

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

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

Member State:	Republic of Slovenia
Organisation:	Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
Date:	24 April 2018
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	<p>Financial Administration of RS Jelka Strgar (Ms) General Financial Office Customs Department Šmartinska cesta 55, Ljubljana, Slovenia T: +386 1 478 3866 F: +386 1 478 3900 E: jelka.strgar@gov.si www.fu.gov.si</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Polona Bunič (Ms) Hunting and Fisheries Division T: +386 1 478 9367 F: +386 1 436 2048 Dunajska 22, Ljubljana, Slovenia E: polona.bunic@gov.si www.mkgp.gov.si</p>

May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States?	
Yes:	✓
Yes except for questions (list):	
No:	

Please state your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation in accordance with:

Article 15.2 (exportation of catches):

- Financial Administration of RS

Article 17.8 (verification of catch certificates):

- Financial Administration of RS

Article 21.3 (re-exportation):

- Financial Administration of RS

Article 39.4 (nationals):

- Financial Administration of RS;
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food;
- Inspectorate of RS for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries

Section 1. Information on legal framework¹

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

A government Decree amending the Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has been adopted in the end of 2017. Encompassing changes made in 2016 to ensure proper implementation and changes in the end of 2017 to bring a few of its provisions in line with provisions on serious infringements (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No 76/17).

<http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=URED7662>

Section 2. Information on administrative organisation²

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;
 - Not applicable
- validation of catch certificates upon exports;
 - Financial Administration of RS
- verification of catch certificates for imports under direct landing;
 - Not Applicable
- verification of catch certificates for imports arriving by other means than fishing vessels (e.g. by containers, trucks);
 - Financial Administration of RS
- validation and verifications of re-exports.
 - Financial Administration of RS

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

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

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

Please explain and describe this cooperation:

With regard to fisheries, the implementation of IUU Regulation is managed centrally, since there are no regions in Slovenia. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food (MKGP) competent for fisheries has its headquarters in Ljubljana and the Inspectorate of the RS for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries (IRSAE) has headquarters also in Ljubljana – however, the inspectors who deal directly with control of marine fisheries are located at the Slovenian coast, in the city of Koper. IRSAE is a body within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food; the co-operation therefore takes places smoothly, also due to the smallness of the Slovenian fishery sector and administration.

The Financial Administration of RS (FURS) - Customs Department deals with catch certification scheme; it is also the Single Liaison Office (SLO) in term of Article 39 of Commission Regulation No 1010/2009. It is managed centrally from Customs Department. On the operational level, its organizational units – eight (8) regional customs offices, implement these tasks. All eight (8) customs offices conduct checks and verification of catch certificates to authorise or suspend the importation of fishery products.

- b) 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:

Three authorities are involved in the implementation of the IUU Regulation: Financial Administration of RS, Customs Department – FURS (body within the Ministry of Finance); Inspectorate of the RS for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries – IRSAE (body within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food) and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. Their scope of competences in relation to the implementation of the IUU Regulation is defined in national law – the national Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

- c) 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):

For 2016: 1.40 FTE and 2017: 1.20 FTE.

- d) 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:

IRSAE and FURS.

In 2016 FURS carried out inspections in three companies. The irregularity was detected only in one of these companies, namely the catch certificate was not submitted at the time of import. That irregularity was the reason for the inspection itself.

2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports³ in which activities relevant to importation/exportation/processing of fishery products are authorised?

Yes, only import and export of fishery products in term of Article 2, Paragraph 11 and 13 of the IUU Regulation. No

Section 3. Information on direct landings and transhipments of fishery products by third country fishing vessels⁴ (including information on port inspections and infringements)⁵

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 Regulation⁶)?

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.:

.....

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? 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)*					Total
			Ex. NO	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					
		Number of inspections	10					
		% of inspections / landings	10%					
		Number of infringements	3					
Transhipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2					
		Number of inspections	0					
		% of inspections / transhipments	0					

³ https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones_en

⁴ Fishing vessels as defined in article 2.5 of the IUU Regulation

⁵ 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.

⁶ Please note that ports designated under Regional Fisheries Management Organisations must also be designated under the IUU Regulation with restrictions if necessary (species etc.)

		Number of infringements	0					
--	--	-------------------------	---	--	--	--	--	--

*Use ISO Alpha-2 country codes

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					
		Number of inspections	10					
		% of inspections / landings	10%					
		Number of infringements	3					
Transhipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2					
		Number of inspections	2					
		% of inspections / transhipments	100%					
		Number of infringements	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:

In 2016:

In 2017:

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:

In 2016:

In 2017:

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:

In 2017:

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*

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 Regulation⁷

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?

Flag State (non-EU)	2016	2017
Argentina	22	18
Belize	1	
Ecuador	1	3
Philippine	39	41
Ghana	8	4
India	13	3
Indonesia	6	12
Iceland	1	
Southern Africa	13	12
Canada	16	7
China	29	24
Korea	4	2
Morocco	8	8
Maldives		2
Mozambique	6	
Norway	1	
New Zealand	11	4
Papua New Guinea		4
Peru		1
Russia	43	19
Seychelles	7	1
Thailand	3	1
Taiwan		5
Vietnam	6	10
Uruguay		2
United States of America	26	20

⁷ 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"

Flag State (non-EU)	2016	2017
Total	264	203

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

RFMO document	2016	2017
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>	none	None
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	none	none
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	none	none
Total	none	none

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:

Processing non-EU State	2016	2017
Bosnia and Herzegovina	8	1
China	85	54
Mauritius	3	4
Papua New Guinea	8	6
Panama	1	
Ivory Coast		1
Thailand	6	54
United States of America		1
Total	111	121

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 APEO⁸s in 2016-2017?

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

Yes No

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

.....

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
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7	none
Serbia	2	none
Total	9	none

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

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

If yes, please detail:

The re-export certificate is a part of the export customs declaration (SAD). It has to be attached to the SAD and entered in the box 44 SAD; therefore, consignment actually leave the EU.

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

Section 5. Information on catch certification scheme for exportation⁹

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>		
<i>Third Country 2</i>		
...		
<i>Third Country x</i>		
Total		

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?

⁹ Section to be filled-in by flag Member States.

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):

Reason:

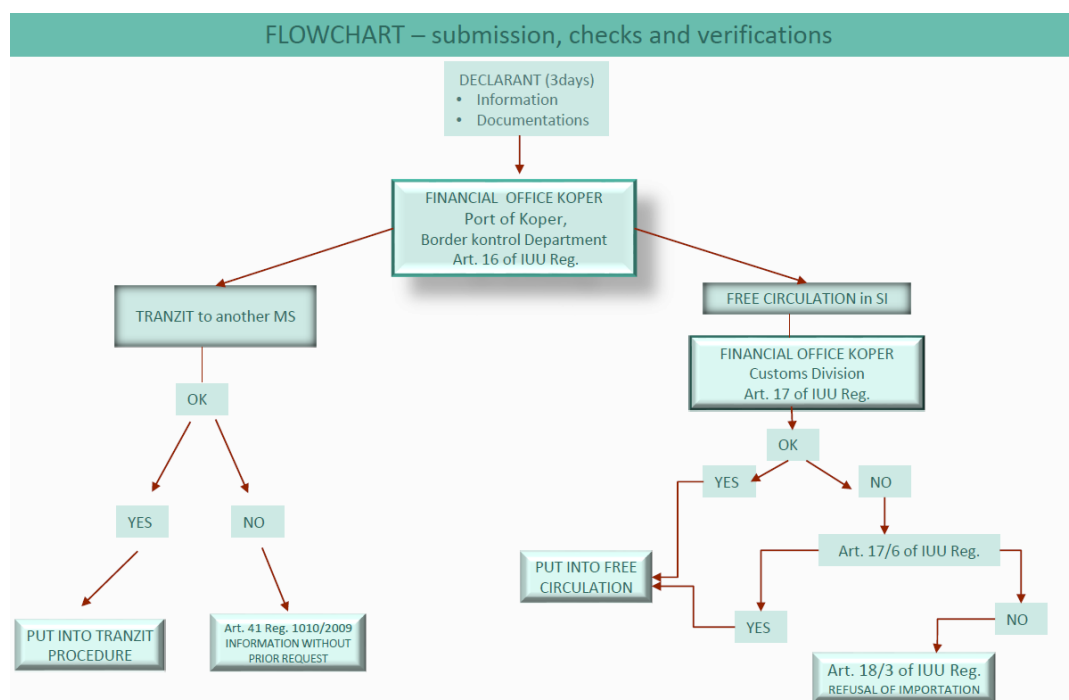
Follow-up:

Section 6. Information on verifications of catch certificates for importation according to Article 17.1 to 5 of IUU Regulation¹⁰

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: It is shown from the below flowchart.



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:

Note: The selection of catch certificate for verification is not carried out on the basis of risk assessment as customs perform 100% checks and verifications. Where at the point of entry into Slovenia, fishery products are placed under transit procedure and transported to another Member States, we carry out control in accordance with Article 16 of IUU Regulation (basic document-based verifications, as for example: flag state notification, flag state status, flag state validation, is the catch certificate related to and covers the consignment). For consignment which release into

¹⁰ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

free circulation in Slovenia we carry out in-depth verifications, but not always cover all the points indicated in the EFCA Common methodology for IUU catch certificates verification and cross-checks. It depends on what is found on basic document-based verification (irregularities, inconsistencies... etc.).

Flag State of origin (EU or non-EU)	Number of verifications 2016		Number of verifications 2017	
	No of basic document-based verifications ¹¹	No of in-depth verifications ¹²	No of basic document-based verifications	No of in-depth verifications
Argentina	5	17	3	15
Belize	1			
Ecuador		1	2	1
Philippine	34	5	32	9
Ghana	8		4	
India		13		3
Indonesia	2	4	2	10
Iceland		1		
South Africa		13		12
Canada	15	1	6	1
China	1	28		24
Korea	2	2	2	
Morocco	5	3	4	4
Maldives			2	
Mozambique		6		
Norway		1		
New Zealand		11		4
Papua New Guinea			4	

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

¹² 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 ¹¹	No of in-depth verifications ¹²	No of basic document-based verifications	No of in-depth verifications
Peru				1
Russia	27	16	13	6
Seychelles	7		1	
Thailand	3		1	
Taiwan			5	
Vietnam	3	3	10	
Uruguay			2	
United States of America	6	20	11	9
Total	119	145	104	99

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:

FURS, Customs Department in case of doubt that consignment corresponds to the submitted catch certificate physically verify the consignment. Veterinary authority also performed 20 % of physical checks of consignment of fishery product regarding the Commission Decision (94/360/EC) on the frequency of physical checks of consignment on certain products to be implemented from third countries, under Council Directive 90/765/EEC (OJ L 158, 25.6.1994, p. 41).

Number (per year): FURS: one consignment in 2016, none in 2017

Method of selection: doubts concerning the indicated weight /products

Follow-up: FURS: no irregularities found

Section 7. Verification requests to flag States¹³

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:*

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)
Argentina	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing licence
Chine	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flag State Validation 		
Canada			1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC
Philippine	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC Flag State Validation 		
India	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doubt concerning the indicated weight 		
Iceland	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC 		
Mozambique	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC Flag State authority validation Fishing licence 		
New Zealand	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC Flag State authority validation 		
Russia	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flag State authority validation 		
Southern Africa	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC 		
Vietnam	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flag State Validation 		
United States of America			3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authenticity of the CC
Total	21		6	

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

¹³ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

a reminder to the authorities of the country in question? [Please provide separate data for 2016 and 2017]

2016 - none

2017 - none

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)¹⁴

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.				
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 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				

¹⁴ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Reason for refusal of importation	2016		2017	
	Flag State	No.	Flag State	No.
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?

.....
.....

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 flows¹⁵

9.1. Did your country note a change¹⁶ of imports of fishery products since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2014-2015?

Yes, please note that information provided on trade flows are only for consignments of fishery products released into free circulation in Slovenia (Article 19/1 of IUU Regulation is not taken into account).

If yes, please detail:
Based on the comparison of the last reporting in 2016 (for period 2014-2015) and reporting in 2018 (for period 2016-2017) the following is observed:

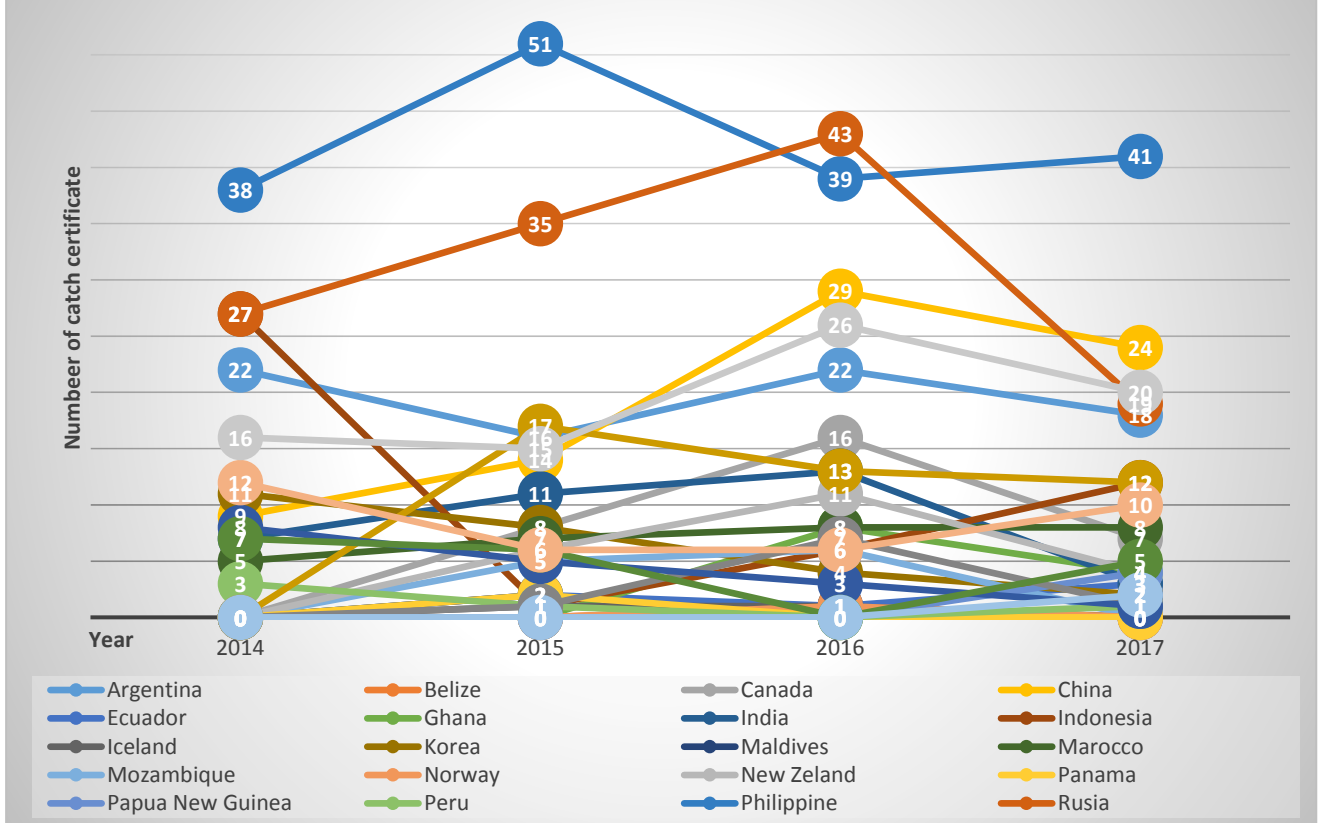
The number of presented catch certificates at release into free circulation in Slovenia has increased substantially in the period from 2014 to 2016. In 2015 it has increased for 14,6 % and in 2016 for 20 %. However, in 2017 it has decreased for 23 %. The decrease in number is most noticeable with catch certificates authorised in Canada, India, Indonesia, Korea, New Zealand and Russia. Furthermore, no change was detected concerning imports of new kinds of fishery products or concerning involvement of newly established operators. However, in 2016 a significant increase in trade volume of fishery products falling under HS code 0307 49 was detected, namely 132 %, which in 2017 fall back to the level of 2015.

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:

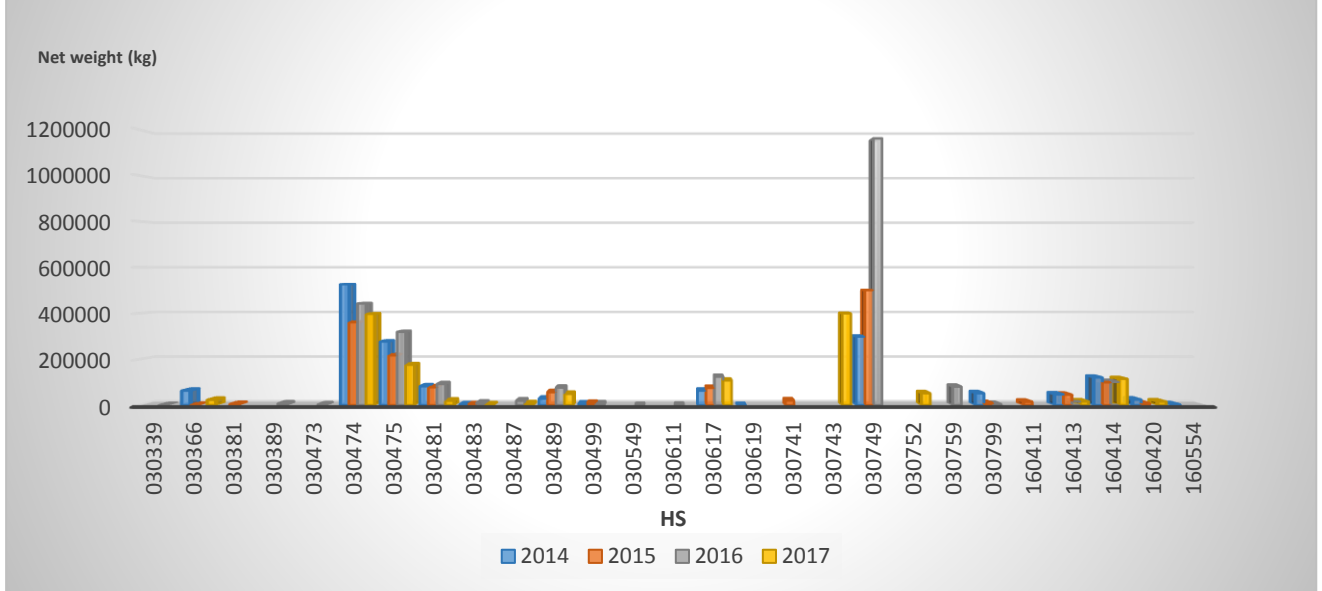
¹⁵ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

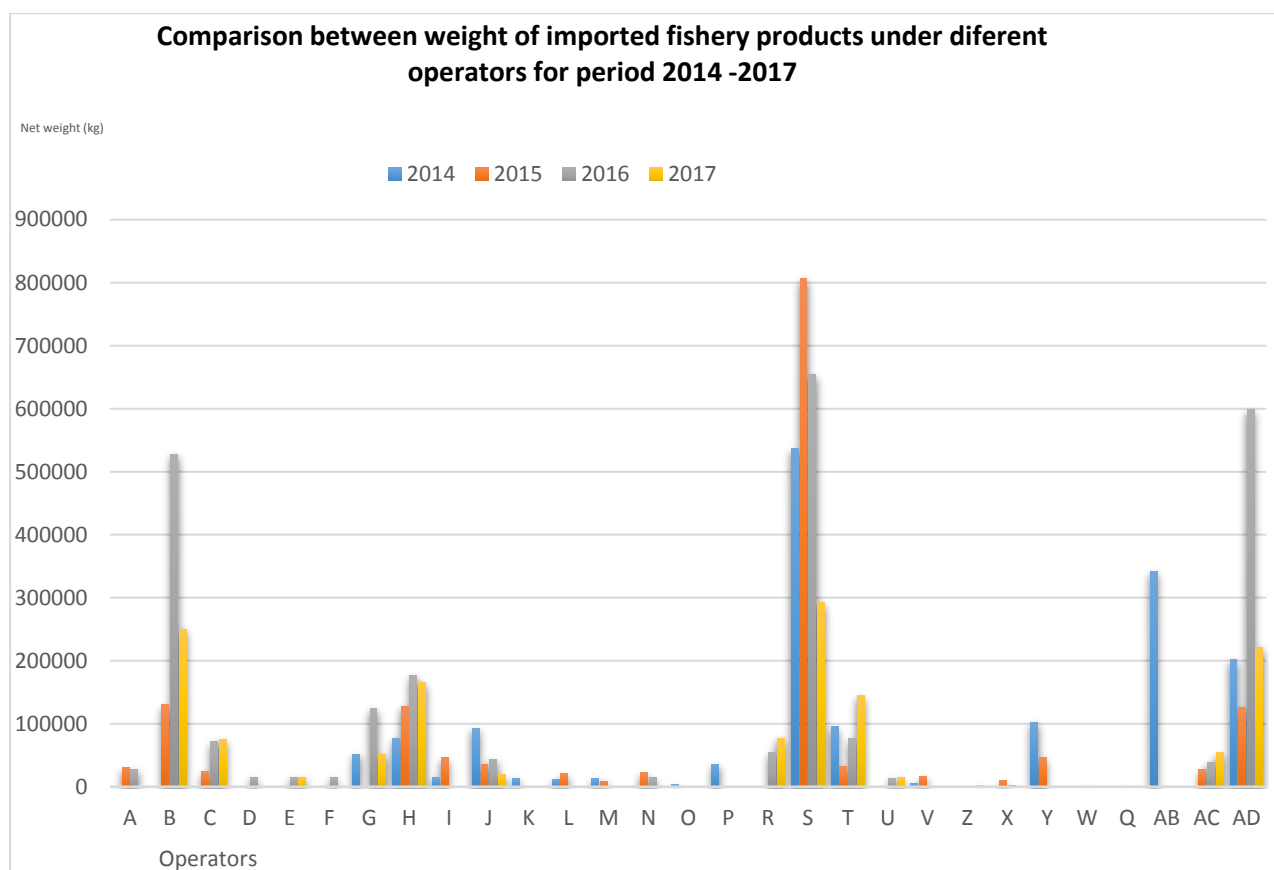
¹⁶ For example: new kinds of fishery products, new trade patterns or significant and sudden increase in trade volume for a certain species and/or certain third countries.

Catch certificates: release into free circulatin in Slovenia from 2014 - 2017



Comparison between weights of imported fishery products under tariff number (HS) for period 2014-2017





Section 10. Information on mutual assistance¹⁷

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: three replies

2017: eleven replies (publication in platform FISHNET is also taken into account)

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: none

2017: none

¹⁷ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries¹⁸

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 nationals¹⁹

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:

Amendments to the national Decree amending the Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (in 2016 and 2017) to bring it in line with provisions in infringements within EU Common Fisheries Policy and national implementing provisions.

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

See above.

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:

There is very little risk of this in Slovenia, due to the small size of Slovenian fishing vessels (all below 18 meters of length) and the fact that they fish in North Adriatic bordered on both sides by two other EU Member States – Italy and Croatia.

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:

None so far.

¹⁸ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

¹⁹ 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 yes, please provide details:

Infringements defined in the national Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

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, (The procedures are in place however there were no such cases in Slovenia in 2016-2017.)*

If yes, please detail:

Section 13. Infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation) and Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)²⁰

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>Croatia</i>				4	Obstruction of work of officials in the exercise of their duties; fishing without a valid licence	
<i>Total</i>						

²⁰ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

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

- Yes* *No (The inspection was not able to implement its duties as Croatian fishing vessels obstructed the work of Slovenian fisheries inspector.)*

If yes, please detail:

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>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).

.....

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?

Following the Mutual Assistance message MA_INFO_015 about sanitary requirements for transport vessels. Checking the hygiene conditions is a part of the veterinary control (Regulation EC No 853/2004 and not IUU Regulation).

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

Our suggestions:

- The catch certificate have only be issued for one consignment imported from a third country to the EU;

- Each annex IV should be numbered with a unique number by the processing third country
- The information provided in the SMS database is very difficult and time consuming to access and use

Section 15. Any other comments

The integration of catch certificates into TRACES through the ongoing IUU IT System will address important issues related to the management of these certificates and related control tasks, as well as significantly reduce opportunities for fraud.

• • •