

**BIENNIAL REPORT  
ON THE APPLICATION OF THE IUU REGULATION**

**Reporting period 2016-2017**

<b>Member State:</b>	<b>BULGARIA</b>
<b>Organisation:</b>	<b>Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture</b>
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Name, position and contact details of responsible official:</b>	<b>Rosen VLADEV, Senior Expert of Directorate of “Management of Fisheries and Conservation of Fish Resources“  Phone: + 359 56 80 60 79, e-mail: <u><a href="mailto:r.vladev@iara.government.bg">r.vladev@iara.government.bg</a></u>, <u><a href="mailto:office@iara.government.bg">office@iara.government.bg</a></u>.</b>

<b>May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States?</b>	
<b>Yes:</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Yes except for questions (list):</b>	
<b>No:</b>	

<p><b>Please state your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation in accordance with:</b></p> <p><b>Article 15.2 (exportation of catches): Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture</b></p> <p><b>Article 17.8 (verification of catch certificates): Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture</b></p> <p><b>Article 21.3 (re-exportation): Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture</b></p> <p><b>Article 39.4 (nationals): Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture</b></p>
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## Section 1. Information on legal framework<sup>1</sup>

Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015, has your country adopted/modified national law or any administrative guides for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation)?

Yes  No

*If yes, please detail and provide copies*

**ORDINANCE No 3 of 19.02.2013 on the application of a point system for serious infringements within the meaning of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 of 29.09.2008, amended on 20.10.2017. – Art. 3, p.(6- new) and p.(7-new)**

## Section 2. Information on administrative organisation<sup>2</sup>

2.1. How has your country organised its services to deal with the implementation of the IUU Regulation? If different authorities/services are involved, please distinguish between:

- the control of direct landings of third country fishing vessels;
- validation of catch certificates upon exports;
- verification of catch certificates for imports under direct landing;
- verification of catch certificates for imports arriving by other means than fishing vessels (e.g. by containers, trucks);
- validation and verifications of re-exports.

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

*Please explain and describe this cooperation: The internal coordination is carried out by EAFA documentary system, e-mail and phone*

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

*Please explain and describe this cooperation: ... The main national authorities involved in the implementation of the IUU Regulation are:*

- *Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture – the Agency is contact point for the implementation of the IUU Regulation. Its main activities are fisheries control, granting fisheries permissions, verification and validation of catch certificates, designating of landing ports and transshipments of third countries fishing vessels.*
- *Customs Agency, which is competent authority for customs control, authorization, suspension and denial of importation or exportation.*
- *Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, Directorate “Border Control” which carries out state veterinary control of imported/exported animal products.*
- *Directorate General “Border Police” at the Ministry of Interior, which performs control in the territorial waters and EEZ;*
- *Maritime administration Agency and Bulgarian Ports Infrastructure Company – these authorities are responsible for port access and granting of port services.*

<sup>1</sup> This section 1 is to be filled-in by all Member States i.e. coastal and landlocked Member State.

<sup>2</sup> This section 2 is to be filled-in by all Member States i.e. coastal and landlocked Member State.

- *The cooperation between different institutions is based on a memorandum of agreement, the scope of which is to cooperate in the process of import, export and re-export of fishery products, carry out joint inspections and controls and exchange of information. In order to make communication more operational, the Heads of the Institutions designate a contact points according to their competencies.*

b) how many officials are involved in the implementation of the catch certification scheme?

*Please specify the number of officials: **By order of the Executive Director of EAFSA, a total of 5 officials are dealing with the implementation of the catch certification scheme - 3 - in Burgas, 1 - in Varna and 1 - in Sofia.***

.....

c) Do the authorities of your country have the possibility to audit/verify a company for the purposes laid down in the IUU Regulation?

Yes                       No

*If yes, which and how many audits/verifications have they undertaken since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015? Please detail the results: ...*

.....

2.2. Does your country have free zones/free ports in which activities relevant to importation/exportation/processing of fishery products are authorised?

Yes                       No

*There are no free zones/free ports for the mentioned activities.*

**Section 3. Information on landings and transhipments of fishery products by third country fishing vessels (including information on port inspections and infringements)<sup>3</sup>**

3.1. Does your country have designated ports for direct landings or transhipment operations of fishery products and port services of third country fishing vessels (Article 5 of the IUU Regulation<sup>4</sup>)?

Yes  No

If yes, please list your country's designated ports (including ports designated under Regional Fisheries Management Organisations requirements):

***In implementation of Article 5 of the IUU Regulation, Bulgaria has designated the following ports, where direct landings and transhipments from third countries vessels are authorized:***

- Varna;
- Burgas.

3.2. How many landings and transhipments in designated ports of third country vessels have been recorded by your country between 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017? Has your country

**There are no direct landings of 3rd countries fishing vessels in Bulgaria.**

Please fill-in the table below (2016):

Inspections of third country vessels in Member States ports (2016)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2016)	Flag of the third country vessel(s)*					Total
			Ex. NO	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					0
		Number of inspections	10					0
		% of inspections / landings	10%					0
		Number of infringements	3					0
Transhipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2					0
		Number of inspections	0					0
		% of inspections / transhipments	0					0
		Number of infringements	0					0

\*Use ISO Alpha-2 country codes

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Please note that ports designated under Regional Fisheries Management Organisations must also be designated under the IUU Regulation with restrictions if necessary (species etc.)

Please fill-in the table below (2017):

Inspections of third country vessels in Member States ports (2017)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2017)	Flag of the third country vessel(s)*					Total
			Ex. NO	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					0
		Number of inspections	10					0
		% of inspections / landings	10%					0
		Number of infringements	3					0
Transshipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	2					0
		Number of inspections	2					0
		% of inspections / transshipments	100%					0
		Number of infringements	0					0

\*Use ISO Alpha-2 country codes

3.3. From the figures above, in the cases where your country detected infringements by third country vessels between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017, please specify the flag, the vessel's name, the type of infringement and the measures taken (Article 11 of the IUU Regulation).

Please fill-in the table below (2016):

Flag of the third country vessel*	Name of the third country fishing vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1	—	—	—
FS2	—	—	—
...	—	—	—
FSx	—	—	—

\*Use ISO Alpha-2 country codes

Please fill-in the table below (2017):

Flag of the third country vessel*	Name of the third country fishing vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1	—	—	—
FS2	—	—	—

...	—	—	—
FSx	—	—	—

\*Use ISO Alpha-2 country codes

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

Yes  No

If yes, please detail the nature of the problems...

3.5. Since January 2016, has your country denied access to its ports to a fishing vessel for port services, activities of landing or transhipment of fishery products based on the conditions of the IUU Regulation?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail the nature of the problem, the number of vessels concerned and their flags:

.....

3.6. Approximately, what percentage of the third country fishing vessel landings arrives in transit in your country with final destination in another Member State? [Article 19.3 of the IUU Regulation]

Please indicate the percentage: ... ***Not applicable*** .....

3.7. In order to determine the cases for port inspection, does your country use risk assessment criteria [cf. benchmarks for port inspections, Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No1010/2009]

Yes  No

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

If yes, please detail: .....

**Section 4. Information on catch certification scheme for importation for the purpose of the IUU Regulation<sup>5</sup>**

4.1. How many catch certificates from non-EU countries were presented to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017?

<b>Flag State (non-EU)</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
CANADA	72	60
ICELAND	37	35
MOROCCO	20	8
FAROEES	43	33
CHINA	15	23
TURKEY	24	8
ARGENTINA	23	16
PERU	13	25
NORWAY	19	30
URUGUAY	2	1
USA	73	81
INDONESIA	16	15
NEW ZEALAND	12	11
RUSSIA	1	4
THAILAND	11	6
ECUADOR	1	
MAURITANIA	1	
MEXICO	2	1
GREENLAND		4
<b>Total</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>361</b>

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

<sup>5</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States. Article 2.11 of the IUU Regulation – "*importation means the introduction of fishery products into the territory of the Union, including for transshipment purposes at ports in its territory*"

<b>RFMO document</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>	0	0
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	0	0
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	0	0
<b>Total</b>		

4.3. Has your country received processing statements from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017?

*Yes*                       *No*

If yes, how many processing statements under Article 14.2 accompanied imports into your country? If possible, please provide details per year and per processing country. Please only report processing statements received from non-EU countries:

<b>Processing non-EU State</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
BELARUS	10	15
CHINA	30	16
NORWAY	10	8
INDONESIA	3	1
UKRAINE	1	
THAILAND	1	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>45</b>

4.4. Please indicate if the information in processing statements referring to the corresponding catch certificates is retained and recorded:

*Yes*                       *No*

*Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of processing statements received from non-EU countries in 2016-2017)*

4.5. Has your country received requests to authorise APEO<sup>6</sup>s in 2016-2017?

*Yes*                       *No*

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

<sup>6</sup> Approved Economic Operators – IUU Regulation, Article 16 and Implementing Regulation (EC) 1010/2009, Chapter II



.....

4.6. Has your country adopted administrative rules referring to the management and control of APEO in 2016-2017?

Yes  No

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

If yes, please detail:

.....

4.7. Has your country validated re-export certificates for products imported from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017?

Yes  No

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

Destination country (non-EU)	2016	2017
Third Country 1	0	0
Third Country 2	0	0
...		
Third Country x	0	0
Total	0	0

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

Yes  No

**X Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of re-export certificates in 2016-2017)**

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

Yes  No

***We have established a register for catch certificates and processing statements, which allow online monitoring at the three designated points – Bugras, Varna and Sofia.***

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

Yes  No

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

Yes

No

If yes, please detail: ***The procedures for verification of catch certificates for fishery products which are placed under the transit regime are performed at the point of final destination.***

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**Section 5. Information on catch certification scheme for exportation<sup>7</sup>**

5.1. Has your country 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 2016-2017)

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

.....

5.2. Has your country validated catch certificates for exportation in 2016-2017?

Yes  No

If yes, how many catch certificates did your country validate from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017? If possible, please provide details per requesting third country/country of destination in the following table:

Destination State	Year	
	2016	2017
<i>Third Country 1</i>	0	0
<i>Third Country 2</i>	0	0
...	0	0
<i>Third Country x</i>	0	0
Total	0	0

5.3. Has your country established any IT tool to monitor the catch certificates validated for exports stemming from own vessels?

Yes  No

5.4. Does your country monitor that the catches for which your country has validated catch certificates actually leave the EU?

Yes  No

Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2016-2017)

5.5. Has your country refused the validation of a catch certificate between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2017?

Yes  No

<sup>7</sup> Section to be filled-in by flag Member States.

*X Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of request for validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2016-2017)*

If yes, please detail:

**Section 6. Information on verifications of catch certificates for importation according to Article 17 of IUU Regulation<sup>8</sup>**

6.1. Has your country established a procedure for verification of catch certificates for importation in accordance with Article 17.2?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail: .....

6.2. How many catch certificates have been verified by your administration from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017? Please specify, separately for each year:

Flag State of origin (EU or non-EU)	Number of verifications (at least basic document-based checks)	
	2016	2017
CANADA	72	60
ICELAND	37	35
MOROCCO	20	8
FAROES	43	33
CHINA	15	23
TURKEY	24	8
ARGENTINA	23	16
PERU	13	25
NORWAY	19	30
URUGUAY	2	1
USA	73	81
INDONESIA	16	15
NEW ZEALAND	12	11
RUSSIA	1	4
THAILAND	11	6

<sup>8</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Flag State of origin (EU or non-EU)	Number of verifications (at least basic document-based checks)	Number of verifications (at least basic document-based checks)
	2016	2017
ECUADOR	1	
MAURITANIA	1	
MEXICO	2	1
GREENLAND		4
<b>Total</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>361</b>

6.3. Does your country use a risk assessment approach for verification of catch certificates in accordance with Article 17?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail (e.g. EU criteria for verifications (Article 31 of Commission Regulation 1010/2009); EFCA risk assessment methodology; national criteria).

.....

6.4. Does your country also physically verify the consignments?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail:

*Number (per year): The Custom agency and the Food safety agency are performing the physical verification, the representatives of EAFA had carried out 5 physical inspections in the last two years.*

*Method of selection:* .....

*Follow-up:* .....

## Section 7. Verification requests to flag States<sup>9</sup>

7.1. Has your country sent requests for verifications under Article 17.6 of the IUU Regulation to other countries authorities in 2016-2017?

Yes  No

If yes, how many requests for verifications? Please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017:

Flag States	No of requests for verifications 2016	Justifications (Articles 17.4 and 17.6 of the IUU Regulation)-	No of requests for verifications 2017	Justifications (Articles 17.4 and 17.6 of the IUU Regulation)

<sup>9</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<b>Flag States</b>	<b>No of requests for verifications 2016</b>	<b>Justifications (Articles 17.4 and 17.6 of the IUU Regulation)-</b>	<b>No of requests for verifications 2017</b>	<b>Justifications (Articles 17.4 and 17.6 of the IUU Regulation</b>
<i>ICELAND</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>
<i>CHINA</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>
<i>MOROCCO</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>		
<i>URUGUAY</i>	<b>1</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>		
<i>Faroe Islands</i>			<b>1</b>	<b>Art.17.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>3</b>	

7.2. How many requests for verification were not replied to by the other countries' authorities within the deadline provided in Article 17.6 of the IUU Regulation? Does your country in these situations send a reminder to the authorities of the country in question? [Please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017]

2016 - 0.....

2017 - 0.....

7.3. Was the quality of the answers provided overall sufficient to satisfy the request?

*Yes*

*No*

**Section 8. Information on refusal of importations (Article 18 of the IUU Regulation)<sup>10</sup>**

8.1. Has your country refused any imports from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017? *Please only consider refusals based on the IUU Regulation, not for other reasons e.g. Food Safety, Customs legislation, etc.*

Yes  No

If yes, please provide details in the table below:

Reason for refusal of importation	2016		2017	
	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.				
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)				

<sup>10</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

8.2. If the answer to 8.1 is yes, what measures were taken by your authorities towards the refused fishery products?

.....  
 .....

8.3. 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 9. Information on trade flows<sup>11</sup>**

9.1. Did your country note a change of imports of fishery products since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail: .....

9.2. Please provide information, deriving from your country's statistical data, concerning change of trade patterns in imports of fishery products into your country:

<b>FISH SPECIES 2016</b>	<b>FISH SPECIES 2017</b>
MACKEREL - 45.50 %	MACKEREL - 59.36%
HERRING - 17.93 %	HERRING- 3.63 %
SHRIMPS - 15.23 %	SHRIMPS - 13.64 %
MERLUCCIUS,HAKE,HOKI - 7.18 %	MERLUCCIUS,HAKE,HOKI - 8.56 %
SARDA SARDA- 3.53 %	SARDA SARDA- 0.52 %
ALASKA POLLOCK - 1.53 %	ALASKA POLLOCK - 2.24 %
SURIMI - 1.14 %	SURIMI - 1.32 %
SARDINA- 0.72 %	SARDINA- 0.69 %
SQUID - 0.35 %	SQUID – 3.32 %
LOBSTERS- 0.07 %	LOBSTERS- 0.07 %
SKIPJACK TUNA- 0.87 %	SARDINELLA – 1.44 %

<sup>11</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States



<b>THIRD COUNTRY 2016</b>	<b>THIRD COUNTRY 2017</b>
CANADA-19.84 %	CANADA-17.21 %
ICELAND-29.80 %	ICELAND-12.44 %
MOROCCO- 11.33 %	MOROCCO- 3.83 %
FAROEES-7.38 %	FAROEES-16.45 %
CHINA- 3.72 %	CHINA- 6.10 %
TURKEY- 3.56 %	TURKEY- 0.80 %
ARGENTINA- 4.70 %	ARGENTINA- 4.55 %
USA- 0.84 %	USA- 3.06 %
NORWAY - 4.89 %	NORWAY - 14.57 %
PERU-7.62 %	PERU-13.17 %

.....

**Section 10. Information on mutual assistance<sup>12</sup>**

10.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015, how many mutual assistance messages of the Commission has your country replied to?

*Please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017 (if any)*

**2016 MA\_BLZ\_003**

**2017 MA\_VNM\_002**

**2017 MA\_VNM\_003**

**2017 MA\_PHL\_003**

**2017 MA\_CHN\_009**

**2017 MA\_THA\_010**

10.2. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015, has your country sent any mutual assistance message to the Commission/other Member States?

*Please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017 (if any)*

**2016 SPAIN**

**2016 SLOVENIA**

<sup>12</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

*2016 CYPRUS*

*2017 SPAIN*

*2017 SPAIN*

*2017 SPAIN*

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**Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries<sup>13</sup>**

11.1. Apart from verifications and refusals under Articles 17 and 18, has your country had information exchange with third countries on issues related to the implementation of the IUU Regulation, such as follow-up of cases concerning nationals, consignments, trade flows, operators, private fishing licencing, as well as the investigation of criminal activities and serious infringements (Article 42)?

*Yes*  *No*

If yes, please detail (please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017, if any).

.....

**Section 12. Information on nationals<sup>14</sup>**

12.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015, 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?

*Yes*  *No*

If yes, please detail: .....

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

***We have intention organizing an information campaign***

12.3. Has your country endeavoured to obtain information on arrangements between nationals and third countries allowing reflagging of their vessels in accordance with Article 40.4?

*Yes*  *No*

If yes, please detail: .....

12.4. If yes to any of the above, how many cases have your country dealt with and which administrative or penal follow-up was given?

Please provide details: .....

12.5. 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 Community IUU vessel list (Article 40.2)?

*Yes*  *No*

If yes, please provide details: .....

<sup>13</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>14</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

12.6. Has your country made use of Article 40.3 and removed public aid under national aid regimes or under Union funds to operators involved in the operation, management or ownership of fishing vessels included in the Union IUU vessel list?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail: .....

**Section 13. Infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation) and Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)<sup>15</sup>**

13.1. How many serious infringements as defined in Article 42 of the IUU Regulation did your country record from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017? Please detail separately for each year the number of serious infringements, nature and sanctions applied.

Flag State of the vessel or nationality of the operator (EU and non-EU)	Serious infringements detected in 2016:			Serious infringements detected in 2017:		
	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied
PK BH 7198 „Гънър“-BG	1	Fishing without special authorization for target of turbot  Order №72/23.03.2016	7 p. – to the holder of fishing authorization  7 p. - to the master of fishing vessel  1500 lv.			
OX 329 - BG				1	Fishing without authorization  Order №89/16.02.2017	12 p. – to the holder of fishing authorization  12 p. - to the master of fishing vessel  3000 lv.

<sup>15</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Flag State of the vessel or nationality of the operator (EU and non-EU)	Serious infringements detected in 2016:			Serious infringements detected in 2017:		
	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied
<i>Total</i>						

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

*Yes*                       *No*

If yes, please detail: **Art. 18 (e), Fisheries and Aquaculture Act**

13.3. How many sighting reports were issued by your country from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017?

Flag State of the sighted vessel (EU and non-EU)	No of sighting reports issued in 2016	No of sighting reports issued 2017
<i>Country 1</i>	—	—
<i>Country 2</i>	—	—
...	—	—
<i>Country x</i>	—	—
<i>Total</i>	—	—

13.4. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015, has your country received any sighting reports for its own vessels from other competent authorities?

*Yes*                       *No*

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

.....

<b>Section 14. General</b>
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14.1. In the reporting period 2016/2017, what have been the main difficulties that your country has encountered in implementing the IUU Regulation, including the catch certification scheme

.....  
14.2. Which improvements would your country suggest to the Regulation that would make implementation smoother?

*Please see Section 15*

<b>Section 15. Any other comments</b>
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*1. An updated list of all MS email addresses verifying and certifying the third-country catch certificates presented for better communication and mutual assistance.*

*2. Updated list of contacts / email addresses / third- country validation authorities.*

*3. Access to WEB resources to verify fishing vessels for identification and location during the catch period specified on the certificate.*

*4. Usising of a uniform CC model from all third countries (eg non-use of uniform CC model by the USA, Iceland, Faroe Islands).*

*5. All third countries which issue an electronic catch certificate should create a system for online verification of certificates issued by them (good example Canada, Norway).*

*6. Unauthorized use of an electronically issued catch certificate if missed some details / possible multiple use of the same certificate in different MS /*

*7. Development of a common EU register (database) of catch certificates submitted by third countries and the possibility of online access to them.*

*8. Automatic recognition and cancellation of one catch certificate for import into the EU in different MS.*

*9. Ability to track the quantity of imported fish into EU under a catch certificate issued for a large quantity, but imported only part of it.*

*10. Existence of a list of establishments processing fish products in third countries approved by the national authorities and meeting EU food safety requirements.*

*11. Existence of a list of species of fish that are under recovery plan, quotas, other restrictions and areas*

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