

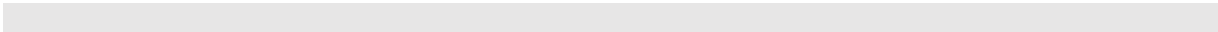
**QUESTIONNAIRE to be used for biennial reporting  
on the application of the IUU Regulation**

**Reporting period 2016-2017 (deadline for submission 30 April 2018)**

<b>Member State:</b>	Ireland
<b>Organisation:</b>	Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA)
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Name, position and contact details of responsible official:</b>	Adrian Hickey - Irelands SLO – Sea Fisheries Protection Officer Email <a href="mailto:adrian.hickey@sfpa.ie">adrian.hickey@sfpa.ie</a> Mobile 00 353 (0) 87 7751243 Tel. 00 353 (0)23 88 59348

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

<p><b>Please state your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation in accordance with:</b></p> <p><b>Article 15.2 (exportation of catches):</b> Sea Fisheries Protection Authority</p> <p><b>Article 17.8 (verification of catch certificates):</b> Sea Fisheries Protection Authority</p> <p><b>Article 21.3 (re-exportation):</b> Sea Fisheries Protection Authority</p> <p><b>Article 39.4 (nationals):</b> Sea Fisheries Protection Authority</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 or provide link to the official national database*

- *...Ireland has introduced criminal sanctions for serious infringements in accordance with Art.44 (3) of EU 1005/2008. Ireland introduced Statutory Instrument 3/2014 to implement the point system under EU 1224/2009 and EU 404/2011. This was subsequently challenged in the High Court and was appealed to the Supreme Court. While the decision of the Supreme Court was awaited, in the interim Statutory Instrument 125/2016 was introduced to implement the point system. The Supreme Court delivered its judgments in December 2017 and upheld the decision of the High Court that Statutory Instrument 3/2014 was invalid, chiefly on the basis of a lack of fair procedures. A new statutory instrument to implement the point system is currently being drafted to reflect the decision of the Supreme Court. The new statutory instrument will revoke Statutory Instrument 125/2016.*
- <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2016/si/125/made/en/print>

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

2.1. Does your country have different authorities/services to deal with the implementation of the IUU Regulation?

Yes  No

2.2. 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 IUU office in Clonakilty co-ordinates procedures and policies that are mandatory as per legislative requirements, and is the central point of contact if information is required from either the industry or SFPA port staff queries. SFPA port offices (7 of) deal directly with industry in regard to validating catch certificates; inspecting consignments and processing re-export certificates. Killybegs is an IUU and NEAFC designated port, this port handles the majority of exports and re-exports conducted in Ireland. Ireland has a second designated port, Castletown Bere, to date no direct landings from third country vessels, have been conducted in this port.*

<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.

- 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.); *In general the SFPA works unilaterally in regard to the implementation of the IUU legislation*

*Border Inspection Post – Close working relationship, directing importers to the IUU Office to resolve IUU/Import issues and queries, this authority is responsible for veterinary requirements associated with imports once they have been cleared following IUU/Traceability checks.*

*Naval Service – The navy is the sea going platform for inspections, monitoring and control on vessels fishing within Irelands EEZ, and in International waters conducting RFMO assessments.*

*Please explain and describe this cooperation: .....*

- b) 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):*

- *IUU Office for verification and co-ordination* - *1 staff member (0.75 FTE)*
- *Port Offices for validation* - *7 (1 per port)\*(2.5 FTE)*

*\* Although there is an associated staff member in each port, some ports have greater tasking than others; some ports have no involvement with validating catch certificates for exports, but someone is delegated should the necessity be required. The tasking of IUU requirements is typically only a small part of the individuals role, in some cases validation might be conducted by alternative staff members, this process allows for leave and shift rotations. In some ports only a small quantity of catch certificates have been validated since the initiation of the associated legislation. Predominantly Killybegs, one of Irelands designated ports; deals with the majority of all validated certificates from Ireland.*

- 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:*

*2016 – 238 audits/verifications were conducted*

*2017- 372 audits/verifications were conducted*

- 2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports<sup>3</sup> in which activities relevant to importation/exportation/processing of fishery products are authorised?

*Yes*                       *No*

<p><b>Section 3. Information on direct landings and transhipments of fishery products by third country fishing vessels<sup>4</sup> (including information on port inspections and infringements)<sup>5</sup></b></p>
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<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones_en)

<sup>4</sup> Fishing vessels as defined in article 2.5 of the IUU Regulation

3.1. Does your country have designated ports for direct landings or transshipment operations of fishery products and port services of third country fishing vessels (Article 5 of the IUU Regulation<sup>6</sup>)?

Yes  No

If yes, please list your country's designated ports (including ports designated under Regional Fisheries Management Organisations requirements) and answer to questions 3.2. to 3.7.:

.....Killybegs Donegal.....  
 .....Castletown Bere Cork.....

3.2. How many landings and transshipments in designated ports of third country vessels have been recorded by your country between 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017? How many inspections has your country carried out and how many infringements have been detected?

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)*		
			NO	FO	Total
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	9	1	10
		Number of inspections	9	1	10
		% of inspections / landings	90%	10%	100
		Number of infringements	0	0	0
Transshipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	No transshipments were conducted in 2016		
		Number of inspections			
		% of inspections / transshipments			
		Number of infringements			

\*Use ISO Alpha-2 country codes

<sup>5</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>6</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)*		
			NO	FO	Total
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	16	3	19
		Number of inspections	16	3	19
		% of inspections / landings	84%	16%	100
		Number of infringements	0	0	0
Transshipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	No transshipments were conducted in 2017		
		Number of inspections			
		% of inspections / transshipments			
		Number of infringements			

\*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
NO	n/a	n/a	n/a
FO	n/a	n/a	n/a

\*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
NO	n/a	n/a	n/a

FO	n/a	n/a	n/a
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\*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:

In 2016: .....n/a.....

In 2017: .....n/a.....

3.5. Since January 2016, has your country denied access to its ports to a fishing vessel for port services, activities of landing or transshipment 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:

In 2016: .....n/a.....

In 2017: .....n/a.....

3.6. Do you have third country fishing vessel landings in transit in your country with final destination in another Member State? [Article 19.3 of the IUU Regulation]

Yes  No

If yes, please indicate the number of landings in transit per year:

In 2016: .....nil.....

In 2017: .....nil.....

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

*Due to the limited levels of third country landings in Ireland, designated port staffs are in a position to conduct inspections on all third country landings. The landings in Irelands designated ports usually fall under the auspices of the NEAFC RFMO.*

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

If yes, please detail:

**Section 4. Information on catch certification scheme for importation for the purpose of the IUU Regulation<sup>7</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>
<i>Argentina</i>	9	4
<i>Canada</i>	12	2
<i>China</i>	12	6
<i>Curacao</i>	1	0
<i>Ecuador</i>	7	10
<i>El Salvador</i>	0	1
<i>Faroese</i>	1	3
<i>Iceland</i>	667	517
<i>India</i>	1	1
<i>Maldives</i>	91	105
<i>Mauritius</i>	6	0
<i>Myanmar</i>	2	0
<i>Namibia</i>	1	0
<i>Norway</i>	10	17
<i>Panama</i>	3	2
<i>Peru</i>	0	1
<i>Philippines</i>	51	66
<i>Russia</i>	2	9
<i>Seychelles</i>	14	11
<i>South Africa</i>	22	14
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	0	1
<i>Taiwan</i>	0	1
<i>Thailand</i>	4	4
<i>United States of America</i>	36	14
<i>Uruguay</i>	0	1
<i>Vietnam</i>	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>792</b>

<sup>7</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"

\*Catch Certificates may have been used on more than one occasion, with processed consignments. I have only included the number of catch certificates, not import numbers. Although with some third countries these quantities may be the same.

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

<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>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</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>
<i>Mauritius</i>	19	13
<i>Thailand</i>	17	6
<i>China</i>	7	11
<i>India</i>	6	1
<i>Ecuador</i>	5	7
<i>Canada</i>	5	0
<i>Seychelles</i>	0	1
<i>Total</i>	59	39

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>8</sup>s in 2016-2017?

Yes  No

<sup>8</sup> Approved Economic Operators – IUU Regulation, Article 16 and Implementing Regulation (EC) 1010/2009, Chapter II



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

.....n/a.....

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:

.....n/a.....

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:

<b>Destination country (non-EU)</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<i>Nigeria</i>	0	1
<i>Korea</i>	0	1
<b>Total</b>	0	2

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

*Request for re-export is conducted on the basis that a Bill of Lading or Airway Bill is provided at application stage.*

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

If yes, please detail:

.....n/a.....

4.9. 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

4.10. 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*

*Due to the Republic of Ireland's geographical location, produce under transit is not landing at seaports under our remit. For imports arriving at non BIP ports in Ireland, that have cleared veterinary inspections in alternative MS, Ireland's authorities ensure that a transit declaration has been supplied by the competent authority that has overseen veterinary checks. If the latter documentation is present, verification checks are conducted by Ireland's SLO.*

**Section 5. Information on catch certification scheme for exportation<sup>9</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.

*Request for catch certificate validation is put in place by either Irish or MS exporter; this will include a completed catch certificate, as per legislative requirements. A review of the vessel/s activities is undertaken to ensure compliance, this will include ERS trip data, sales notes, invoices and Bill of Lading/Airway Bills etc. Validations are completed if requested, by the country of destination; or if point of destination is one of the 8 countries that request catch certificates for the exportation of EU Catches.*

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>Albania</i>	0	6
<i>Benin</i>	1	0
<i>Cameroon</i>	2	0
<i>Canada</i>	3	2
<i>China</i>	1	7
<i>Egypt</i>	1	0
<i>Ghana</i>	0	1
<i>India</i>	17	2
<i>Jamaica</i>	1	1
<i>Japan</i>	1	0
<i>Korea</i>	16	0
<i>Moldova</i>	6	0
<i>Norway</i>	22	25
<i>Taiwan</i>	1	0
<i>Thailand</i>	3	1
<i>UAE</i>	1	0

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

Destination State	Year	
	2016	2017
Total	76	45

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

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

If yes, please detail:

*Number (per year): ...Records are not maintained.....*

*Reason: .....It would typically be for missing or incorrect data included on catch certificate application. This could be sales notes not entered for produce or incorrect dates for landing periods, non-provision of bill of lading details etc.*

*Follow-up: ...Information would be provided retrospectively prior to validation process completion.*

<p><b>Section 6. Information on verifications of catch certificates for importation according to Article 17.1 to 5 of IUU Regulation<sup>10</sup></b></p>
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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: Due to the levels of trade received by Ireland, all imports are verified and crosschecks are made to confirm compliance with respective legislation. Headings are used from the 'Common Methodology for IUU Verification'. This process is conducted on an ad-hoc basis as various imports have considerable variance. In most cases flag state authorities are contacted on an informal basis, this procedure is typically used to confirm document authenticity. If for some reason there is doubt over the documentation supplied, pertaining to the consignment, or particulars relating to the import, a formal verification request will be made to the flag state authority requesting details that need further clarification.*

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

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 2016		Number of verifications 2017	
	No of basic document-based verifications <sup>11</sup>	No of in-depth verifications <sup>12</sup>	No of basic document-based verifications	No of in-depth verifications
<i>Argentina</i>	7	2	3	1
<i>Canada</i>	12	0	2	0
<i>China</i>	10	2	5	1
<i>Curacao</i>	0	1	0	0
<i>Ecuador</i>	5	2	8	2
<i>El Salvador</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Iceland</i>	652	15	505	12
<i>Faroese</i>	1 Direct Landing	0	3 Direct Landings	0
<i>India</i>	0	1	0	1
<i>Maldives</i>	81	10	93	12
<i>Mauritius</i>	4	2	0	0
<i>Myanmar</i>	1	1	0	0
<i>Namibia</i>	0	1	0	0
<i>Norway</i>	1 BIP 9 Direct Landings	0	16 Direct Landings	1BIP
<i>Panama</i>	2	1	1	1
<i>Peru</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Philippines</i>	43	8	56	10
<i>Russia</i>	1	1	8	1

<sup>11</sup> See fields CC1 to CC6 (*Preliminary overview checks “helicopter view”*) of the EFCA Common methodology for IUU catch certificates verification and cross-checks.

<sup>12</sup> See fields CC7 to CC32 (*Verify and cross-check information related to the form, flag state, validating authority, fishing vessel, product(s), transshipment operations*) of the EFCA Common methodology for IUU catch certificates verification and cross-checks.

Flag State of origin (EU or non-EU)	Number of verifications 2016		Number of verifications 2017	
	No of basic document-based verifications <sup>11</sup>	No of in-depth verifications <sup>12</sup>	No of basic document-based verifications	No of in-depth verifications
<i>Seychelles</i>	12	2	9	2
<i>South Africa</i>	20	2	12	2
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Taiwan</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Thailand</i>	3	1	3	1
<i>United States of America</i>	31	5	11	3
<i>Uruguay</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>Vietnam</i>	1	1	1	1
Total	896	58	736	56

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).

*Due to levels of trade into the Republic of Ireland, all imports are reviewed and verified with basic document based checks, and informal or formal verification requests.*

6.4. Does your country also physically verify the consignments?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail:

*Physical verification is conducted at direct landings by the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority, for all landings; or by the BIP on an ad-hoc basis using a risk analysis approach.*

*Number (per year): ...All consignments are physically verified...*

*Method of selection: ...Risk analysis basis at BIP, all direct landings are checked.....*

*Follow-up: .....As required.....*

**Section 7. Verification requests to flag States<sup>13</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? *Note: please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017:*

<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>Argentina</i>	2	17.5	1	17.5
<i>China</i>	2	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Curacao</i>	1	17.4 & 17.5	0	17.5
<i>Ecuador</i>	2	17.5	2	17.5
<i>El Salvador</i>	0	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Iceland</i>	15	17.5	12	17.5
<i>India</i>	1	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Maldives</i>	10	17.4 & 17.5	12	17.5
<i>Mauritius</i>	2	17.5	0	17.5
<i>Myanmar</i>	1	17.5	0	17.5
<i>Namibia</i>	1	17.5	0	17.5
<i>Norway</i>	0	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Panama</i>	1	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Peru</i>	0	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Philippines</i>	8	17.5	10	17.5
<i>Russia</i>	1	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Seychelles</i>	2	17.5	2	17.5
<i>South Africa</i>	2	17.5	2	17.5
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	0	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Taiwan</i>	0	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Thailand</i>	1	17.5	1	17.5
<i>United States of America</i>	5	17.5	3	17.5
<i>Uruguay</i>	0	17.5	1	17.5
<i>Vietnam</i>	1	17.5	1	17.5

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

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 .....See below.....

2017 .....See below.....

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

Yes  No

*On occasion informal verification requests would not be replied to, not a factor that would refuse importation as the informal request might be confirmation of document authenticity only. The status of the documentation pertaining to the import would have previously been confirmed in order. But as with most consignments requests are made to ensure that the respective catch/processing documentation is genuine. If information is not supplied by the flag state that request was made to, follow up emails are always sent. Ireland has encountered issues with requests to South Africa, Ecuador, Vietnam and Seychelles over the reporting period. Policy is to release produce for veterinary inspection and follow up with respective flag states to confirm that the supplied documentation is compliant. With formal requests, where there is evidence of irregularities, imports are held at BIP's until sufficient detail has been supplied by flag state that the request was made to. South Africa requested an extension to the 15 day period allocated to formal verification request to finalise provision of information.*

**Section 8. Information on refusal of importations (Article 18 of the IUU Regulation)<sup>14</sup>**

8.1. Has your country refused any imports from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017? *Note: 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.			Nigeria	2
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				

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



Reason for refusal of importation	2016		2017	
	Flag State	No.	Flag State	No.
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 Union 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 8.1 is yes, what measures were taken by your authorities towards the refused fishery products?

.....Both consignments were destroyed.....

...

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>15</sup>

9.1. Did your country note a change<sup>16</sup> of imports of fishery products since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015?

Yes  No

If yes, please detail: ...Imports of processed *Katsuwonus pelamis* from the Maldives have since ceased, these imports stopped at the end of 2017. The last direct import from the Maldives occurred on the 26<sup>th</sup> Oct 2017. In 2017 there were 105 imports between the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan and the 26<sup>th</sup> Oct; in 2016, 91 imports occurred; all consignments were *Katsuwonus pelamis*. In 2017, 1,497 tonnes of *Katsuwonus pelamis* were imported from the Maldives; Ireland's SLO has spoken with

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

<sup>16</sup> For example: new kinds of fishery products, new trade patterns or significant and sudden increase in trade volume for a certain species and/or certain third countries.

*respective importers that are agents for large Retailers in the Republic of Ireland. They indicated that they are not aware of which MS is now importing for their previous customers. By the end of Q4 2017, imports of *Katsuwonus pelamis* were up by 20% on 2016 due to stronger levels of imports throughout the year, but as mentioned there hasn't been any since date mentioned.*

*Ireland also received a sample import (28kg) from Sri Lanka, this was conducted following delisting, and an informal verification check was conducted with respective competent authority to confirm authenticity of catch documentation.*

*Besides the above-mentioned, the Republic of Ireland trades with similar countries each year, 24 alternative third countries in 2016 & 27 in 2017. This would include MS as well with produce processed outside the EU.*

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: See annexes supplied

<b>Section 10. Information on mutual assistance<sup>17</sup></b>
--

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...All MAR's received from the Commission were answered in addition to 1 from the UK*

*2017...All MARs received from the Commission were answered in addition to 4 from the UK.*

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. In 2016 IRL submitted a MAR to the UK authorities, regarding six UK vessels that had landed their catch into ports in the Republic of Ireland*

*2017.....Nil.....*

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<sup>17</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

**Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries<sup>18</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).

*...In 2016 Ireland requested access to the Maldives database, access was granted following a period of correspondence, this permitted immediate access for verification purposes. Towards the end of 2017, some Russian vessels were intending to land NEAFC RFMO produce into a designated port in the Republic of Ireland. Due to the location of fishing grounds and distance to port, there were concerns with time periods and provision of catch certification, at PNO period. Access to the Russian online database/portal was granted, to avoid necessary verification periods, dealing with various territorial departments in Russia, following submission of respective catch certificates...*

**Section 12. Information on nationals<sup>19</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: .....n/a.....

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

.....n/a.....

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

*The only areas in which Irish fishing vessels partake in fisheries outside of EU waters is within NEAFC or within Norwegian waters. Reflagging to participate in fisheries in these areas is not required and doesn't occur.*

If yes, please detail: .....n/a.....

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: .....n/a.....

<sup>18</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>19</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

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 Union IUU vessel list (Article 40.2)?

Yes  No

*If an Irish registered vessels ownership is being transferred outside the state, Ministerial approval has to be sought under Section 62 of the Mercantile Marine Act of 1955, before the sale can proceed. Prospective new owners are not required to notify the Registrar of Ships what the new flag of the vessel will be, following transfer of ownership. Vessels are entered and removed from the Irish Register of Fishing Boats in accordance with Section 74-80 and Section 100 of the Sea Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006 and the Merchant Shipping (Registry, Lettering and Numbering of Fishing Boats) Regulations 2005 (S.I. 261/2005). Vessels are licensed under Section 97 of the Sea Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006.*

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

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

*Predominantly most aid provided, is conducted through the EU co-funded EMFF Programme. Exception is the Fleet Safety Scheme, which is a nationally funded project. As there are no Irish vessels on the IUU list, no funding has been provided to any aid to IUU vessels. See below the text that was included in the draft EMFF Annual Implementation Report relating to EMFF aid to IUU vessels and those that have committed serious infringements.*

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/emff/programmeimplementation/nationaleligibilityrulesforexpeditureco-financedbyemff/>

If yes, please detail: .....

**Section 13. Infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation) and Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)<sup>20</sup>**

13.1. Has your country detected serious infringements as defined in Article 42 of the IUU Regulation from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017?

Yes  No

If yes, 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
<i>Irish</i>	Please see below			Please see below		

<sup>20</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>UK</i>	Please see below			Please see below		
<i>Total</i>	Ireland 21 United Kingdom 2			Ireland 27 United Kingdom 1		

21 possible serious infringements in relation to Irish vessels in 2016.

1-2016: 2 counts of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch and one count of Fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Directed on indictment. Plea entered. €100 fine and €15,000 forfeiture.

3-2016: 3 counts of not fulfilling obligations to record and report catch. Plea entered to 2 charges. Fine €500.

4-2016: 2 counts of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch, and one count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Directed on indictment.

5-2016: 3 counts of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Directed on indictment.

6-2016: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Directed summary disposal.

7-2016: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth and 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Directed on indictment.

9-2016: 2 counts of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch and 2 counts of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Directed on indictment. Plea entered.

15-2016: 1 count of fishing without a valid licence, authorisation or permit issued by the flag State or the relevant coastal State. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

16-2016: 1 count of fishing without a valid licence, authorisation or permit issued by the flag State or the relevant coastal State. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

2 possible serious infringements in relation to UK registered vessels in 2016.

2-2016: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. File with port.

12-2016: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. File with port.

27 possible serious infringements in relation to Irish vessels in 2017.

2-2017: 1 count of use of prohibited or non-compliant gear. Detained by Naval Service.

3-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

8-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. 1 count of concealing, tampering or disposal of evidence relating to an investigation. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

10-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

11-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

13-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Detention. Plea entered. €350 fine.

16-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

19-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Detained by Naval Service.

20-2017: 2 counts of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

21-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Detained by Naval Service.

22-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Detention.

23-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Detained by Naval Service.

24-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

28-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

29-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. 1 Not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Directed on indictment.

30-2017: 1 count of fishing without a valid licence, authorisation or permit issued by the flag State or the relevant coastal State. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

31-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

32-2017: 1 count of fishing in a closed area or during a closed season, without or after attainment of a quota or beyond a closed depth. 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. 1 count of concealing, tampering or disposal of evidence relating to an investigation. Sent to Director of Public Prosecutions.

1 possible serious infringement in relation to UK registered vessels in 2017.

17-2017: 1 count of not fulfilling of obligations to record and report catch. Detention.

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

Yes  No

If yes, please detail: .....

*Ireland does not operate administrative sanctions for sea-fisheries offences. It deals with fisheries offences by means of criminal sanctions and a parallel process of points for serious infringements. The point system was effectively suspended during the above years due to the fact that the statutory instrument which implemented the point system was being appealed in the High Court and Supreme Court. Therefore, no points for serious infringements were applied during the above years.*

13.3. Has your country issued sighting reports from 1 January 2016 until 31 December 2017?

Yes  No

If yes, 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 in 2017
<i>Total</i>	0	0

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).

.....N/A.....

**Section 14. General**

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?

*. The lack of a national electronic database that importers and exporters can use for import verifications and export validations with re-export functionality incorporated. Single window incorporated for report viewing and documentation uploading. Statistical building would be fundamental for data interrogation and report compiling.*

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

.....

**Section 15. Any other comments**

Please find attached the following annexes, which display trade statistics;

- Key Data for Species 2017
- Key Data for Processed Product 2017
- Key Data for Countries 2017
- Key Data for Species 2017

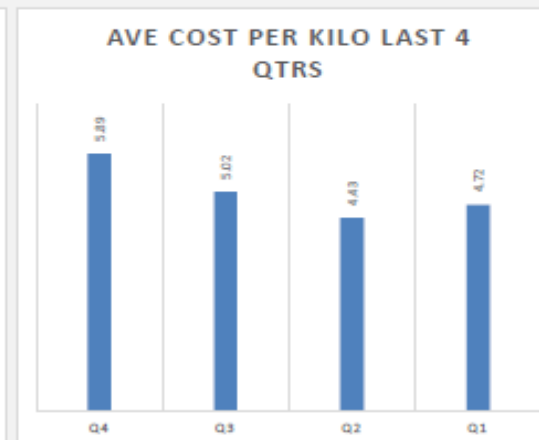
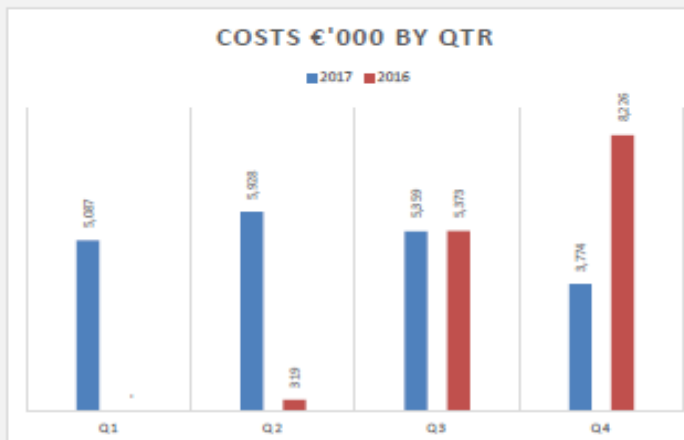
• •



COSTS €'000	CURRENT YR	VS PRIOR YR	STATUS
** YTD	20,148	45%	↑
QTR	3,774	-54%	↓
** AVE COST PER KG YTD	4.89	69%	↑
AVE COST PER KG QTR	5.89	-5.7%	↓

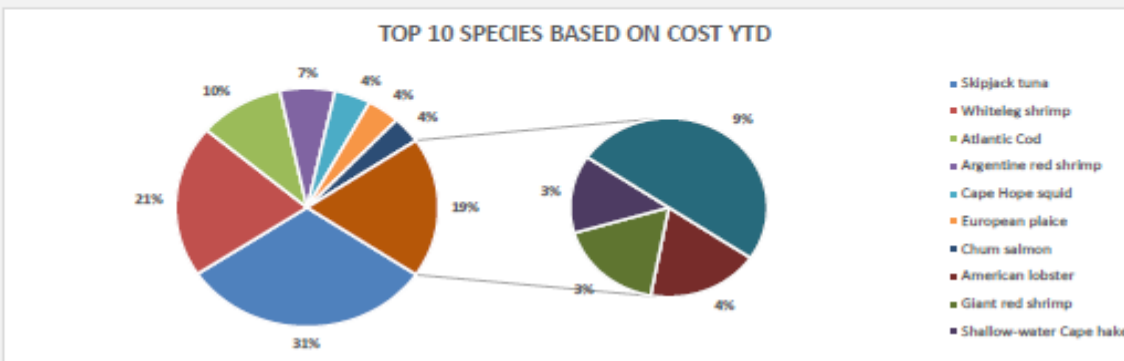
\*\* vs prior yr figure will be skewed until 2018 due to costs only recorded from Q2 2016

CURRENT QTR COST PER KILO	CURRENT YR	VS PRIOR YR	STATUS
Skipjack tuna	4.44	-17.7%	↓
Whiteleg shrimp	8.47	-1.3%	↓
Maldives	4.45	-1.7%	↓
China	5.31	14.7%	↑



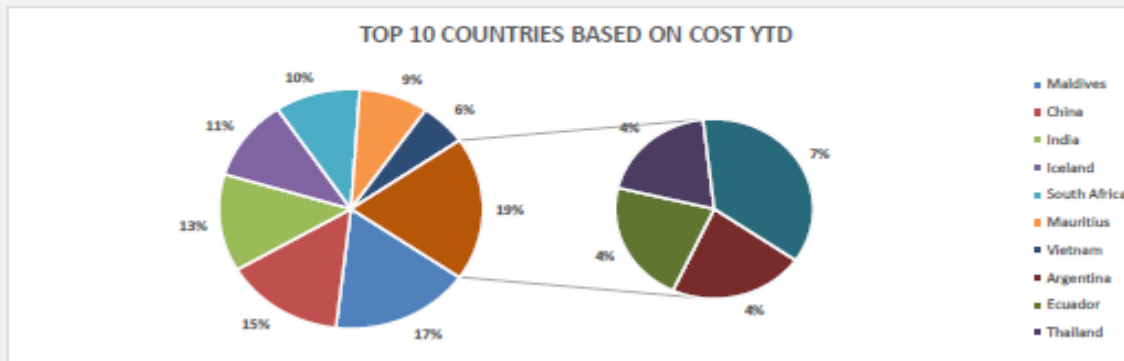
TOP 10 SPECIES BASED ON COSTS - YTD QTR

SPECIES	Cost €'000	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL WEIGHT '000kg	AVE COST PER KG
Skipjack tuna	1,175.04	31%	2,547	0.46
Whiteleg shrimp	776.93	21%	267	2.91
Atlantic Cod	394.34	10%	232	1.70
Argentine red shrimp	255.63	7%	57	4.51
Cape Hope squid	167.62	4%	79	2.13
European plaice	151.68	4%	82	1.85
Chum salmon	136.05	4%	90	1.51
American lobster	132.46	4%	19	7.03
Giant red shrimp	125.09	3%	6	19.86
Shallow-water Cape hake	101.20	3%	179	0.56
Other	358.45	9%	565	0.63
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>3,774.48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,123</b>	<b>0.92</b>



TOP 10 COUNTRIES BASED ON COST - QTR

Country	Cost €'000	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL WEIGHT '000kg	AVE COST PER KG
Maldives	647.36	17%	1,497	0.43
China	555.59	15%	378	1.47
India	495.29	13%	188	2.63
Iceland	413.76	11%	243	1.70
South Africa	393.91	10%	268	1.47
Mauritius	320.76	8%	299	1.07
Vietnam	217.43	6%	55	3.96
Argentina	162.18	4%	47	3.45
Ecuador	159.78	4%	316	0.51
Thailand	142.02	4%	162	0.88
Other	266.39	7%	671	0.40
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>3,774.48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,123</b>	<b>0.92</b>



## KEY DATA FOR PROCESSED PRODUCT

Q4 2017

### PROCESSED PRODUCT IMPORTED - YTD

SPECIES	NUMBER OF IMPORTS / SPECIES	PRIOR YR QTR	TOTAL WEIGHT '000kg	PROCESSED WEIGHT AS % OF TOTAL	TOTAL COST	AVE COST PER KG
Skipjack tuna	25	28	464,119	18%	1,837,258	3.96
Pacific cod	4	5	68,469	78%	292,253	4.27
Chum salmon	3	-	56,495	63%	444,239	7.86
Atlantic Cod	2	-	36,794	16%	167,776	4.56
	34	33	625,878		2,741,526	4.38

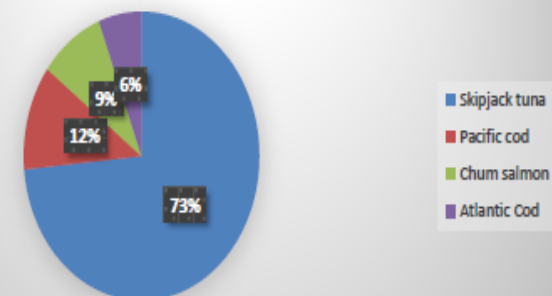
### COUNTRIES EXPORTING PROCESSED PRODUCT - YTD

PROCESSING COUNTRY	NUMBER OF IMPORTS	PRIOR YR QTR	TOTAL WEIGHT '000kg	PROCESSED WEIGHT AS % OF TOTAL	TOTAL COST	AVE COST PER KG
Mauritius	11	14	248,445	83%	1,032,726	4.16
China	11	6	185,867	49%	1,023,202	5.51
Ecuador	6	5	105,743	33%	403,111	3.81
Thailand	6	10	94,824	59%	401,445	4.23
	34	35	634,879		2,860,484	4.51

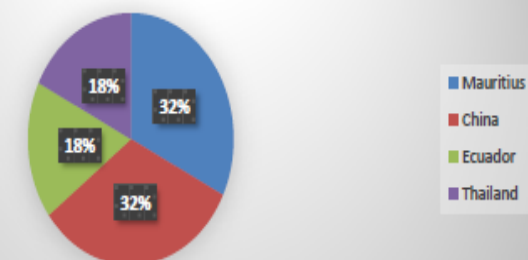
### ORIGINATING COUNTRIES OF PROCESSED PRODUCT - YTD

ORIGINATING COUNTRY	NUMBER OF IMPORTS	PRIOR YR QTR	TOTAL WEIGHT '000kg	PROCESSED WEIGHT AS % OF TOTAL	TOTAL COST	AVE COST PER KG
Spain	13	13	195,965	81%	772,081	3.94
USA	6	9	113,616	65%	668,854	5.89
Panama	4	2	84,288	100%	345,083	4.09
Seychelles	6	7	51,622	92%	209,432	4.06
Taiwan	3	-	47,952	100%	166,794	3.48
	32	31	493,442		2,162,244	4.38

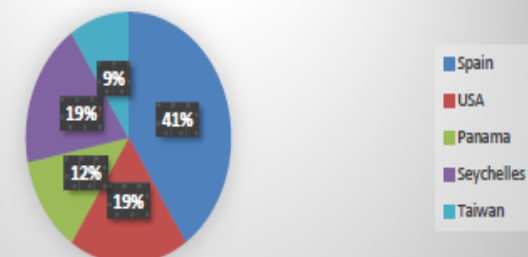
### PROCESSED PRODUCT



### EXPORTING COUNTRIES



### ORIGINATING COUNTRIES



## KEY DATA FOR COUNTRIES Q4 2017

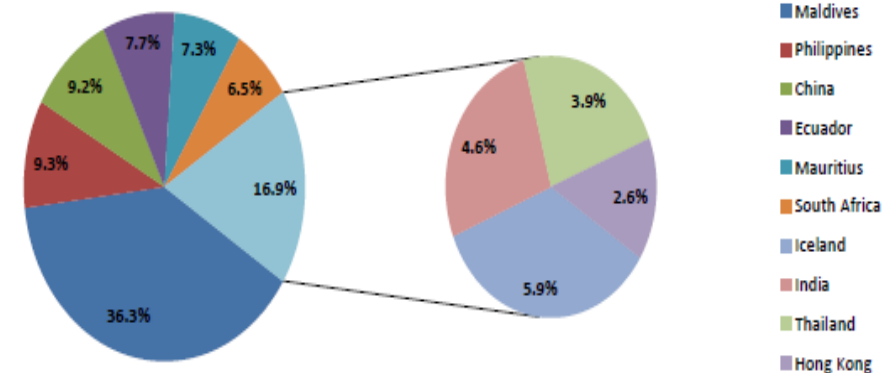
### TOP 10 COUNTRIES BASED ON WEIGHTS

COUNTRY	WEIGHT '000kgs	% OF TOTAL	PRIOR YR	VS PRIOR YR
Maldives	1,497	36.31%	1,251	19.6%
Philippines	385	9.33%	292	31.8%
China	378	9.16%	392	-3.6%
Ecuador	316	7.67%	213	48.2%
Mauritius	299	7.25%	443	-32.5%
South Africa	268	6.49%	379	-29.4%
Iceland	243	5.89%	286	-15.0%
India	188	4.57%	398	-52.6%
Thailand	162	3.92%	381	-57.5%
Hong Kong	106	2.56%	72	46.3%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>3,840</b>	<b>93.14%</b>	<b>4,105</b>	

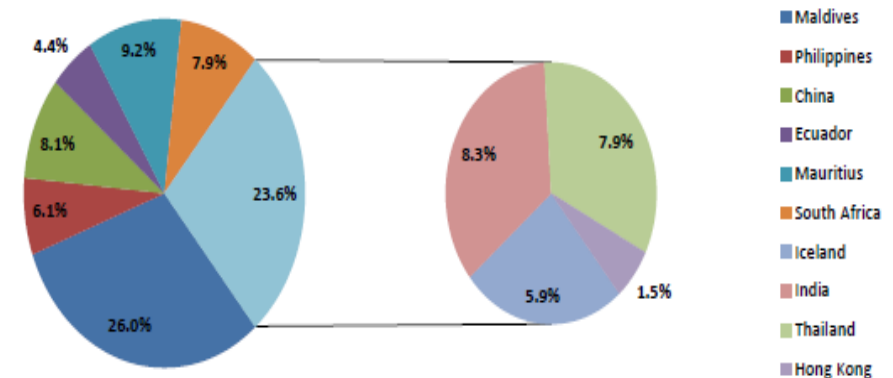
### TOP 10 COUNTRIES BASED ON IMPORT NUMBERS

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF IMPORTS	% OF TOTAL	PRIOR YR	VS PRIOR YR
Iceland	517	66.37%	667	-22.5%
Maldives	100	12.84%	83	20.5%
Philippines	27	3.47%	22	22.7%
China	22	2.82%	26	-15.4%
Thailand	20	2.57%	35	-42.9%
Ecuador	18	2.31%	11	63.6%
India	15	1.93%	24	-37.5%
Mauritius	13	1.67%	20	-35.0%
South Africa	13	1.67%	21	-38.1%
Vietnam	8	1.03%	13	-38.5%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>96.66%</b>	<b>922</b>	

### 2017 WEIGHTS



### 2016 WEIGHTS



## KEY DATA FOR SPECIES Q4 2017

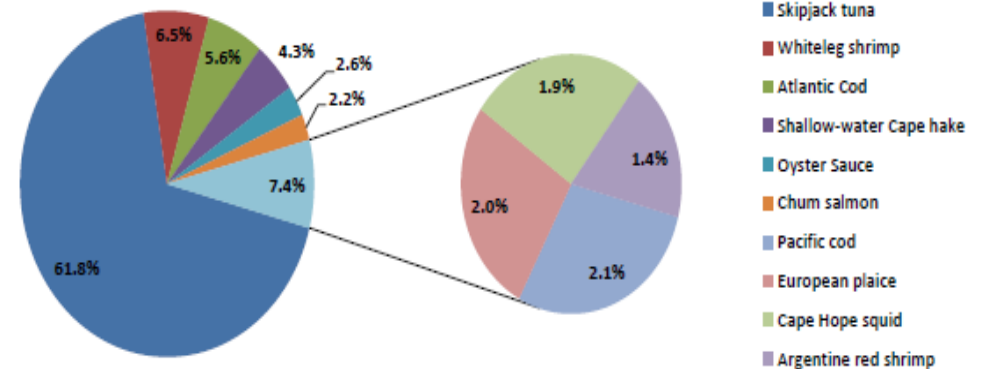
### TOP 10 SPECIES BASED ON WEIGHTS

SPECIES	WEIGHT '000kgs	% OF TOTAL	PRIOR YR	VS PRIOR YR
Skipjack tuna	2,547	62%	2,430	4.8%
Whiteleg shrimp	267	6%	332	-19.7%
Atlantic Cod	232	6%	167	39.1%
Shallow-water Cape hake	179	4%	128	40.2%
Oyster Sauce	106	3%	75	41.1%
Chum salmon	90	2%	-	
Pacific cod	88	2%	166	-47.1%
European plaice	82	2%	118	-30.6%
Cape Hope squid	79	2%	187	-58.0%
Argentine red shrimp	57	1%	100	-43.5%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>3,727</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>3,704</b>	

### TOP 10 SPECIES BASED ON IMPORT NUMBERS

SPECIES	NUMBER OF IMPORTS	% OF TOTAL	PRIOR YR	VS PRIOR YR
European plaice	395	28%	558	-29.2%
Atlantic Cod	350	25%	435	-19.5%
Lemon Sole	206	15%	246	-16.3%
Skipjack tuna	163	12%	151	7.9%
Haddock	110	8%	140	-21.4%
Whiteleg shrimp	20	1%	25	-20.0%
Shallow-water Cape hake	8	1%	8	0.0%
Oyster Sauce	7	1%	7	0.0%
Greenland Halibut	6	0%	17	-64.7%
Pacific cupped oyster	5	0%	3	66.7%
<b>Total Top 10</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>1,590</b>	

### 2017 WEIGHTS



### 2016 WEIGHTS

