

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

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

<b>Member State:</b>	Czech Republic
<b>Organisation:</b>	General Directorate of Customs, Ministry of Agriculture
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Name, position and contact details of responsible official:</b>	

<b>May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to other Member States?</b>	
<b>Yes:</b>	x
<b>Yes except for questions (list):</b>	
<b>No:</b>	
<b>May the Commission provide a copy of this questionnaire to the European Fisheries Control Agency for a horizontal assessment<sup>1</sup>?</b>	
<b>Yes:</b>	x
<b>Yes except for questions (list):</b>	
<b>No:</b>	

**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&gid=1701963740421>

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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Please state your notified authorities under the IUU Regulation in accordance with Article 39(4) (nationals):**

Ministry of Agriculture

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**Section 1. Information on legal framework<sup>2</sup>**

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.*

**Section 2. Information on administrative organisation<sup>3</sup>**

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);*

There are 15 regional customs offices which are designated to conduct checks and verifications of catch certificates submitted for this purpose by importers or exporters. If doubts as to the validity or correctness of data provided in the catch certificate arise during the verification, the findings are reported to the central office, the General Directorate of Customs. This information is assessed by the central office and, if necessary, a request for assistance is sent to a third country. The outcome of the request for assistance is reported back to the customs office and based on the information provided in the reply the importation is either authorised or denied.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.).

The Ministry of Agriculture is the designated authority to implement Chapter VIII regarding nationals and to impose sanctions laid down in Chapter IX of the Commission Regulation No 1005/2008.

*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.*

.....  
.....  
.....

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; 2,5 FTE
- 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. 0,1 FTE

.....  
.....  
.....

2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports<sup>4</sup> 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.*

[Svobodná celní pásma povolená v ČR akt k 1 6 2020.pdf \(celnisprava.cz\)](#)

**Section 3. Information on access to ports, including for landings and transshipments of fishery products, by third country fishing vessels<sup>5</sup> (and information on related port inspections and confirmed infringements)<sup>6</sup>**

<sup>4</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/taxation\\_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/business/customs-procedures/what-is-importation/free-zones_en)

<sup>5</sup> Fishing vessels as defined in article 2(5) of the IUU Regulation.

<sup>6</sup> This section 3 refers to Chapter II (Articles 4 to 11) of the IUU Regulation and is applicable to coastal Member States. Landlocked Member States should not fill in this section.

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 Regulation<sup>7</sup>)?

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](mailto: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?<sup>8</sup>

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) <sup>9</sup>					Total
			Example: IS	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	
Landings	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					
		Number of inspections	10					
		% of inspections / landings	10%					
		Number of infringements	3					
Transshipments	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transshipments in ports	2					
		Number of inspections	0					
		% of inspections / transshipments	0					
		Number of infringements	0					

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

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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) <sup>10</sup>					Total
			Example: IS	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	
Landings	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of landings	100					
		Number of inspections	10					
		% of inspections / landings	10%					
		Number of infringements	3					
Transhipments	Third country vessels using MS designated ports	Number of transhipments in ports	2					
		Number of inspections	2					
		% of inspections / transhipments	100%					
		Number of infringements	0					

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):

Flag of the third country vessel <sup>11</sup>	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			
FS2			
...			
FSx			

Please fill-in the table below (2023):

Flag of the third country vessel <sup>12</sup>	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			

<sup>10</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>11</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>12</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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):*

Landings in 2022		Landings in 2023	
Flag of the third country vessel that caught the fish <sup>13</sup>	Landed quantities by species <sup>14</sup> (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel that caught the fish <sup>15</sup>	Landed quantities by species <sup>14</sup> (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	...

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

Transhipments in 2022		Transhipments in 2023	
Flag of the third country vessel <sup>16</sup>	Transhipped quantities by species <sup>14</sup> (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel <sup>17</sup>	Transhipped quantities by species <sup>14</sup> (weight in tonnes)
FS1	Species 1:	FS1	Species 1:

<sup>13</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>14</sup> Please use the FAO Alpha-3 codes (ASFIS).

<sup>15</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>16</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>17</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

	Species 2: Species x:		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]

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/transhipments 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 importation<sup>18</sup>**

4.1. How many catch certificates<sup>19</sup> 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.<sup>20</sup> 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) <sup>21</sup>	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate <sup>22</sup>	Simplified catch certificate <sup>23</sup>	Annex II catch certificate <sup>22</sup>	Simplified catch certificate <sup>23</sup>
AR	6		8	
CA	8		9	
CL	1		-	
CN	20		24	
EC	68		74	
FO	-		5	
GB	13		19	
GH	5		19	
GL	9		5	
ID	15		1	
IL	1		-	
IN	1		1	
IS	94		155	
KI	1		-	
KR	11		5	
LK	1		-	
MA	135		112	
MR	-		1	

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

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> If catch certificates are submitted only for transshipment purposes, please specify.

<sup>21</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>22</sup> Based on Annex II to the IUU Regulation

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



Flag State (non-EU) <sup>21</sup>	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate <sup>22</sup>	Simplified catch certificate <sup>23</sup>	Annex II catch certificate <sup>22</sup>	Simplified catch certificate <sup>23</sup>
MU	-		1	
MV	17		6	
NA	-		1	
NI	1		7	
NO	24		25	
NZ	-		2	
PA	22		31	
PE	1		2	
PH	26		27	
RU	104		111	
SV	3		6	
TH	-		2	
TW	5		6	
US	88		67	
UY	-		1	
VN	38		51	
<b>Total</b>	<b>718</b>		<b>784</b>	

We do not keep records if the catch certificate is a simplified one or a “regular” one.

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>	-	-
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	-	-
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-

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
DK	2	1
EE	-	1

Flag State (EU)	2022	2023
ES	18	18
FR	-	5
IE	1	-
LV	-	1
NL	1	-
SE	2	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>

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>	-	-
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>	-	-
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-

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 State <sup>24</sup>	2022	2023
BY	2	-
CI	-	7
CN	21	59
CO	2	-
EC	66	97
GB	118	192
IS	3	-
KR	4	6
MA	1	-
MU	2	-
TH	-	2
UA	14	7
US	3	1

<sup>24</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<b>Processing non-EU State<sup>24</sup></b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
VN	14	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>385</b>

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.

This data cannot be obtained from our records.

<b>Non-EU State concerned<sup>25</sup> – single transport document</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<i>S 1</i>		
<i>S 2</i>		
...		
<i>S x</i>		
<i>Total</i>		

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.

This data cannot be obtained from our records.

<b>Non-EU State issuing a document in line with Article 14.1.b.ii<sup>26</sup></b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<i>S 1</i>		
<i>S 2</i>		
...		
<i>S x</i>		
<i>Total</i>		

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*

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

<sup>26</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

*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:

In 2022: .....

In 2023: .....

4.10. Has your country received requests to authorise APEOs<sup>27</sup> 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:

<b>Destination country (non-EU)<sup>28</sup></b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
RU	1	-
UA	-	2
XS	11	9
<b>Total</b>	12	11

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

<sup>28</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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:

The movement of the goods is monitored by the EU nationwide customs system called Export Control System.

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4.14. 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*

4.15. 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 exportation<sup>29</sup>**

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.

.....

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 <sup>30, 31</sup>	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

*Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023)*

5.5. Has your country refused the validation of a catch certificate between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2023?

Yes  No

<sup>29</sup> Section to be filled-in by flag Member States.

<sup>30</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

Not applicable (e.g. in the absence of request for validation of catch certificates for exportation in 2022-2023)

If yes, please provide details on:

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 Regulation<sup>32</sup>**

**Please note:** points 6.1 to 6.3 in this Section refer to checks of catch certificates in accordance with Article 16(1) whereas points 6.4 to 6.11 refer to verifications of catch certificates in accordance with Article 17.

The clear separation between checks and verifications in this Section thus reflects the provisions of the mentioned Articles of the IUU Regulation.

**It is therefore important to provide the requested information in line with this separation.**

6.1. Has your country established a procedure for checks of catch certificates in accordance with Article 16(1)?

Yes

No

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

The documents were provided under the previous reporting exercise. No new guidelines were adopted.

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. (i) if all required data are provided in a catch certificate and (ii) if these data correspond to the notification from the flag State in question<sup>33</sup>)?

Yes

No

If you do not check all catch certificates as indicated above (i.e. for data completeness and correspondence with information from the flag State notification) and instead you apply risk management for checks, please provide the following:

- risks identified in 2022 and 2023 on the basis of risk management used to check catch certificates, and
- number of catch certificates checked:

Please fill-in the table below:

Flag State (EU or non-EU) <sup>34</sup>	2022	2023
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<sup>32</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>33</sup> Based on comparison of the information in the catch certificate with the information provided in the flag State notification available to Member States authorities on the Commission website (in CIRCABC database).

<sup>34</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

	<b>Overall number of catch certificates received</b>	<b>Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u></b>	<b>Overall number of catch certificates received</b>	<b>Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u></b>
<i>Country 1</i>				
<i>Country 2</i>				
...				
<i>Country x</i>				
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 detail<sup>35</sup>: .....

Customs officers in charge of catch certificate verifications have to check whether the authority which has validated the catch certificate is the competent authority notified to the Commission, if the catch certificate form corresponds to the notified specimen and then the authenticity of stamps and signatures is verified.

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.

The documents were provided under the previous reporting exercise. No new guidelines were adopted.

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): .....

.....

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



If you apply national criteria, please detail them and the methodology used<sup>36</sup>: .....

.....

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 used<sup>37</sup>:

The verification of catch certificates includes the following steps. The data of the catch certificate is cross-checked with the data provided in the accompanying documents (invoice, veterinary certificate, transport documents). The customs officers also have to check whether the data entered in the catch certificate follow a chronological order. Furthermore, the compliance with various RFMO's rules is verified (inclusion on the RFMO vessel list, rules pertaining to transshipment, closure periods etc.). If a third country is pre-identified, a special attention is paid to the issues raised in the decision on pre-identification. As of 2021, the advantage has been taking of the availability of vessel tracking tool, the IMS system. The IMS system is used if doubts arise about the vessel position during the fishing trip mentioned in the catch certificate.

The physical inspection of the means of transport is not part of the verification procedure but if deemed necessary it can be carried out at a later stage when the goods are presented for customs clearance.

Although we do not apply risk management which would assess, based on risk criteria, the significance of risk relating to each submitted catch certificate, the Risk areas application was developed to support the verification procedure. The application displays certain information relevant to the verification procedure (information on pre-identification, mutual assistance letters, some RFMO's rules, IUU vessel list) after entering the vessel's name, flag state, species, etc. in the respective search fields. Customs officers are obliged to use this tool every time they carry out the catch certificate verification.

The physical inspection of the means of transport is not part of the verification procedure but if deemed necessary it can be carried out at a later stage when the goods are presented for customs clearance.

If the verification reveals inconsistencies or discrepancies which cannot be resolved a request for assistance to a flag state or a third country concerned is launched and the importation is suspended pending the outcome of the verification.

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:

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

<sup>37</sup> Please provide a complete and accurate description

Flag State (EU or non-EU) <sup>38</sup>	2022		2023	
	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>verified</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>verified</u>
<i>Country 1</i>				
<i>Country 2</i>				
...				
<i>Country x</i>				
Total				

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)?
- b) How many catch certificates have you verified on the basis of risk identified in accordance with Article 17(3)?
- c) How many catch certificates have been verified at random (Article 17(5))?

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:* .....
- b) *Method of selection of consignments:* .....

The physical examination is not part of the verification procedure, nevertheless the consignment can be physically examined at the time of customs clearance.

<b>Section 7. Assistance requests to third countries<sup>39</sup></b>
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7.1. Have you sent assistance requests for verifications under Article 17(6) of the IUU Regulation to flag States' authorities in 2022-2023<sup>40</sup>?

- Yes                       No

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

<sup>38</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>39</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

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

<b>Flag States<sup>41</sup></b>	<b>Number of assistance requests for verifications 2022</b>	<b>Justification (please provide a brief description)</b>	<b>Number of assistance requests for verifications 2023</b>	<b>Justification (please provide a brief description)</b>
RU	2	Processing plant involved in document forgery	1	Processing plant involved in document forgery
EC			1	Doubts over the compliance with IATTC rules
GH	1	Fishing activities carried out in EEZ of coastal states without authorization.	1	Fishing activities carried out in EEZ of coastal states without authorization.
VT			1	Weight inconsistencies
FO			1	The stamp and the template did not match the ones notified under the IUU Regulation.
PA	2	Weight inconsistencies.	-	
NO	1	The catch certificate could not be verified through the website.	-	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>6</b>	

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 .....0

2023 .....0

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, the quality of the answers provided was deemed satisfactory.

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<sup>41</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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.

A request for assistance was sent to the authorities of China because the processing plant mentioned in the processing statement was involved in document forgery. The reply provided was satisfactory.

7.5. If you have been using IT systems developed by third countries allowing for a full or partial verification<sup>42</sup> of catch certificates, please indicate these countries and the number of verifications that were made through their systems (at least approximately)?

Where available these IT systems were used.

**Section 8. Information on refusal of importations (Article 18 of the IUU Regulation)<sup>43</sup>**

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 <sup>44</sup>	Number	Flag State <sup>45</sup>	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				

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

<sup>43</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>44</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<sup>45</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Reason for refusal of importation	2022		2023	
	Flag State <sup>44</sup>	Number	Flag State <sup>45</sup>	Number
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.

.....

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)*

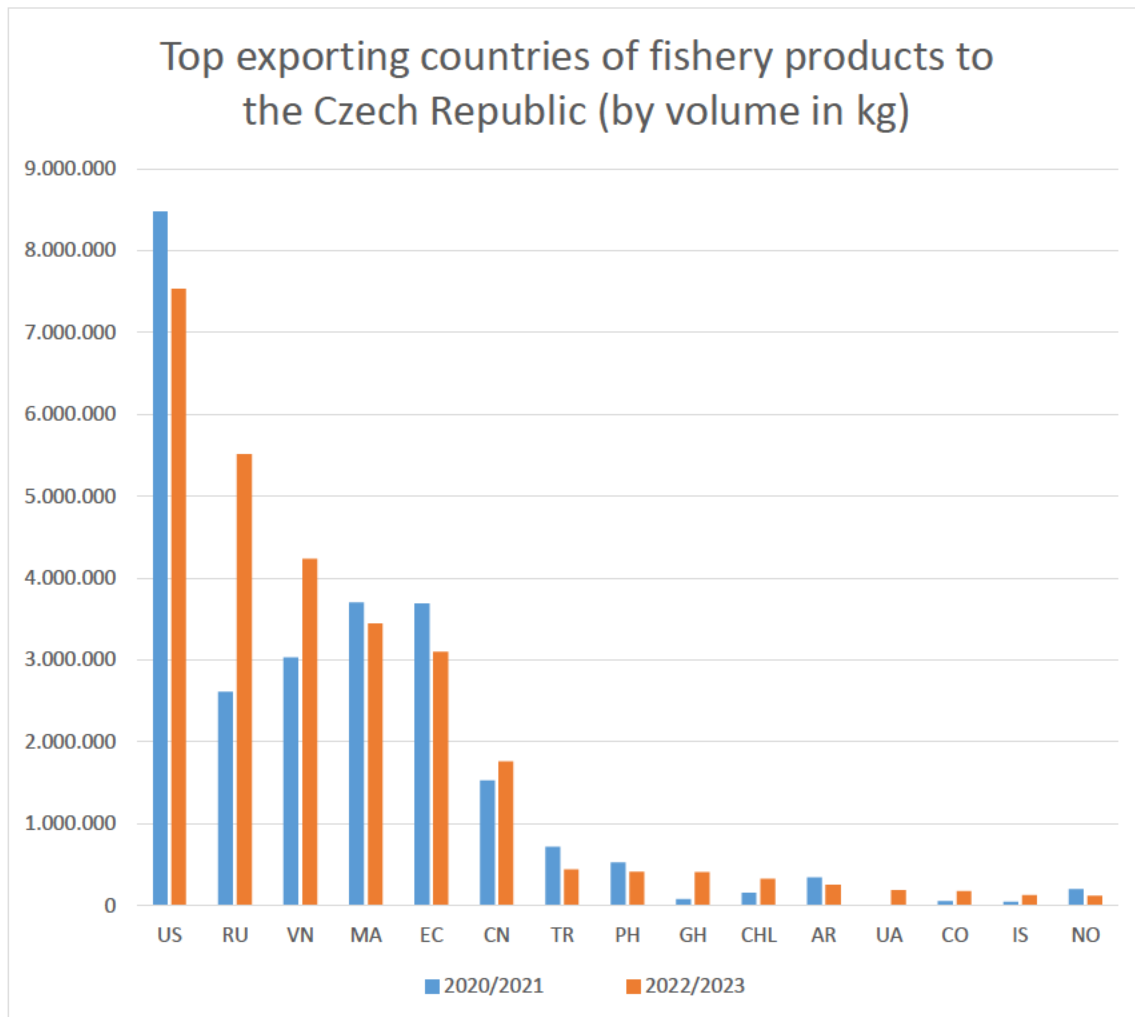
If yes, please provide details: .....

### **Section 9. Information on trade flows<sup>46</sup>**

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: .....

The majority of fishery products imported to the Czech Republic in the period 2022-2023 originated in countries such as United States, Russia, Vietnam and Morocco. In comparison with the previous reporting period, the top five exporting countries remained the same. There was a noticeable increase in imports from Russia.

<sup>46</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States



**Section 10. Information on mutual assistance<sup>47</sup>**

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?<sup>48</sup>

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

2022 .....

2023 .....

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

We believe that all the mutual assistance messages relevant for the Czech Republic were replied to. Unfortunately, the statistics are not available for the reporting exercise.

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?

<sup>47</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>48</sup> 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.

Please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023 (if any)0

2022.....0

2023.....0.

**Section 11. Information on cooperation with third countries<sup>49</sup>**

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 provide details (please provide separate data for 2022 and 2023, if any).

.....

**Section 12. Information on nationals<sup>50</sup>**

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: .....

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: .....

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: .....

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))?

.....

<sup>49</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>50</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

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: .....

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: .....

**Section 13. Serious infringements (Chapter IX of the IUU Regulation)<sup>51</sup>**

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) <sup>52</sup>	Serious infringements detected in 2022:			Serious infringements detected in 2023:		
	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied	Number	Nature	Sanctions applied
<i>Country 1</i>						
<i>Country 2</i>						
...						
<i>Country x</i>						
<i>Total</i>						

<sup>51</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>52</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.



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

Yes  No

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

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

**Section 14. Sightings (Chapter X of the IUU Regulation)<sup>53</sup>**

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) <sup>54</sup>	Number of sighting reports issued in 2022	Number of sighting reports issued in 2023
<i>Country 1</i>		
<i>Country 2</i>		
...		
<i>Country x</i>		
<i>Total</i>		

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).

.....

**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?

.....

<sup>53</sup> Section to be filled-in by all Member States

<sup>54</sup> ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

**Section 16. Any other comment**

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.....  
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