made through their systems (at least approximately)?

We use the available catch certificate verification tools as a part of our check process. Third Country IT systems we use are: Canada, New Zealand, India, Mexico, Turkey, Norway, USA, Ecuador, Argentina, UK, Indonesia, Greenland and Maldives. We also use the Iceland fiskistofa.is website to check fishing vessel licenses. All catch certificate from these countries were checked.

⁴⁰ Please indicate if you use these IT systems already as part of your checks (not verifications) of catch certificates.

Section 8. Information on refusal of importations (Article 18 of the IUU Regulation)⁴¹

8.1. Has your country refused any imports from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? *Note: please only consider refusals based on the IUU Regulation, not for other reasons e.g. Food Safety legislation, Customs legislation, etc.*

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please provide details in the table below:

Reason for refusal of importation	2022		2023	
	Flag State ⁴²	Number	Flag State ⁴³	Number
Non-submission of a catch certificate for products to be imported.			GB	1
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.			RU	1
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 EU IUU vessel list or in the IUU vessel lists referred to in Article 30.				
The catch certificate has been validated by the authorities of a flag State identified as a non-cooperating State in accordance with Article 31.				
Further to the request for verification (Article 18.2).				

8.2. If the answer to point 8.1 is yes, what measures were taken by your authorities in relation to the consignments refused (Article 18.3)? Please also quote the national legal basis for the measures taken.

⁴¹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁴³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Regarding the importation refusal of the catch certificate from RU, the consignment was returned to the country of origin. The products from the consignment accompanied by the CC from GB were destructed. National Law 1750/32219/27-03-2015 dictates the legal basis for the measures taken.

.....

8.3. In case of refusal of importation, did any operator contest the decision of the authorities of your country?

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ Not applicable (absence of refusals in 2022-2023)

If yes, please provide details:

Section 9. Information on trade flows⁴⁴

Please provide information and relevant import figures, based on your statistical data, concerning any important change of trade patterns in imports of fishery products into your country since the last reporting period covering 2020-2021:

Number of CCs accompanying Direct importations: there was a 7.7% decrease in 2022, compared to 2021. In 2023 a 2.5% increase was observed.

Number of CCs accompanying Indirect importations: there was a 15.1% increase in 2022, compared to 2021, followed by a 3.8% decrease in 2023.

Number of Processing Statements: an increase, compared to the previous year, was recorded in both 2022 and 2023 (1.1% and 2.0% respectively).

Overall, in 2022 and 2023, there was a trend to normalize the sharp increase of 2021, which was a result of the trade reboot, after the COVID lock-downs.

As far as specific major trading Flag States are concerned, the number of examined CCs from Senegal, Turkey, India, Morocco, China, Indonesia, Peru, Argentina, South Africa, Iceland, Norway and Ecuador decreased in 2022.

In 2023 the number of examined CCs from Senegal, Turkey, Argentina, Norway and Ecuador decreased further. On the other hand, CCs from India, Morocco, China, Peru, South Africa and Iceland increased.

The number of examined CCs increased in 2022 for Canada, New Zealand, Tunisia, Albania, Philippines, USA, Venezuela and the Gambia.

In 2023 brought a further increase for Canada, Tunisia, Albania, USA and the Gambia, while the number of CCs from New Zealand, Philippines and Venezuela decreased.

Section 10. Information on mutual assistance⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁵ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

- 10.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, how many mutual assistance messages of the Commission (DG MARE B4) has your country replied to?⁴⁶

Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023 (if any)

2022: we replied to 5 messages.

2023 we replied to 4 messages

From the numbers above, please specify in how many cases you took action and describe the actions taken.

2022: we took action in 5 cases, by uploading the requested information to FISHNET

2023 we took action in 3 cases, by uploading the requested information to FISHNET

- 10.2. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country sent any mutual assistance message to the Commission/other Member States?

Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023 (if any)

2022

2023 1 message

Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries⁴⁷

Apart from assistance requests in the context of verifications of catch certificates and accompanying documents foreseen under the catch certification scheme (Article 17(6)), has your country had other exchanges with third countries on issues related to the implementation of the IUU Regulation, such as follow-up of cases concerning nationals, trade flows, operators, private fishing licencing, re-flagging operations, investigations of cases of IUU fishing (Article 42) and investigations of criminal activities associated to IUU fishing?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, please provide details (please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023, if any).

.....

Section 12. Information on nationals⁴⁸

- 12.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country implemented or modified existing measures to ensure that your country can take appropriate action with regards to nationals involved in IUU fishing in accordance with Article 39 of the IUU Regulation?

⁴⁶ Please provide the number of all replies, regardless of their content i.e. including replies which, for example, only confirmed that the request was not relevant for your country.

⁴⁷ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁸ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details:

- 12.2. Have there been any cases of nationals of your country engaging in or supporting IUU fishing, including by engagement on board or as operators or beneficial owners of fishing vessels included in the EU IUU vessel list?

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details:

- 12.3. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country taken any action with regard to its nationals who have been identified as supporting or engaged in IUU fishing?

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details:

- 12.4. What measures has your country taken to encourage nationals to notify any information on interests in third country fishing vessels (Article 40(1))?

- 12.5. Has your country endeavoured to obtain information on arrangements between nationals and third countries allowing reflagging of their fishing vessels in accordance with Article 40(4)?

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details:

- 12.6. Has your country put in place procedures to ensure that nationals do not sell or export any fishing vessels to operators involved in the operation, management or ownership of fishing vessels included in the EU IUU vessel list (Article 40(2))?

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details:

- 12.7. Has your country made use of Article 40(3) and removed public aid under national aid regimes or under EU funds to operators involved in the operation, management or ownership of fishing vessels included in the EU IUU vessel list?

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details:

Section 13. Serious infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation)⁴⁹

- 13.1. Has your country detected serious infringements as defined in Article 42 of the IUU Regulation from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

⁴⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please detail separately for each year the number of serious infringements, nature and sanctions applied:

Flag State of the fishing vessel or nationality of the operator (EU and non-EU) ⁵⁰	Serious infringements detected in 2022:			Serious infringements detected in 2023:		
	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied
<i>Italy</i>				1	Fishing with a valid permit issued by the coastal State.	It was not possible to apply sanctions. Sighting reports were forwarded to the flag state.
<i>Country 2</i>						
<i>Country x</i>						
<i>Total</i>				1		

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

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, please provide details:

Have you used criminal sanctions? If yes, please specify if in addition to or in replacement of administrative sanctions:

Section 14. Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)⁵¹

14.1. Has your country issued sighting reports from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, how many sighting reports were issued by your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

⁵⁰ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁵¹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Flag State of the sighted fishing vessel(EU and non-EU) ⁵²	Number of sighting reports issued in 2022	Number of sighting reports issued in 2023
<i>TR</i>	432	707
<i>IT</i>	-	1
<i>Total</i>	432	708

14.2. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country received any sighting reports for fishing vessels flying its own flag from other competent authorities?

☐ *Yes* ☒ *No*

If yes, please provide details on follow-up (in accordance with Article 50 of the IUU Regulation).

.....

Section 15. General

14.1. During the reporting period 2022-2023, what have been the main difficulties that your country has encountered in implementing the IUU Regulation, including the catch certification scheme?

-No ability to control and verify:

i) the listed management measures (in many cases the national legislation number of the Third Country is provided).

ii) if the requirements for adopting a simplified CC are met.

-Difficulties in controlling and enforcing the provisions of the IUU legislation for nationals, especially when they are not residents of the country or in cases they manage fishing companies, located in third countries.

- Difficulties in monitoring the balance of a CC attached to processing statements.

Section 16. Any other comment

Looking forward to the compulsory use of CATCH.

• • •

⁵²ISO Alpha-2 country codes.