

Ares(2022) 1499976 – 01.03.2022

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

Reporting period 2020-2021 (deadline for submission 30 April 2022)

Member State:	Ireland
Organisation:	Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority
Date:	01/06/2022
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> – SLO Ireland <div style="background-color: #cccccc; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px; display: inline-block;"></div> @sfpa.ie <div style="background-color: #cccccc; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin-bottom: 5px; display: inline-block;"></div>

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

Please check if your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation (Articles 15.2, 17.8 and 21.3) correspond with the latest version of the Official Journal:

[https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52021XC0215\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52021XC0215(01))

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

Please state your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation in accordance with Article 39.4 (nationals):

Sea Fisheries Protection Authority

Section 1. Information on legal framework¹

Please transmit your national law and/or any administrative guides for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation). If available, please provide the link to the official national database.

Sea-Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006

<https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2006/act/8/enacted/en/html?q=maritime>

Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2021

[Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2021 \(irishstatutebook.ie\)](#)

S.I. No. 554/2010 - Sea-Fisheries (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) Regulations 2010

[S.I. No. 554/2010 - Sea-Fisheries \(Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing\) Regulations 2010 \(irishstatutebook.ie\)](#)

S.I. No. 37/2021 - Sea-Fisheries (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) (Amendment) Regulations 2021

[S.I. No. 37/2021 - Sea-Fisheries \(Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2021 \(irishstatutebook.ie\)](#)

Section 2. Information on administrative organisation²

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

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

If different authorities/services are involved in the implementation of the IUU Regulation, please distinguish between:

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

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

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

The IUU office in Clonakilty co-ordinates procedures and policies that are mandatory as per legislative requirements. The IUU Office is the central point of contact if information is required from either industry or SFPA port staff queries. SFPA port offices (8 of) deal directly with industry regarding validating catch certificates, inspecting consignments and processing re-export certificates. Most controls on validating catch certificates and re-export certificates are conducted in Killybegs; this is an IUU and NEAFC designated port. A new designated port of Greencastle

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.

was established in 2021 and is also an IUU and NEAFC designated port. Greencastle was responsible for most third country direct landings in 2021 (UK & NI vessel landings).

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

- In general, the SFPA works unilaterally in regard to the implementation of the IUU legislation, the SLO is responsible for IUU Coordination for the Republic of Ireland. Verifications on imports are controlled by the Irish SLO.
- Border Control 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.
- Irish Naval Service – The Irish navy is the sea going platform for inspections, monitoring and control on vessels fishing within Ireland's EEZ and in International waters conducting RFMO assessments. There is a service level agreement in place, with the SFPA and the Irish Naval Service.

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

Please specify the number of officials expressed in Full Time Equivalent (FTE):

- *for checks and verifications in accordance with Articles 16 and 17;*

IUU Office for verification and co-ordination: 1 staff member (1 FTE) for checks and verifications of all third country imports. In Jan 2021 the UK became a third country and as a result IUU measures were implemented for all UK imports. Port staff complete checks and verifications on these imports on a roster basis with supervision and oversight from the IUU office.

- *for validation of catch certificates and re-export certificates in accordance with Articles 15.2 and 21.3.*

Although there is an associated staff member in each port, some ports have greater tasking than others; some ports have little to no involvement, with validating catch certificates for exports, but an individual is delegated should the necessity arise. The tasking of IUU requirements is typically a negligible part of the individual's role, in some cases validation might be conducted by alternative staff members, this process allows for leave and shift rotations. In some ports only marginal levels of validations have occurred since the initiation of the associated legislation. Killybegs, one of Ireland's designated ports; deals with the majority of validated certificates from Ireland. Killybegs, and now Greencastle, receive 3rd country landings, inspections on 3rd country landings are conducted by respective shift staff, whereas full monitor inspections are pre-planned and additional members are tasked accordingly.

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

Yes No

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

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

Section 3. Information on access to ports, including for direct landings and transshipments of fishery products, by third country fishing vessels⁴ (and information on related port inspections and confirmed infringements)⁵

3.1. Does your country have designated ports for access to port services or direct landings or transhipment of fishery products by third country fishing vessels (Article 5 of the IUU Regulation⁶)?

Yes No

If yes, please check if your list of designated ports in accordance with Article 5.3 corresponds to the latest version of the Office Journal:

[EUR-Lex - 52021XC1201\(03\) - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

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

3.2. In years 2020 and 2021 respectively, how many times have third country fishing vessels been granted authorisation to access designated ports in your country only for repair/maintenance/supply?⁷

2020: 2

2021: 9

3.3. How many landings and transshipments in designated ports by third country fishing vessels have been recorded by your country between 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021? How many inspections did your country carry out and how many infringements have been detected?

Please fill-in the table below (2020):

Inspections of third country vessels in Member States ports (2020)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2020)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ⁸					Total
			Ex. NO	NO	FO	IS	FSx	
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100	20	10	1		31
		Number of inspections	10	20	10	1		31
		% of inspections / landings	10%	100%	100%	100%		100%
		Number of infringements	3	1	0	0		1

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.).

⁷ It is reminded that provisions of Chapter II apply to third country fishing vessels aiming to access EU ports for port services, even in cases they do not carry fishery products on board and therefore no landing or transhipment operation is foreseen. Only designated ports in accordance with Article 5 can be used in this context.

⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Transhipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Number of inspections	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		% of inspections / transhipments	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Number of infringements	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Please fill-in the table below (2021):

Inspections of third country vessels in Member States ports (2021)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2021)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ⁹					
			Ex. NO	GB	NO			Total
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100	618	26			644
		Number of inspections	10	264	24			288
		% of inspections / landings	10%	43%	92%			45%
		Number of infringements	3	2	2			4
Transshipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	2	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Number of inspections	2	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		% of inspections / transshipments	100%	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Number of infringements	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Please fill-in the table below (2020):

Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁰	Name of the third country fishing vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
NO		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report Pelagic Vessel - Coral Grounds 4 hours prior to entry 2. Report effort non VMS & ERS failure to transmit 3. Report Pelagic Vessel - Coral Grounds 4 exit 	Case file being prepared
GB		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ERS Logbook failure to record all species in excess of 50kg 	Transferred to UK

⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Please fill-in the table below (2021):

Flag of the third country vessel ¹¹	Name of the third country fishing vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
NO		1. Failure to comply with rules in relation to weighing records	Transferred out to Norway
GB		1. Third country vessel in EU waters in breach technical measures	SFPA not proceeding
NO		1. Use of unapproved weighing equipment	Case file being prepared

3.5. Please provide:

- the quantities of fish landed by third countries' fishing vessels in your designated ports in 2020 and 2021, respectively (by species and flag of the vessels);
- the quantities of fish transhipped from third countries' fishing donor vessels (to third countries or EU fishing receiving vessels) in your designated ports in 2020 and 2021, respectively (by species and flag of the vessels):

Please fill-in the table below (landings):

Landings in 2020		Landings in 2021																							
Flag of the third country vessel ¹²	Landed quantities by species	Flag of the third country vessel ¹³	Landed quantities by species																						
NO	(000KGS) Species 1: Blue Whiting 27,1354	GB	(000KGS)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Species 1:</td> <td>Blue Whiting</td> <td>29045</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species 2:</td> <td>Atlantic mackerel</td> <td>1670</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species 3:</td> <td>Monkfish</td> <td>1546</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species 4:</td> <td>Megrim</td> <td>1094</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species 5:</td> <td>Hake</td> <td>457</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species 6:</td> <td>Norway lobster</td> <td>281</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species 7:</td> <td>Edible crab</td> <td>211</td> </tr> </table>	Species 1:	Blue Whiting	29045	Species 2:	Atlantic mackerel	1670	Species 3:	Monkfish	1546	Species 4:	Megrim	1094	Species 5:	Hake	457	Species 6:	Norway lobster	281	Species 7:	Edible crab	211
Species 1:	Blue Whiting	29045																							
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Species 7:	Edible crab	211																							

¹¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

			Species 8: Whelk 139 Species 9: Witch 132 Species 10: European Mackerel 40 Species 11: Lemon Sole 33 Species 12: European Lobster 30 Species 13: Ling 22 Species 14: European Conger 14 Species 15: John Dory 14 Species 16: Horned Octopus 13 Species 17: Octopus 13 Species 18: Blackbelly rosefish 11 Species 19: European Flying Squid 10 Species 20: Haddock 10 Species 21: Cuckoo Ray 8 Species 22: European Flat Oyster 7 Species 23: Greater forkbeard 7 Species 24: Thornback Ray 6 Species 25: Squid 5 Species 26: Shagreen Ray 3 Species 27: Turbot 2 Species 28: Great Atlantic Scallop 2 Species 29: Northern Shortfin Squid 2 Species 30: European squid 2 Species 31: Queen crab 1 Species 32: Horned and musky octopuses 1 Species 33: Small-spotted catshark 1
FO	(000KGS) Species 1: Blue Whiting 20,245	NO	(000KGS) Species 1: Blue Whiting 29,179 Species 2: Atlantic Mackerel 1,130
IS	(000KGS) Species 1: Blue Whiting 1,880

Please fill-in the table below (transhipments):

Transhipments in 2020	Transhipments in 2021
------------------------------	------------------------------

Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁴	Transhipped quantities by species	Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁵	Transhipped quantities by species
FS1	N/A	FS1	N/A
FS2	N/A	FS2	N/A
...
FSx	...	FSx	...

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

Yes No

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

In 2020: *N/A*

In 2021: *N/A*

3.7. Since January 2020, has your country denied access to its ports to a fishing vessel for port services, landing or transhipment of fishery products based on the conditions of the IUU Regulation?

Yes No

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

In 2020: *N/A*

In 2021: *N/A*

3.8. Do you have cases of third country fishing vessels landing in your ports with the landed products destined to another Member State? [Article 19.3 of the IUU Regulation]

Yes No

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

In 2020: *N/A*

In 2021: *N/A*

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

Yes No

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

¹⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

If yes, please detail, in order to reach the objective of 5% of landing and transshipment operations as set in Article 9.1 of the IUU Regulation, which benchmarks you use and rank them:
.....

Due to the limited levels of third country landings in Ireland, designated port staffs are able to meet all vessels prior to landings/inspections. The landings in Irelands designated ports typically fall under the auspices of the NEAFC RFMO, and the produce predominantly go to fish meal. These are typically completed on an ad-hoc basis, where full monitor inspections would be decided upon notification of respective landings.

Section 4. Information on catch certification scheme for importation for the purpose of the IUU Regulation¹⁶

4.1. How many catch certificates¹⁷ from non-EU countries were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021? Please complete the following table by flag State validating the catch certificates, including in cases catch certificates are accompanied by processing statements.¹⁸ Please only provide information on catch certificates accompanying the consignments to be imported in your country; for consignments meant for transit to another Member State (Article 19.1 of the IUU Regulation), please see the question 4.7. of this questionnaire.

Flag State (non-EU)¹⁹	2020	2021
<i>IS</i>	431 & 1 Direct Landing	434
<i>RU</i>	45	575
<i>EC</i>	41	136
<i>US</i>	28	167
<i>GH</i>	24	35
<i>ZA</i>	17	64
<i>MA</i>	16	44
<i>PH</i>	12	10
<i>AR</i>	11	79
<i>FO</i>	10 Direct Landings	12
<i>ES</i>	8	84
<i>PA</i>	6	13
<i>KP</i>	5	4
<i>TW</i>	3	1
<i>CN</i>	3	97
<i>NO</i>	2 & 20 Direct Landings	231
<i>TH</i>	2	11
<i>ID</i>	2	5
<i>PE</i>	2	24
<i>SC</i>	1	36
<i>VN</i>	1	17
<i>CL</i>	1	4
<i>IN</i>	1	45
<i>GB</i>	0	2036
Total	693	4164

¹⁶ Section to be filled-in by all Member States.

¹⁷ Please provide only the number of catch certificates i.e. not the number of all transactions (imports/declarations) where the same certificates have been (re)used.

¹⁸ If catch certificates are submitted only for transshipment purposes, please specify.

¹⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

RFMO document	2020	2021
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>	0	0
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	0	0
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	0	0
Total	0	0

4.3. How many catch certificates from EU Member States (including from your country) were presented to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021?

Flag State (EU)	2020	2021
<i>FR</i>	3	136
<i>IT</i>	0	15
<i>ES</i>	20	17
Total	23	227

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

RFMO document	2020	2021
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>	0	0
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	0	0
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	0	0
Total	0	0

4.5. How many processing statements (Article 14.2) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021? Please provide details per year and per processing country.

Processing non-EU State²⁰	2020	2021
<i>CH</i>	56	134
<i>TH</i>	29	40
<i>EC</i>	18	35
<i>MU</i>	14	22
<i>MG</i>	7	0

²⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Processing non-EU State ²⁰	2020	2021
<i>PH</i>	3	0
<i>PG</i>	2	0
<i>PE</i>	1	21
<i>SC</i>	0	197
<i>GH</i>	0	45
<i>GT</i>	0	3
<i>ZA</i>	0	2
<i>CA</i>	0	2
<i>NZ</i>	0	1
<i>MA</i>	0	1
Total	130	503

4.6. Please indicate if you retain and record the information contained in processing statements referring to the corresponding catch certificates (quantity management):

Yes *No*

Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of processing statements received from non-EU countries in 2020-2021)

4.7. Do you have cases where third country fishery products arriving to your country (entry point) were destined to another Member State? [Article 19.1 of the IUU Regulation]

Yes *No*

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

In 2020:

In 2021:

4.8. Has your country received requests to authorise APEOs²¹ in 2020-2021?

Yes *No*

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

.....

4.9. Has your country adopted administrative rules referring to the management and control of APEOs in 2020-2021?

Yes *No*

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

²¹ Approved Economic Operators – IUU Regulation, Article 16 and Implementing Regulation (EC) 1010/2009, Chapter II

If yes, please detail:

.....

4.10. Has your country validated re-export certificates for products imported from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021?

Yes *No*

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

Destination country (non-EU)²²	2020	2021
<i>Third Country 1</i>		
<i>Third Country 2</i>		
...		
<i>Third Country x</i>		
Total		79

*Completed Re-export certificate data is not recorded

4.11. 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 2020-2021)

If yes, please detail:

.....

4.12. 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*

4.13. 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 position, produce under transit is not landing at seaports under our remit. For imports arriving at non BIP Ports in Ireland, confirmation that verification has been conducted is sought from entry point in the EU, where veterinary checks

²² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

would have been conducted. The result of findings will dictate if verification checks will be conducted.

Section 5. Information on catch certification scheme for exportation²³

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

Yes *No*

Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2020-2021)

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

Request for catch certificate validation is established by either IE or MS exporter, this process will include a completed catch certificate, as per legislative requirements. A review of the requisite vessel(s) activities are undertaken, to ensure compliance, this will include VMS/ERS trip data, sales notes, invoices, authorisations and bill of lading/airway bill.

5.2. Have you validated catch certificates for exportation in 2020-2021 in accordance with Article 15?

Yes *No*

If yes, how many catch certificates did you validate from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021? Please provide details per requesting third country/country of destination in the following table:

Destination State ^{24, 25}	Year	
	2020	2021
<i>GB</i>	0	567
<i>CH</i>	26	131
<i>NO</i>	20	13
<i>IN</i>	17	25
<i>JP</i>	12	6
<i>TN</i>	7	0
<i>UA</i>	5	31
<i>GH</i>	2	4
<i>FO</i>	2	0
<i>VN</i>	1	0
<i>AL</i>	1	0
<i>HK</i>	1	0
<i>BY</i>	1	0

²³ Section to be filled-in by flag Member States.

²⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

²⁵ It is recommended that the validation of a catch certificate for exportation takes place when the country of destination is known.

Destination State ^{24, 25}	Year	
	2020	2021
<i>KP</i>	1	0
<i>NG</i>	0	5
<i>ES</i>	0	1
<i>SL</i>	0	1
<i>GA</i>	0	1
<i>PT</i>	0	1
<i>RS</i>	0	1
<i>NL</i>	0	1
<i>DK</i>	0	1
<i>TG</i>	0	1
<i>FR</i>	0	1
<i>CI</i>	0	1
<i>LR</i>	0	1
<i>LT</i>	0	1
Total	96	795

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

Yes *No*

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

Yes *No*

Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2020-2021)

5.5. Has your country refused the validation of a catch certificate between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2021?

Yes *No*

Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of request for validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2020-2021)

If yes, please detail:

Number (per year): Records are not maintained

Reason: Generally refused 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.

Section 6. Information on checks and verifications of catch certificates and related documents according to Articles 16.1 and 17.1-5 of IUU Regulation²⁶

6.1. Has your country established a procedure for checks of catch certificates in accordance with Article 16.1?

- Yes* *No*

If yes, please detail:

All imports are verified and crosschecks are made, on all, to confirm compliance with respective legislation. Consignment specific headings are used from the 'Common Methodology for IUU Verification'. This process is conducted on an ad-hoc basis as various imports have a considerable difference incorporated. In some cases, flag state authorities are contacted on an informal basis, this procedure is typically used to confirm document authenticity, whilst maintaining a continuous networking arrangement with third country authorities; this process prevents delays and maintains relationships. 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.

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

- Yes* *No*

If no, please provide the following:

- risks identified in 2020 and 2021 on the basis of risk management used (i.e. for risk-based targeting of catch certificates to be checked); and
- number of catch certificates checked, respectively:

Please fill-in the table below:

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ²⁷	2020		2021	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>
<i>Country 1</i>				
<i>Country 2</i>				
...				
<i>Country x</i>				
Total				

²⁶ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

²⁷ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

What do you check in catch certificates in accordance with Article 16.1? Please describe:

6.3. 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:

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

- All* *Only part by applying risk management*
 Only part without applying risk management *No verifications*

6.5. If you apply risk management to verifications (Article 17.3), do you use Union (Article 31 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1010/2009) or national criteria for identification of risks on which verifications shall focus?

- Union criteria* *National criteria*

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

.....

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

.....

6.6. Please provide information on the risks identified in 2020 and 2021 respectively (Article 32 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1010/2009) on the basis of the criteria used. Please also provide information on whether all consignments identified as risky have been covered by verifications. If this is not the case, please specify the percentage of consignments identified as risky that have been covered by verifications and the reasons of such situation.

.....

6.7. How many catch certificates have been verified by your administration from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021? Please specify, separately for each year:

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ²⁸	2020		2021	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>verified</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>verified</u>
<i>MOR</i>	16	1		

²⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ²⁸	2020		2021	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>verified</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>verified</u>
<i>ARG</i>	11	1		
<i>GHA</i>	24	3	19	1
<i>TWN</i>	3	1		
<i>PHL</i>	12	1		
<i>LKA</i>			57	2
<i>USA</i>			45	1
<i>VNM</i>			5	1
NZL			6	1
Total	66	7	132	6

Please reply to the following questions:

- How many catch certificates have you verified in the context of the application of Article 17.4?
4
- How many catch certificates have you verified on the basis of risk identified in accordance with Article 17.3?
0
- How many catch certificates have been verified at random (Article 17.5)?
8

6.8. Does your country also physically verify the consignments?

Yes *No*

If yes, please detail:

Physical inspections are conducted at the Border Inspection Post

Number (per year)

2020: 286 Physical Inspections

2021: 42 Physical Inspections

Method of selection: Risk analysis at BCP, all direct landings are checked, fishery is NEAFC RFMO

Section 7. Assistance requests to third countries²⁹

7.1. Have you sent assistance requests for verifications under Article 17.6 of the IUU Regulation to other flag States' authorities in 2020-2021?

²⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Yes

No

If yes, how many assistance requests for verifications? *Note: please provide separate data for 2020 and 2021:*

Detail included below, in most cases the IE SLO makes verifications under 17.5. Most cases of verification are made under this article, confirmation of documentation authenticity and notified country networking is maintained by this means.

Flag States ³⁰	No of assistance requests for verifications 2020	Justification	No of assistance requests for verifications 2021	Justification
MOR	1	17.4		
ARG	1	17.5		
GHA	3	17.4	1	17.5
TWN	1	17.5		
PHL	1	17.5		
LKA			2	17.5
USA			1	17.5
VNM			1	17.4
NZL			1	17.4
Total	7		6	

7.2. How many assistance requests for verification were not replied to by the other flag States' authorities within the deadline provided in Article 17.6 of the IUU Regulation? In these cases, do you send a reminder to the authorities of the country in question? Could you please specify when the assistance request, despite reminder(s), remained unanswered? What measures have you taken in that case (i.e. denial of importation) [Please provide separate data for 2020 and 2021]

2020 See below

2021 See below

In regard to Formal verifications, the information provided by the notified country, met requirements as specified in the request that was made by the IE SLO. 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, on the Specimen Management System, or review of previously verified consignment documents. But as with most consignments, requests are made to ensure that the respective catch/processing documentation, originated from within the respective competent authority. If information is not supplied by the flag state that request was made to, follow up emails are always sent. Policy is to release produce for veterinary inspection and follow up with respective flag states thereafter, to confirm that the supplied documentation is compliant. With formal requests, where there is evidence of irregularities, or with new trading countries, imports are held at BIP's until sufficient detail has been supplied by the flag state, to which that the request was made.

³⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

Yes

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

No

7.5. Have you been using IT systems developed by third countries allowing for a full or partial verification of catch certificates and how many verifications were made through these systems (approximately)?

Yes. This number is not recorded, due to the variance in verifications conducted by the ROI SLO. Although all consignments are verified, and the use of online Notified Country systems would always be incorporated into this process, where they are available.

Section 8. Information on refusal of importations (Article 18 of the IUU Regulation)³¹

8.1. Has your country refused any imports from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021? *Note: please only consider refusals based on the IUU Regulation, not for other reasons e.g. Food Safety legislation, Customs legislation, etc.*

Yes No

If yes, please provide details in the table below:

Reason for refusal of importation	2020		2021	
	Flag State ³²	No.	Flag State ³³	No.
Non-submission of a catch certificate for products to be imported.	PHL	1		
The products intended for importation are not the same as those mentioned in the catch certificate.				
The catch certificate is not validated by the notified public authority of the flag State				
The catch certificate does not indicate all the required information.				
The importer is not in a position to prove that the fishery products comply with the conditions of Article 14.1 or 2.				
A fishing vessel figuring on the catch certificate as vessel of origin of the catches is included in the EU IUU vessel list or in the IUU vessel lists referred to in Article 30.				
The catch certificate has been validated by the authorities of a flag State identified as a non-cooperating State in accordance with Article 31				
Further to the request for verification (Article 18.2)				

8.2. If the answer to 8.1 is yes, what measures were taken by your authorities in relation to the consignments refused (Article 18.3)?

Produce destroyed at Border Control Post

³¹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

³³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

Yes No

If yes, please detail:

Section 9. Information on trade flows³⁴

Please provide information, based on your statistical data, concerning any important change of trade patterns in imports of fishery products into your country since the last reporting period covering 2018-2019:

The most significant change in trade patterns for imports since the last reporting period of 2018-2019 but more specifically since 2020, has been the UK becoming a third country for the purposes of IUU regulation. IUU import controls are now carried out on all imports from the UK. As can be seen above there was an increase of 3471 catch certificates submitted from 2020 to 2021, GB catch certificates accounted for 49% of total catch certificates submitted for 2021. A significant increase was also seen in validated catch certificates issued from 2020 to 2021, an additional 699 catch certificates were validated by the SFPA in 2021. A total of 71% of all catch certificates issued noted the destination country was GB.

Significant increases were also seen in Russian and Ecuadorian catch certificates submitted for imports in 2021.

Section 10. Information on mutual assistance³⁵

10.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2018-2019, how many mutual assistance messages of the Commission (DG MARE B4) has your country replied to?³⁶

This data is not officially recorded, there has been a change of SLO in 2021 and this information is not available.

Please provide separate data for 2020 and 2021 (if any)

2020.....

2021.....

10.2. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2018-2019, has your country sent any mutual assistance message to the Commission/other Member States?

Please provide separate data for 2020 and 2021 (if any)

2020.....

2021.....

³⁴ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³⁵ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³⁶ Please provide the number of all replies, regardless of their content i.e. including replies which, for example, only confirmed that the request was not relevant for your country. Then please specify the number of cases where you took action and describe the actions taken.

Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries³⁷

Apart from assistance requests in the context of verifications of catch certificates and accompanying documents foreseen under the catch certification scheme (Article 17.6), has your country had other exchanges with third countries on issues related to the implementation of the IUU Regulation, such as follow-up of cases concerning nationals, trade flows, operators, private fishing licencing, re-flagging operations, investigations of cases of IUU fishing (Article 42) and investigations of criminal activities associated to IUU fishing?

Yes No

If yes, please detail (please provide separate data for 2020 and 2021, if any).

.....

Section 12. Information on nationals³⁸

For the reporting period in question, a separate call for information on nationals supporting/engaging in IUU fishing activities has been sent to the Single Liaison Offices of Member States and EFCA as part of a study on the implementation of Articles 39 and 40 of the IUU Regulation. As a result, this section of the biennial reports will be replaced for this reporting period by the more specialised call for data for the abovementioned study.

Member States are kindly asked to provide their input to the external consultant in charge of the study. The Commission will evaluate the responses of Member States and include them in its overall assessment of the biennial reports.

Section 13. Infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation) and Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)³⁹

13.1. Has your country detected serious infringements as defined in Article 42 of the IUU Regulation from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021?

Yes No

The Irish law governing Serious Infringement process, (SI 318/2020) was issued on 28th August 2020. The Determination Panel begun on 21 January 2021, which is when the SI came into effect. Therefore, there were no Serious Infringement cases in Ireland in 2020.

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

³⁷ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³⁸ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Flag State of the vessel or nationality of the operator (EU and non-EU) ⁴⁰	Serious infringements detected in 2020:			Serious infringements detected in 2021:		
	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied
Ireland				19	1,8,10	52 Points 19 Awaiting Trial
Spain				4	1, 8	15 Points 1 Awaiting Trial €5,000 in fines to date €9,000 in forfeiture to date
France				1	10	7 Points 1 Awaiting Trial
Belgium				1	2	4 Points 1 Awaiting Trial
<i>Total</i>				25		

- Number: This is the number of individually detected Annex XXX infringements per state, not number of detections, which would be less.
- Nature: Infringement itself is listed once even where it may have been detected multiple times.
- Sanction: 2021 cases which have yet to be decided are not listed.

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

Yes No

If yes, please detail:

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

13.3. Has your country issued sighting reports from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021?

Yes No

⁴⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

If yes, how many sighting reports were issued by your country from 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021?

Flag State of the sighted vessel (EU and non-EU)⁴¹	No of sighting reports issued in 2020	No of sighting reports issued in 2021
<i>Country 1</i>	N/A	N/A
<i>Total</i>		

13.4. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2018-2019, has your country received any sighting reports for vessels flying its own flag 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. During the reporting period 2020-2021, what have been the main difficulties that your country has encountered in implementing the IUU Regulation, including the catch certification scheme?

As noted above the main difficulty experienced by Irelands IUU team during 2020-2021 is the significant increases in IUU checks that must now be completed on GB imports. This has been managed by all port offices on a roster basis with oversight from the IUU Head Office. Guidance documents and training sessions are provided by Irelands SLO on import controls and implementation of IUU regulation.

Significant increases in requests for validated catch certificates for produce destined for GB, and direct landings of GB vessels has also posed challenges. This has been addressed with the deployment of additional resources to the ports where significant increases have been seen. Notably, the new port of Greencastle has now opened and is appropriately resourced to allow for the significant increases in direct landings of third country vessels including GB.

Section 15. Any other comment

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⁴¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.