



**ŽUVININKYSTĖS TARNYBA
PRIE LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS ŽEMĖS ŪKIO MINISTERIJOS**

**FISHERIES SERVICE
UNDER THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

European Commission
MARE-NOTIFICATIONS-IUU-1005-
2008@ec.europa.eu

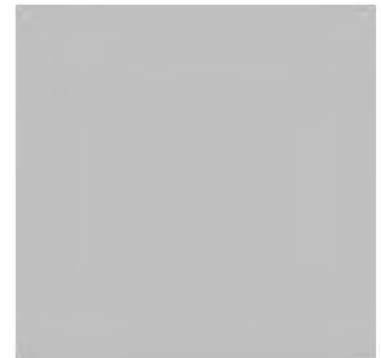
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REGARDING BIENNIAL REPORT

Please find attached the Questionnaire for biennial reporting on the application of the IUU Regulation (Reporting period 2020–2021).

ATTACHED. 26 pages.

Director



Budgetary agency

Lithuania

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Data have been accumulated and stored in the Register of



**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:	<i>Lithuania</i>
Organisation:	<i>Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania</i>
Date:	<i>28 04. 2022</i>
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	<p><i>Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania (Fisheries Service)</i></p> <p><i>Fisheries Control Department, tel. [REDACTED] e-mail [REDACTED]@ziv.lt</i></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>Customs Department under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania (Customs Department), tel +370 800 900 80, e-mail mutine@lrmutine.lt</i></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania, tel. +370 5 239 1111, e-mail zum@zum.lt</i></p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States and the European Fisheries Control Agency?	
Yes:	<i>Yes</i>
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))

Article 15.2 (exportation of catches): *Fisheries Services.*

Article 17.8 (verification of catch certificates): *Customs Department under the Ministry of Finance.*

Article 21.3 (re-exportation): *Customs Department under the Ministry of Finance.*

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

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

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania

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.

- Law on Fisheries <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.104591/asr>
- Code of Administrative Offences <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/4ebe66c0262311e5bf92d6af3f6a2e8b/asr>
- Government Resolution on Designating the authorities responsible for the implementation of the legislation of the European Union establishing procedures for the import, export and re-export of fishery products <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.371177/asr>
- National Fisheries control program for the year of 2021-2023 <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAP/548395302b3611eb8c97e01ffe050e1c?ifwid=66efx03oh>
- Commercial Fisheries Rules adopted by the order of Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.337733/asr>
- Fisheries Service Regulations adopted by the order of Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.368075?ifwid=bfzq4x1fg>
- Order of the Director General of the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania No V1-64 "Regarding the Approval of the Rules on Landings of Fisheries Products from Fishing Vessels of Third Countries" <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.B699F704910A/asr>
- The Description of the Procedure for Landing of Fishery Products adopted by the order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/0029cd50db6b11e39a43a3f57c05722e/asr>
- Description of Inspection Procedures performed by Fisheries Control Officers adopted by the order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/5a221dc05dd511e4bad5c03f56793630/asr>
- Description of the Procedure for the Approval of European Union Catch Certificates for Vessels fishing under the Flag of the Republic of Lithuania adopted by the order of the Director of the Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/8dd816d083c011eab005936df725feed>
- Description of the Procedure for Compliance with Notification Formalities applicable to Ships Entering in and Departing from the Seaports of the Republic of Lithuania adopted by the order of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Lithuania <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.B8258DF4FE89/asr>

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);

Officials of the Fisheries Service, when performing fisheries control, perform fishing supervision and inspect fishing vessels, including third countries cargo vessels discharging fisheries products in designated port in Lithuania, as well landings in other ports where applicable.

- catch certification scheme (Chapter III).

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.

Fisheries Service is an authority validating catch certificates for the vessels flying Lithuanian flag.

Lithuanian Customs authorities responsible for control of imported and exported (or reexported) fisheries products subject to catch certificate both in ports and in other types of transport.

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 – Fisheries Service, Customs Department;*
- *validation of catch certificates upon exports – Fisheries Service;*
- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for imports under direct landing – Customs Department;*
- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for imports arriving by other means than fishing vessels (e.g. by containers, trucks) – Customs Department;*
- *validation and verifications of re-exports – Customs Department.*

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

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

All Fisheries Service's divisions dedicated for fisheries enforcement and control are based in the Fisheries Service main office in Klaipėda.

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.).

Among examples of best practices relating to the enforcement of the IUU Regulation cooperation – both interinstitutional and international – is being implemented. As regards interinstitutional cooperation, the Fisheries Service mainly cooperates with another competent national institution in fighting IUU fishing, the Customs Department, because both are involved in control of fisheries products which are placed on national market. Constant exchange of information, joint capacity building workshops (organized annually) are being implemented. In addition, cooperation strengthening with Lithuanian State Border Guard Service and the Ministry of Interior is ongoing for the future actions for joint inspection and surveillance actions. As well cooperation agreement is in force with Lithuanian Naval Forces, and with Lithuanian Transport Safety Administration.

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;*

– 5 on behalf of the Fisheries Service.

– For the Customs Department, it is not possible to estimate the number of persons involved in the implementation of the catch certificate scheme as customs officials perform customs controls of all kinds of goods.

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

– 3 on behalf of the Fisheries Service.

– For the Customs Department, it is not possible to estimate the number of persons involved in the implementation of the catch certificate scheme as customs officials perform customs controls of all kinds of goods. There were no special customs officials employed for the purpose to implement only the catch certification scheme.

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.

Klaipėda free economic zone.

Kaunas free economic zone.

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 transshipment 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 \(europa.eu\)](#)

State Port of Klaipėda (Lithuania)

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

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.).

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 transshipment operation is foreseen. Only designated ports in accordance with Article 5 can be used in this context.

9 times in years 2020 and 2021.

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?

2020

Landings – 123
Transshipments – 0

2021

Landings – 122
Transshipments – 0

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				
			BHS	FRO	NOR	FSx	Total
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports*	Number of landings	29	40	46	8	123
		Number of inspections	1	2	1	0	4
		% of inspections / landings					5%
		Number of infringements					0
Transshipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	-	-	-	-	-
		Number of inspections	-	-	-	-	-
		% of inspections / transshipments	-	-	-	-	-
		Number of infringements	-	-	-	-	-

* third country reefers only

⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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				
			BHS	NOR	FRO	FSx	Total
Landings	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports*	Number of landings	24	76	22	0	122
		Number of inspections	1	4	1	0	6
		% of inspections / landings					7%
		Number of infringements					0
Transhipments	Non-EU vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	-	-	-	-	-
		Number of inspections	-	-	-	-	-
		% of inspections / transhipments	-	-	-	-	-
		Number of infringements	-	-	-	-	-

* third country reefers only

- 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
None			

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
None			

⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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
FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:

* landings from reefer vessels only, data not available to the full extent

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	None	FS1	None

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: -

In 2021: -

¹² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

3.7. Since January 2020, has your country denied access to its ports to a fishing vessel for port services, landing or transshipment 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: -

In 2021: -

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:

**Data is not available to the full extent*

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/transshipments from third countries)

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:

The risk assessment criteria for the port inspections are established in the 29/09/2009 Order of the Director General of the Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania No VI-64 "Regarding the Approval of the Rules on Landings of Fisheries Products from Fishing Vessels of Third Countries" (with the amendments done in 2012) <https://www.e-tar.lt/portal/lt/legalAct/TAR.B699F704910A/asr>

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
AR	21	19
BY	40	50
BZ	1	
CA	5	1
CL	5	4
CN	85	49
EC	12	5
EU		6
FO	22	18
GB		20
GL	1	9
ID	27	10
IN	34	46
IS	175	209
MA	2	1
MU	4	
NO	580	467
NZ	2	6
PE	42	11
PH	9	19
RU	149	163
TH	13	9
UA	2	12
US	212	218
UY	13	13
VN	87	100
Total	1543	1465

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>		
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>		
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>		
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>FS 1</i>		
<i>FS 2</i>		
...		
<i>FS x</i>		
Total		

No data available.

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>		
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>		
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>		
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 State ²⁰	2020	2021
MD	1	
IS		1
NO		1
GB		951
Total	1	953

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: 204

In 2021: 330

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*

**The Rules for Granting, Suspension and Revocation of Approved Economic Operator Status were adopted by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania in 2011 <https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.392128?ifwid=a8i88lt78>*

²⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

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

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
MD	5	2
UA	0	1
Total	5	3

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:

Discharge of export (re-export) customs procedures is being controlled by Customs Declaration Processing IT system.

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*

²² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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.

Following receipt of an application for a validation of EU catch certificate from a fishing operator, further verification steps are carried out with the following criteria:

- *whether the form of the submitted catch certificate is in line with the approved form;*
- *the certificate is duly completed and endorsed with the signature and stamp of the responsible company;*
- *verification of any apparent discrepancies between information and data (fishing licence number, fishing trip dates, fishing area and dates, species of the fish products and quantities).*

The Fisheries Service provides fishing operator with a validated EU catch certificate within three working days if no discrepancies are found.

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
Total	47*	54*

**no requesting third countries details are available as no such information are required/provided in EU CC.*

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*

** All the validated by the Fisheries Service EU CC are registered in the document management system in use.*

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.

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

Yes No*

* not directly

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):

Reason:

Follow-up:

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

Customs is a designated authority responsible for verification of catch certificates. Recommendations on the enforcement of the IUU Regulation have been elaborated and distributed to customs officials. Authenticity of catch certificates, fishing vessels data, records on conservation and management measures, product description, code, weight are checked using SMS and other databases.

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

²⁶ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

- 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>
AR	21	16	19	15
BY	40	37	50	50
BZ	1	1	0	0
CA	5	5	1	1
CL	5	3	4	4
CN	85	62	49	32
EC	12	12	49	32
EU	0	0	6	6
FO	22	22	18	18
GB	0	0	20	20
GL	1	1	9	9
ID	27	27	10	10
IN	34	3	46	0
IS	175	157	209	190
MA	2	1	1	1
MU	4	4	0	0
NO	580	440	467	395
NZ	2	2	6	6
PE	42	15	11	11
PH	9	9	19	19

²⁷ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

RU	149	131	163	150
TH	13	1	9	1
UA	2	2	12	12
US	212	48	218	59
UY	13	12	13	13
Total	1543	1020	1465	1042

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: *National risk criterion as well as EU risk assessment methodology are used for risk assessment which is performed by RIKS (LTU abbrev. of Risk Management and Control System)*

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):

1. *Is the certificate presented.*
2. *Are the imported products the same as specified in the Certificate.*
3. *Does the Certificate contain all the required information.*
4. *Is the Certificate Approved by the Designated Authority of the State Flag.*
5. *Is the fishing vessel not on the IUU vessel list.*
6. *Whether the flag State is not on the list of non-cooperating States.*

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

1. *Is the certificate presented.*
2. *Are the imported products the same as specified in the Certificate.*
3. *Does the Certificate contain all the required information.*
4. *Is the Certificate Approved by the Designated Authority of the State Flag.*
5. *Is the fishing vessel not on the IUU vessel list.*

6. Whether the flag State is not on the list of non-cooperating States.

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.

No information.

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>
AR	21	16	19	15
BY	40	37	50	50
BZ	1	1	0	0
CA	5	5	1	1
CL	5	3	4	4
CN	85	62	49	32
EC	12	12	49	32
EU	0	0	6	6
FO	22	22	18	18
GB	0	0	20	20
GL	1	1	9	9
ID	27	27	10	10
IN	34	3	46	0
IS	175	157	209	190
MA	2	1	1	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>
MU	4	4	0	0
NO	580	440	467	395
NZ	2	2	6	6
PE	42	15	11	11
PH	9	9	19	19
RU	149	131	163	150
TH	13	1	9	1
UA	2	2	12	12
US	212	48	218	59
UY	13	12	13	13
Total	1543	1020	1465	1042

Please reply to the following questions:

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

6.8. Does your country also physically verify the consignments?

Yes *No*

If yes, please detail:

2020 – 47.

2021 – 33.

Method of selection: Risk Management and Control System.

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?

Yes No

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

Flag States ³⁰	No of assistance requests for verifications 2020	Justification	No of assistance requests for verifications 2021	Justification
<i>Country 1</i>				
<i>Country 2</i>				
...				
<i>Country x</i>				
Total				

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 – none

2021 – none

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

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)?

Customs checks authenticity of catch certificates.

²⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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.				
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)?

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: -

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

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

2020 - 3

In 2019 the Commission asked to transmit inspection report prepared by Lithuanian authorities on the status of the vessel "RAN" moored in Klaipeda port to the Comorian competent authorities and inform Commission on feedback from them. On 7th January, 2020 Commission asked whether Lithuania received any feedback from the Comorian authorities, to which the Fisheries Service replied providing the Commission information on the progress of the communication with the Comorian authorities.

On 7th January, 2020 the Commission asked for a summary of the actions taken under Mutual Assistance message MA_EGY_006 (2019). The Fisheries Service replied to the Commission on 18th February, 2020, that Lithuania had not received catch certificates related to the mutual assistance message.

On 13th January, 2020 the Commission asked MS to transmit representative samples of catch certificates validated by the authorities of Philippines. The Fisheries Service replied to the Commission on 4th February, 2020 by sending samples of catch certificates, validated by the authorities of Philippines.

2021 - none

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.

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 – none

2021 – none

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).

Information on the Fisheries Service and other authorities' functions on implementing requirement of EU IUU regulations, samples of documentation have been provided to Thailand replying to query received from the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2021).

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

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
<i>Country 1</i>						
<i>Country 2</i>						
...						
<i>Country x</i>						
<i>Total</i>						

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

Yes No

If yes, please detail:

The sanctions for serious infringements are set up in the Law on Fisheries. The level of administrative sanctions is in line with Article 44. A maximum sanction is five times the value of the fishery products obtained by committing the serious infringement and in case of repetitive infringement – eight times the value of the fishery products.

Have you used criminal sanctions? If yes, please specify if in addition to or in replacement of administrative sanctions: *No*

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

Yes No

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>		
<i>Country 2</i>		

⁴⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁴¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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 x</i>		
<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).

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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?

General issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic period (travel ban, limited physical inspection activity, transition to the full electronic validation of EU CC, change of personnel, etc.).

Section 15. Any other comment

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