

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

Reporting period 2022-2023 (deadline for submission 30 April 2024)

Member State:	CYPRUS
Organisation:	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR)
Date:	29/04/2024
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	[REDACTED]

May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States?	
Yes:	X
Yes except for questions (list):	
No:	
May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to the European Fisheries Control Agency for a horizontal assessment¹?	
Yes:	X
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%3A52022XC0408%2802%29&qid=1701963740421>

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):

DFMR.....

¹ This assessment is for internal use of the Commission. EFCA will present to Member States a summary of this assessment in the EFCA's Plenary and Steering Group meeting.

Section 1. Information on legal framework²

Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country adopted/modified national law or any administrative guides for the application of any of the provisions 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.

DFMR has employed one permanent Fisheries and Marine Research Officer to work full-time on the implementation of the IUU Regulation who is currently under training. There is an ongoing procedure to employ two more Officers.

Section 2. Information on administrative organisation³

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);
- nationals (Chapter VIII).

When providing the above requested information, please specify if different authorities/services are involved in the implementation of the IUU Regulation for:

- *the control of the access and use of ports, including for landings and transshipments, of third country fishing vessels in accordance with Chapter II of the IUU Regulation;*
- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for fishery products arriving on board of third country fishing vessels at designated ports;*
- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for imports of consignment with fishery products arriving by other means than fishing vessels (e.g. by containers, planes, trucks);*
- *validation of catch certificates for exports;*
- *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 their headquarters/central authorities);*

Currently two District Offices, the FMC and an Officer in the Head Quarters are dealing with IUU. Limassol District Office deals with processed consignments arriving to Limassol port and Larnaca District Office that controls mostly fresh products that arrive in Larnaca airport. Both Offices have direct access to CIRCABC and perform administrative checks and verifications directly to the consignments that arrive to the Border Controlled Port (BCP) of entry of their jurisdiction. Verifications and physical checks are performed when deemed necessary. It is noted that the pre-mentioned District Offices keep the original documents (for a minimum period of five years) for easy reference and verification purposes. If assistance from the Head-quarter is needed then there is direct communication to the Officer in charge and all the documents concerned are send through the relevant email address where all the employees involved with the IUU procedures have access. The necessary communication with EU is done from the HQ with the input of District Offices, as for the communication with 3rd countries this is done by the officer in the headquarters.

² This section 1 is to be filled-in by all Member States i.e. coastal and landlocked Member States.

³ This section 2 is to be filled-in by all Member States i.e. coastal and landlocked Member States.

- b) *horizontal 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.).*

There is direct cooperation with Custom Services and DFMR. If a consignment involves fishery products that fall within the scope of IUU Regulation then the products are held in Customs and are not released to the market unless a certified copy of the relevant Catch Certificate (sealed with the appropriate official DFMR seal and signed by authorised DFMR personnel) is shown to the Custom Services. There is also cooperation regarding confiscation of products with Custom and Veterinary Services. Confiscated products are usually temporary held either to Custom or Veterinary Services storages.

Cooperation with other authorities is also achieved during export of Cyprus fishery products or at landing of fishery products from third country fishing vessels. Please find below a short summary of the three main procedures that require cooperation of various authorities in Cyprus:

Import of fisheries products

A copy of the certified Catch Certificate and other necessary accompanying documents are submitted by the importer/clearance officer to the DFMR at least three working days prior to the estimated arrival date at the point of entry of the Member State (MS) (Limassol Port or Larnaca Airport), or at least 4 hours beforehand if it concerns imports of fresh fisheries products. The documents may be sent via email (fisheriescontrol@dfmr.moa.gov.cy). Also, when submitting documents for custom clearance of fishery products, the importer or clearance officer must notify the Inspector on duty on 99 489645 for imports into Larnaca Airport and on 99 486130 for imports into the Limassol Port.

Following the above procedure, and once the DFMR conducts an administrative check and decides that there is no reason to conduct a verification, the DFMR seals and signs the fishery catch document and hands it to the importer/clearance officer once the original fishery catch document is submitted to the district office, where it is filed and kept for a minimum period of three years. It is noted that a physical inspection is always conducted when fresh fishery products are imported into Larnaca Airport.

If during a check it is decided that there is a need to verify information and identify the fishery products based on the declared information, the DFMR informs the importer/clearance officer and proceeds onsite to the entry points and conducts the physical inspection. In this instance and following the completion of the inspection, the Inspector writes down their decision and seals and signs a copy of the fishery catch document, while keeping the original. It is noted that a verification is always conducted when the catch certificate and other necessary documents are not submitted in the required time period.

If the catch certificate or other required documents are missing relevant information based on the Regulation, or the original documents are not submitted, the DFMR will hold the fishery products in storage (refrigerators/freezers) and will only release them to the importer once all the required information based on the Regulation is received within 15 days. During the verification period, the flag state may be asked to demand an additional extension of 15 days in case it is unable to respond in the designated time period. The storage facility must be under the supervision of the competent Authority. The importer/clearance officer bears the financial cost for storage.

Upon refusal to import in accordance with the Regulation, the DFMR shall confiscate the fishery products and proceed with the necessary actions, based on the requirements of the “National Law No 134(I)/2006 for the Application of Community Decisions and Community Regulations that concern the Fisheries Sector of 2006 was reformed with the addition of Law N 183 (I)/2013”.

It is noted that Cyprus has only one customs body and the transit of fishery products is not applicable. As of this, Article 19(2) does not apply for Cyprus.

Landing of fishery products from third country fishing vessels

The captains of third country fishing vessels submit to the member state (Cyprus) before landing or transshipment procedures (4 hours earlier) if possible, the pre-notification document on which the landing or transshipment fishery product quantities are described, by species, as well as with the date and location of catches.

For a third country flag vessel to dock in the Limassol port, the Ports Authority must be first notified of the vessel's intentions, and the Port Authority shall notify in turn the DFMR as the competent Authority to enforce the Regulation, which in turn shall check if the specific vessel is not an IUU vessel, and hence give directions to the Port Authority as to whether to allow the docking of the vessel or otherwise.

For fishery products caught from third country vessels and landed at European Union ports, a verified fishery catch document must accompany the products.

The competent authorities of the Member State (Cyprus) keep the original or copies in the case of pre-notifications submitted electronically, as well as verified fishery catch documents for a minimum period of three years.

The DFMR is responsible for communicating to the Committee the quantities landed and/or transhipped from third country vessels in its ports every trimester.

Export of fishery products caught by Cyprus fishing vessels to third countries

For the export of any fishery product that was caught by Cypriot fishing vessels to a third country that requires the provision of the relevant fishery catch document, the DFMR as the competent Authority must provide and certify the document. The DFMR must certify the legality of the fishery products and certify all information on the document. Following this, the DFMR communicates with the Veterinary Services and Customs for the provision of the necessary accompanying documents and the realisation of the inspections and export of the products. The DFMR keeps a copy of the fishery catch document.

The DFMR as the competent Authority for the implementation of the Regulation ensures that all the provisions of the Regulation are met to allow for its smooth implementation as of January 2012, since the Regulation was set into practice.

If written agreements on cooperation between different authorities/services have been concluded, please provide copies.

When providing the above requested information, if there were any changes in the administrative organisation since the previous reporting period (2020-2021), please underline those changes.

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

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); please specify which authority they belong to:

- *for checks and verifications in accordance with Articles 16 and 17 of the IUU Regulation;*
- *for validation of catch certificates for exports and of re-export certificates in accordance with Articles 15(2) and 21(3) of the IUU Regulation.*

2 Officers (0.1FTE), one at head-quarters and one at District Office, and 10 Inspectors (1.5 FTE) at two District Offices. Regarding the checks and verifications in accordance with Articles 16 and 17 those are carried out by the Inspectors at the District Offices.

One officer of the above-mentioned employees is fulltime involved with the implementation of Catch Certificates and the IUU Regulation in general.

2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports⁴ in which activities relevant to importation/exportation/processing of fishery products are authorised?

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones_en

Yes

No

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

Section 3. Information on access to ports, including for landings and transshipments of fishery products, by third country fishing vessels⁵ (and information on related port inspections and confirmed infringements)⁶

3.1. Does your country have designated ports for access to port services or landings or transshipment of fishery products by third country fishing vessels (Article 5 of the IUU Regulation⁷)?

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:

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52023XC01237>

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 2022 and 2023 respectively, how many times have third country fishing vessels been granted authorisation to access designated ports in your country only for repair/maintenance/supply?⁸

Zero (0)

3.3. How many landings and transshipments in designated ports by third country fishing vessels have been recorded by your country between 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? How many inspections did your country carry out and how many infringements have been detected?

Please fill-in the table below (2022):

Inspections of third country fishing vessels in Member States ports (2022)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2022)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ⁹					
			<i>Example: IS</i>	<i>FS1</i>	<i>FS2</i>	<i>FS3</i>	<i>FSx</i>	Total
Landings	Third country vessels using MS	Number of landings	100					0
		Number of inspections	10					N/A
		% of inspections / landings	10%					N/A

⁵ Fishing vessels as defined in article 2(5) of the IUU Regulation.

⁶ 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.

⁷ Please note that ports designated under Regional Fisheries Management Organisations must also be designated under the IUU Regulation with restrictions if necessary (species, etc.).

⁸ 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 where they do not carry fishery products on board and therefore no landing or transshipment operation is foreseen. Third country fishing vessels shall only access ports designated in accordance with Article 5.

⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

	designated ports	Number of infringements	3					N/A
Transhipments	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2					0
		Number of inspections	0					N/A
		% of inspections / transhipments	0					N/A
		Number of infringements	0					N/A

Please fill-in the table below (2023):

Inspections of third country fishing vessels in Member States ports (2023)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2023)	Flag of the third country vessel(s)¹⁰					Total
			<i>Example: IS</i>	<i>FS1</i>	<i>FS2</i>	<i>FS3</i>	<i>FSx</i>	
Landings	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					0
		Number of inspections	10					0
		% of inspections / landings	10%					N/A
		Number of infringements	3					N/A
Transhipments	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2					0
		Number of inspections	2					0
		% of inspections / transhipments	100%					N/A
		Number of infringements	0					N/A

3.4. From the figures above, in the cases where your country detected infringements concerning third country fishing 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 (2022): *N/A*

Flag of the third country vessel¹¹	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			
FS2			
...			

¹⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

FSx			
-----	--	--	--

Please fill-in the table below (2023): *N/A*

Flag of the third country vessel ¹²	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			
FS2			
...			
FSx			

3.5. Please provide:

- the quantities of fish landed by third countries' fishing vessels in your designated ports in 2022 and 2023, respectively (by species and flag of the catching 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 2022 and 2023, respectively (by species and flag of the vessels):

Please fill-in the table below (landings): *N/A*

Landings in 2022		Landings in 2023	
Flag of the third country vessel that caught the fish ¹³	Landed quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel that caught the fish ¹⁵	Landed quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)
FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
...
FSx	...	FSx	...

¹² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁴ Please use the FAO Alpha-3 codes (ASFIS).

¹⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Please fill-in the table below (transhipments): *N/A*

Transhipments in 2022		Transhipments in 2023	
Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁶	Transhipped quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel ¹⁷	Transhipped quantities by species ¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)
FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
...
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 2022:

In 2023:

3.7. Since January 2022, 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 2022:

In 2023:

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]

¹⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁷ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Yes No

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

In 2022:

In 2023:

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 at least 5% of landing and transshipment operations as set in Article 9(1) of the IUU Regulation, which benchmarks you use and rank them:

.....

Section 4. Information on catch certification scheme for importation¹⁸

4.1. How many catch certificates¹⁹ from non-EU countries were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please complete the following table by flag State validating the catch certificates, including cases where catch certificates are accompanied by processing statements.²⁰ 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) ²¹	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³
TH	24	1	23	6
CN	58	0	45	0
IN	0	51	0	65
VN	60	0	29	0
NO	45	0	107	0
NZ	73	0	66	0
ID	4	36	47	39
PH	23	2	49	0
ZA	12	0	9	0

¹⁸ Section to be filled-in by all Member States.

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ If catch certificates are submitted only for transshipment purposes, please specify.

²¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

²² Based on Annex II to the IUU Regulation

²³ Based on Annex IV to the Regulation (EC) No 1010/2009

Flag State (non-EU) ²¹	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³
SC	0	4	1	0
MA	6	6	16	9
SN	8	185	0	222
TN	0	4	21	0
US	8	0	7	0
TW	0	0	3	0
RU	92	0	321	0
PE	0	2	1	1
MR	0	7	0	1
MU	1	0	1	0
KR	1	0	0	0
MM	2	0	2	0
GB	44	0	41	0
IS	158	0	0	0
PA	0	0	2	0
GL	2	0	1	0
CA	0	0	4	0
EC	1	1	2	0
NA	0	0	1	0
AR	0	0	1	0
FK	3	0	4	0
FO	0	0	1	0
LK	10	0	70	0
MV	29	0	0	0
Total	664	299	875	343

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	2022	2023
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>	0	0
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	0	0
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	0	0

RFMO document	2022	2023
<i>ICCAT SWO Statistical Document</i>	0	1
Total	0	1

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 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Flag State (EU)	2022	2023
<i>ES</i>	11	2
<i>FR</i>	6	6
<i>PL</i>	0	9
<i>PT</i>	1	0
Total	18	17

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	2022	2023
<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) – Annex IV) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and per processing country.

Processing non-EU State²⁴	2022	2023
<i>TH</i>	13	12
<i>CN</i>	21	22
<i>NO</i>	0	1
<i>NZ</i>	4	8
<i>PH</i>	2	38
<i>ZA</i>	0	1
<i>SC</i>	4	1
<i>MY</i>	2	2
<i>GB</i>	12	18

²⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Processing non-EU State²⁴	2022	2023
<i>EC</i>	0	1
<i>NA</i>	0	2
<i>Total</i>	58	106

4.6. How many single transport documents referred to in Article 14(1)(b)(i) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and by third country concerned.

Non-EU State concerned²⁵ – single transport document	2022	2023
<i>S 1</i>	0	0
<i>S 2</i>	0	0
<i>...</i>	0	0
<i>S x</i>	0	0
<i>Total</i>	0	0

4.7. How many documents referred to in Article 14(1)(b)(ii) (the so-called non-manipulation declarations) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and per country that issued such a document.

Non-EU State issuing a document in line with Article 14.1.b.ii²⁶	2022	2023
<i>US</i>	0	3
<i>Total</i>	0	3

4.8. Please indicate if you retain and record the information contained in processing statements (Article 14.2 – Annex IV) 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 2022-2023)

4.9. 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:

²⁵ Country through which fishery products went when transported from the territory of the flag State and before arriving to your country.

²⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

In 2022:

In 2023:

4.10. Has your country received requests to authorise APEOs²⁷ in 2022-2023?

Yes No

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

.....

4.11. Has your country adopted administrative rules referring to the management and control of APEOs in 2022-2023?

Yes No

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

If yes, please provide details:

.....

4.12. Has your country validated re-export certificates for products imported from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Yes No

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

Destination country (non-EU)²⁸	2022	2023
<i>GB</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>
Total	<i>3</i>	<i>7</i>

4.13. 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 2022-2023)

If yes, please provide details:

.....

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

²⁷ Approved Economic Operators – IUU Regulation, Article 16 and Implementing Regulation (EC) No 1010/2009, Chapter II

²⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Yes *No*

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

Yes *No*

4.15. 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 because no consignments were placed under transit procedure as laid down in Article 19(2)

Section 5. Information on catch certification scheme for exportation²⁹

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 2022-2023)

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

For the export of any fishery product that was caught by Cypriot fishing vessels to a third country that requires the provision of the relevant fishery catch document, the DFMR as the competent Authority must provide and certify the document. The DFMR must certify the legality of the fishery products and certify all information on the document. Following this, the DFMR communicates with the Veterinary Services and Customs for the provision of the necessary accompanying documents and the realisation of the inspections and export of the products. The DFMR keeps a copy of the fishery catch document.

The DFMR as the competent Authority for the implementation of the Regulation ensures that all the provisions of the Regulation are met to allow for its smooth implementation as of January 2012, since the Regulation was set into practice.

5.2. Have you validated catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023 in accordance with Article 15?

Yes *No*

If yes, how many catch certificates did you validate from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2023? Please provide details per requesting third country/country of destination in the following table:

Destination State ^{30, 31}	Year	
	2022	2023
<i>Third Country 1</i>		
<i>Third Country 2</i>		
...		
<i>Third Country x</i>		
Total		

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*

²⁹ Section to be filled-in by flag Member States.

³⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

³¹ It is recommended that the validation of a catch certificate for exportation takes place when the country of destination is known.

- number of catch certificates checked:

Please fill-in the table below:

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ³⁴	2022		2023	
	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>
Country 1				
Country 2				
...				
Country x				
Total				

6.3. What exactly do you check in catch certificates in accordance with Article 16(1)? Please describe the precise scope and the procedure used in detail³⁵:

All Catch Certificates are checked for their context as well as accompanying documents submission and their submission time (if is not within the minimum requirement time frame). The CC number is checked along with check of the submission time. The relevant seals of the flag state countries and if applicable the signatures are also checked. The area where the fishery products were caught, and their scientific name is also checked along with the product codes. It is also checked if there are any conservation measures and if those have been taken into consideration. The relevant fishing vessels list is also checked regarding possible IUU activities (listed in the IUU lists). The catch weight, importer and exporter details are also checked along with the bill of lading. If deemed required, a verification procedure and/or physical inspection is proposed.

6.4. Has your country established a procedure for verification of catch certificates for importation in accordance with Article 17?

- Yes No

If yes, please provide relevant instruction manuals/ guidance documents.

If any information is missing from the catch certificate or the information listed is suspicious (eg. simplified CC vs landed quantities) then DFMR will conduct the competent authority of the flagged country and verifications will be requested.

Furthermore, verification is launched in the case where systematic irregularities are detected from particular third countries. A procedure for a random sample for verifications has recently been established. Finally, a large number of fresh fishery consignments arriving in Larnaca airport are randomly checked.

If during the investigation procedure the consignment arrives to the designated port of Cyprus, the DFMR will hold the fishery products in storage (refrigerators/freezers) and will only release them to the importer once all the required information based on the Regulation is received within 15 days. During the verification period and if requested by the Flag State, an additional extension of 15 days could be approved. If the reply of the Flag State authorities is not satisfactory a further enquiry from

³⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

³⁵ Please provide a complete description (not only examples of what and how is checked).

DFMR might follow. Again a 15-day period is given to the Flag State authorities to provide all the required information based on the Regulation. During the verification procedures the storage facility is under the supervision of the competent Authority and the importer/clearance officer is bearing the financial cost for storage.

6.5. 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

6.6. If you apply risk management to verifications (Article 17(3)), do you use Union (Article 31 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 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 used³⁶:

.....

6.7. If you apply risk management to verifications, please provide information on the risks identified in 2022 and 2023 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.

.....

6.8. If you do not apply risk management to verifications, please describe the procedure used³⁷:

Please see answer to question 6.4.

6.9. How many catch certificates have been verified by your administration from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please specify, separately for each year:

<i>Flag State (EU or non-EU)³⁸</i>	<i>2022</i>		<i>2023</i>	
	<i>Overall number of catch certificates received</i>	<i>Number of catch certificates verified</i>	<i>Overall number of catch certificates received</i>	<i>Number of catch certificates verified</i>
<i>TH</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>0</i>

³⁶ Please provide a complete description (not only examples of national criteria and of their use).

³⁷ Please provide a complete and accurate description

³⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<i>Flag State (EU or non-EU)</i> ³⁸	<i>2022</i>		<i>2023</i>	
	<i>Overall number of catch certificates received</i>	<i>Number of catch certificates verified</i>	<i>Overall number of catch certificates received</i>	<i>Number of catch certificates verified</i>
<i>CN</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>IN</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>VN</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>NO</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>NZ</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>ID</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>PH</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>ZA</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>SC</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>MA</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>SN</i>	<i>193</i>	<i>185</i>	<i>222</i>	<i>218</i>
<i>TN</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>US</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>TW</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>RU</i>	<i>92</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>PE</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>MR</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>MU</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>KR</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>GB</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>IS</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>PA</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>GL</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ³⁸	2022		2023	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates verified	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates verified
CA	0	0	4	3
EC	2	0	2	0
NA	0	0	1	0
AR	0	0	1	0
FK	3	0	4	0
FO	0	0	1	0
LK	10	10	70	70
MV	29	19	0	0
TOTAL	1043	304	1179	361

6.10. Please reply to the following questions:

- a) How many catch certificates have you verified in the context of the application of Article 17(4)?
32
- b) How many catch certificates have you verified on the basis of risk identified in accordance with Article 17(3)? *N/A*
- c) How many catch certificates have been verified at random (Article 17(5))? 42. *Regarding the rest of the verifications performed, these were standard verifications/physical checks of fresh fishery product consignments.*

6.11. Does your country also physically examine the consignments in the context of verifications? Please note that under this point you are asked to provide information on physical examinations based only on IUU-related grounds.

Yes No

If yes, please provide details on:

- a) Number of physically examined consignments (per year) and percentage in relation to all verifications made:
2022: 190 physical checks out of 568 consignments received (33.45%)
2023: 316 physical checks out of 620 consignments received (50.97%)
- b) Method of selection of consignments: *Submission time (if is not within the minimum requirement time frame), new exported flag state country, suspected country (according to the information from the Commission), a large percentage of consignments that arrive to Larnaca airport (fresh products) are subject to physical inspection and control according to the DFMR's control and procedures.*

Section 7. Assistance requests to third countries³⁹

7.1. Have you sent assistance requests for verifications under Article 17(6) of the IUU Regulation to flag States' authorities in 2022-2023⁴⁰?

Yes *No*

If yes, how many assistance requests for verifications? *Note: please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023:*

<i>Flag States⁴¹</i>	<i>Number of assistance requests for verifications 2022</i>	<i>Justification (please provide a brief description)</i>	<i>Number of assistance requests for verifications 2023</i>	<i>Justification (please provide a brief description)</i>
<i>UK</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Electronic System was not identifying the catch certificate</i>		
<i>MM</i>			<i>1</i>	<i>Seal not found in Circabc– Myanmar authorities updated after communication</i>
<i>Total</i>				

7.2. How many assistance requests for verifications 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. have you denied the importation)? [Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023]

2022 N/A

2023 N/A

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 for verifications 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. If you have been using IT systems developed by third countries allowing for a full or partial verification⁴² of catch certificates, please indicate these countries and the number of verifications that were made through their systems (at least approximately)? *479*

³⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁰ Please note that assistance requests for verifications sent to countries other than flag States should be listed under point 7.4.

⁴¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁴² Please indicate if you use these IT systems already as part of your checks (not verifications) of catch certificates.

Section 8. Information on refusal of importations (Article 18 of the IUU Regulation)⁴³

8.1. Has your country refused any imports from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? *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	2022		2023	
	Flag State ⁴⁴	Number	Flag State ⁴⁵	Number
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 point 8.1 is yes, what measures were taken by your authorities in relation to the consignments refused (Article 18.3)? Please also quote the national legal basis for the measures taken.

⁴³ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁴⁵ 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

Not applicable (absence of refusals in 2022-2023)

If yes, please provide details:

Section 9. Information on trade flows⁴⁶

Please provide information and relevant import figures, 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 2020-2021: N/A

Section 10. Information on mutual assistance⁴⁷

10.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, how many mutual assistance messages of the Commission (DG MARE B4) has your country replied to?⁴⁸

Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023 (if any)

2022 4

2023 7

From the numbers above, please specify in how many cases you took action and describe the actions taken.

10.2. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country sent any mutual assistance message to the Commission/other Member States?

Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023 (if any)

2022 No

2023 No

Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries⁴⁹

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

⁴⁶ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁷ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁸ 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.

⁴⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

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

Refer to Section 12.2 for information provided for the vessel [REDACTED]. This vessel has been added to the North Pacific Fisheries Committee (NPFC) IUU list in 2023.

FMC sighting reports sent to fisheries authorities regarding IUU activities of Turkish fishing vessels (See table below)

Number	Flag State	2022			2023		
		Date	Vessel Name	ICCAT/GFCM	Date	Vessel Name	ICCAT/GFCM
1	Israel	13/02	[REDACTED]	N/A	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
2	Turkey	25/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
3	Turkey	26/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
4	Turkey	26/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
5	Turkey	26/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
6	Turkey	26/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
7	Turkey	26/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
8	Turkey	27/05	[REDACTED]	GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
9	Turkey	04/07	[REDACTED]	GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
10	Turkey	04/07	[REDACTED]	GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
11	Turkey	05/07	[REDACTED]	GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM
12	Turkey	05/07	[REDACTED]	GFCM	17/05	[REDACTED]	ICCAT & GFCM

13	Turkey	05/07		GFCM	17/05		ICCAT & GFCM
14	Turkey	13/07		GFCM	17/05		ICCAT & GFCM
15	Turkey	26/07		GFCM	18/05		ICCAT
16	Turkey	29/07		GFCM	18/05		ICCAT
17	Turkey	29/07		GFCM	20/05		ICCAT
18	Turkey	29/07		GFCM	20/05		ICCAT
19	Turkey	18/08		GFCM	20/05		ICCAT
20	Turkey	29/08		GFCM	20/05		ICCAT
21	Turkey	29/08		GFCM	20/05		ICCAT
22	Turkey	30/08		GFCM	20/05		ICCAT
23	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
24	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
25	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
26	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
27	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
28	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
29	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
30	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT

31	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
32	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
33	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
34	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
35	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
36	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
37	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
38	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
39	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
40	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
41	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
42	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
43	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
44	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
45	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
46	Turkey				20/05		ICCAT
47	Turkey				25/05		ICCAT
48	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
49	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
50	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT

51	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
52	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
53	Turkey				27/05		GFCM
54	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
55	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
56	Turkey				28/05		ICCAT
57	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
58	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT & GFCM
59	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
60	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
61	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
62	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
63	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
64	Turkey				27/05		ICCAT
65	Turkey				01/06		ICCAT
66	Turkey				01/06		ICCAT
67	Turkey				05/06		ICCAT
68	Turkey				05/06		ICCAT
69	Turkey				05/06		ICCAT

70	Turkey				07/06		ICCAT
71	Turkey				07/06		GFCM
72	Turkey				07/06		ICCAT
73	Turkey				07/06		ICCAT
74	Turkey				07/06		ICCAT
75	Turkey				07/06		GFCM
76	Turkey				17/07		GFCM
77	Turkey				17/07		GFCM
78	Turkey				17/07		GFCM

Section 12. Information on nationals⁵⁰

12.1. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, 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 provide details: In communication with other government services to retain information concerning nationals that have direct or indirect links with vessels that have been identifying as supporting IUU activities. Information has also been collected using the Lloyds Seasearcher Maritime intelligence along with freely accessible internet sources.

12.2. Have there been any cases of nationals of your country engaging in or supporting IUU fishing, including by engagement on board or as operators or beneficial owners of fishing vessels included in the EU IUU vessel list?

Yes No

If yes, please provide details: In July 2022 DFMR received information that the vessel [redacted] flagged in Siera Leone, operated by [redacted] was involved in possible illegal and unregulated fishing in the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the North Pacific Ocean. Based on this information, investigation started, after communication with the secretariat of the regional organization as well as with the control authorities in Japan who sent an email with the details of the administration and photos obtained while in patrol on patrol in the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources. The Japanese authorities made a sighting and a related entry in which the vessel [redacted] was seen refueling the Chinese fishing vessel [redacted] at [redacted]. The photographs clearly showed that there was activity at sea between the two vessels. Based on

⁵⁰ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

the management rules of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, vessels supplying fuel to fishing vessels on the high seas must be registered on a regional organization vessel list, something that the vessel [redacted] did not fulfil. Based on the information received by the Japanese control services, DFMR also cross-referenced data on the position of the vessels in the electronic IMS system of EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) and identified the movements of the [redacted] and the Chinese fishing vessel [redacted] to comply with the sighting made by the Japanese authorities. Additionally, during the check performed in the IMS electronic system, the vessel [redacted] was identified on a total of 13 occasions between June and July 2022 approaching and sailing for some time alongside Chinese fishing vessels. It is noted that the vessel [redacted] has since changed both her flag from Siera Leone to Togo but also her name from [redacted] to [redacted]

12.3. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country taken any action with regard to its nationals who have been identified as supporting or engaged in IUU fishing?

Yes *No*

If yes, please provide details: A fine of €20.000,00 was issued but not settled and therefore a criminal procedure has been initiated for a court trial.

12.4. What measures has your country taken to encourage nationals to notify any information on interests in third country fishing vessels (Article 40(1))?

DFMR has launched a procedure with publishing a template of sighting reports ([https://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/dfmr/dfmr.nsf/All/CC6DBCD252C29021C22582F8003DF987/\\$file/SightingReportTemplate_EN.pdf](https://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/dfmr/dfmr.nsf/All/CC6DBCD252C29021C22582F8003DF987/$file/SightingReportTemplate_EN.pdf)) requesting public to provide information on sighting of third country fishing vessels within Cyprus EEZ.

12.5. Has your country endeavoured to obtain information on arrangements between nationals and third countries allowing reflagging of their fishing vessels in accordance with Article 40(4)?

Yes *No*

If yes, please provide details: Vessels flying the flag of Cyprus cannot be re-flagged without prior approval from the Director of DFMR.

12.6. 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 EU IUU vessel list (Article 40(2))?

Yes *No*

If yes, please provide details:

12.7. Has your country made use of Article 40(3) and removed public aid under national aid regimes or under EU funds to operators involved in the operation, management or ownership of fishing vessels included in the EU IUU vessel list?

Yes *No*

If yes, please provide details: For any funding proposal a check is made by the competent authority (Fisheries control section) to ensure that the operator is not involved in IUU activities and that the vessel has no penalty points assigned.

Section 13. Serious infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation)⁵¹

13.1. Has your country detected serious infringements as defined in Article 42 of the IUU Regulation from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Yes *No*

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

Flag State of the fishing vessel or nationality of the operator (EU and non-EU) ⁵²	Serious infringements detected in 2022:			Serious infringements detected in 2023:		
	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied
<i>Turkey</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Fishing in EU waters without authorization</i>	<i>Vessels were sighted through FMC sighting reports and send to FLAG state for action</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>Fishing in EU waters without authorization</i>	<i>Vessels were sighted through FMC sighting reports and send to FLAG state for action</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>21</i>			<i>78</i>		

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

Yes *No*

If yes, please provide details: Cyprus applied its levels of administrative sanctions in accordance with Article 44. For this reason, please find below the relative link regarding Appendix II - White Bible – Infringement List, with reference to a list of set of infringements with a minimum and a maximum amount.

<http://www.moa.gov.cy/moa/dfmr/dfmr.nsf/All/C235BBA4D9D09C5BC22582F800308139?OpenDocument>

Taking into consideration the level of infringement, the repetition sequence, the type and value of fishery products, DFMR Inspectors impose sanctions to low level infringements that have no repetition sequence and refer to low value fishery products. For repeating infringements, for infringements dealing with high value products or products that are under conservation measures, those are being

⁵¹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁵² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

forwarded to the Director that takes all these into consideration and oppose fines exceeding at least five times the value of the fishery products obtained. According to the infringement the Director might order criminal procedures and lead the case to the Court of Law.

It is important to mention that the Council of Ministers has voted an amendment for the maximum fine price increase on the 18th of January 2023. This was passed to the parliament according to the government's procedures on the 17th of February 2023 who is due to decide.

Have you used criminal sanctions? If yes, please specify if in addition to or in replacement of administrative sanctions: *Please refer to the answer above.*

Section 14. Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)⁵³

14.1. Has your country issued sighting reports from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Yes No

If yes, how many sighting reports were issued by your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Flag State of the sighted fishing vessel (EU and non-EU)	Number of sighting reports issued in 2022	Number of sighting reports issued in 2023
Israel	1	
Turkey	21	78
Total	22	78

14.2. Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country received any sighting reports for fishing vessels flying its own flag from other competent authorities?

Yes No

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

Please refer to section 12.2

Section 15. General

14.1. During the reporting period 2022-2023, what have been the main difficulties that your country has encountered in implementing the IUU Regulation, including the catch certification scheme?

Illegal activities of Turkish vessels within the Cyprus EEZ have been the biggest Issue for which we could not take remedial measures due to the actions of Turkey. In relation to catch certification scheme, definitely the Brexit caused many difficulties and additional burden to the Department as there were a lot of consignments linked directly or indirectly to the Great Britain, as well as a some of

⁵³ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

the consignments contained products that were caught before the Brexit. There was confusion at the beginning as new importers/exporters have been involved.

Section 16. Any other comment

Regarding the measures on nationals, it is recognized that this is a difficult task. However, actions are made with cooperation to other Authorities to facilitate the identification of nationals that are possibly involved with IUU activities. In any case we would appreciate your assistance regarding this particular task with possible good practices that other Member states have in place. We have passed all information regarding the difficulties for this provision to the experts that are conducting the study. Cyprus is currently in the procedure of reevaluating the procedures for IUU Regulation implementation taking into account the recent recruitment of one Fisheries Officer and the additional recruitments within the next year. This assessment includes changes in legislation.

• • •