

**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:	ITALY
Organisation:	DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR FISHERIES AND ACQUACOLTURE
Date:	30 APRIL 2024
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	[REDACTED] – [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):

- COAST GUARD (CG);
- CUSTOMS (ADM);
- VET BORDER SERVICE.

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

ADDED:

① *General Directorate for fisheries:*

- *Note n. 8962 dated 10th January 2023 on “art.14.2 and 21 Reg. 2008/1005. Ri-export of fisheries products imported and processed in Italy”*

② *Coast Guard HQ: please note that the following documents are strategic for control activities; therefore, public dissemination is not permitted.*

- *Note n. 153270 dated 17th November 2022 on “art. 15 and 21 Reg. (EC) 2008/1005. Competences to validate catch certificates and re-export certificates. Accreditation for Japan”;*
- *Note n. 3677 dated 11th January 2023 on “art.14.2 and 21 Reg. 2008/1005. Ri-export of fisheries products imported and processed in Italy”;*
- *Note n. 41545 dated 30th March 2023 on “IUU - identification of Cameroon as non-cooperating third country and verification of fish products coming from Ivory Coast”;*
- *Note n. 58778 dated 8th May 2023 on “art. 15 and 21 Reg. (EC) 2008/1005. Competences to validate catch certificates and re-export certificates”;*
- *Note n. 98581 on 25th July 2023 on “IUU - Alerts for control activities on fish products from Third Countries”;*
- *Note n. 104228 on 7th August 2023 on “art. 15 and 21 Reg. (EC) 2008/1005. Competences to validate catch certificates and re-export certificates. Catch Certificate Scheme Japan”;*
- *Note n. 122106 on 20th September 2023 on “beneficial owners of fishing vessels flying the flag of non-cooperating third countries”;*
- *Note n. 130227 dated 5th October 2023 on “IUU - importations of highly migratory species from Senegal”;*
- *Note n. 130240 dated 5th October 2023 on “IUU – importations from Guinea. FV «SEA FRONTIER»”;*
- *Note n. 130249 dated 5th October 2023 on “IUU - ICCAT black list. Errata corrige”;*
- *Note n. 145753 dated 7th November 2023 on “IUU - Alerts for control activities on fish products from Third Countries”.*

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);

According to the above mentioned legal framework, port inspections are carried out by Coast Guard personnel if a third country fishing vessel decides to land in Italian designated ports. In these cases checks and verifications of catch certificates are carried out by local Coast Guard Offices and the results of inspection are sent to Customs for final authorization of import.

If the fisheries products are carried by container vessel or different means other than fishing vessels Custom is the designated Authority that should carry out checks and verifications of catch certificates for imports. Anyway, joint controls are carried out.

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.

- catch certification scheme (Chapter III);

Custom has its own risk analysis digital platform and if warning / alert is sent, due to parameters setted, agents can ask a support by Coast Guard Regional Command in order to have a sharp lookout on documents submitted by the importer.

Validation of catch certificates for exports of fisheries products caught in Italy / validation of re-exports are done by local Coast Guard Offices.

- nationals (Chapter VIII).

According to Italian law, Coast Guard Fisheries Control Centre holds the national register of infringements and informs the Directorate General for Fisheries and Acquacolture about activities of Nationals for subsequent notifications to the Commission.

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's a daily or periodic exchange of information between DG - HQ - CUSTOM and peripheral offices especially in case of doubts, warnings or if a mutual assistance procedure should be launched with third country Authorities. Central Authorities defines circulars in order to harmonize procedures that each office should follow.

- 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.).*

As in the previous paragraph. Of course, all the actors (even Navy and Italian fishermen) can support the struggle against IUU reporting illegal activities eventually seen. Processing statement (Annex IV) should be signed by local health authority (ASL) before CG's validation in case of export of Italian fisheries products.

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.

The tripartite agreement between DG – CG HQ and CUSTOMS expired on 30th of June 2022. Talks are ongoing for the renewal of the agreement.

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;*

85 CG officials (about 5 for each Maritime Direction, in support of Customs office) strictly for CG competences, but not full time involved in this task – FTE 0.2 (please take in account duties as described);

- 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.

85 CG officials – FTE 0.2

There are approximately 2,500 officials responsible for customs controls in the area.

2.3. Does your country have freezones/freeports⁴ 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.

have been formally established (https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-08/FZ%20LIST%2017%20August%202022_CLEAN.pdf) but not yet operational

Section 3. Information on access to ports, including for landings and transhipments 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 transhipment 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

The total number of TC fishing vessel that used IT ports is:

2022: 15 (5 Libyan and 10 Algerian);

2023: 24 (15 Algerian, 7 Libyan, 1 Albanian and 1 Tunisian).

Moreover, in 2023 there was one case where a third country fishing vessel (Morocco), not recorded in the IUU list of vessels, called an Italian not designated port due to bad sea weather conditions.

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

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 transhipment operation is foreseen. Third country fishing vessels shall only access ports designated in accordance with Article 5.

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): *not applicable. No landings and transshipments*

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					
			Example: IS	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	Total
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					

Please fill-in the table below (2023): *not applicable. No landings and transshipments*

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					
			Example: IS	FS1	FS2	FS3	FSx	Total
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	2					
		% of inspections / transshipments	100%					
		Number of infringements	0					

⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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): *not applicable.*

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

Please fill-in the table below (2023): *not applicable.*

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: *not applicable.*

- 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):

¹¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Please fill-in the table below (landings):

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	...

Please fill-in the table below (transhipments):

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	...

¹³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

¹⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁷ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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 transhipment 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
AG		1		
AL		1.094		656
AR		956		960
AU		8		7
BA		3		1
BZ		34		14
CA		772		677
CC				1
CH				1
CI		244		183
CL		176		267
CN		1.394		1.150
CO		287		226
CU				2
CV		21		4
CW		17		
DZ		22		52
EC		823		697
EG		1		
FK		3		1
FO		17		6
GB		267		336
GH		217		258
GL				1
GM		157		53
HK		8		1
ID		1.246		989
IN		2.307		1.822
IR		1		

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

IS	14	8
JP	22	33
KE	62	46
KI	7	
KR	281	273
LB		2
LK	2.397	1.603
MA	3.877	3.272
MG	14	24
MM	69	41
MR	149	89
MU	571	449
MV	662	466
MX	86	69
MY	29	13
MZ	12	5
NA	489	400
NC	1	
NI	7	16
NO	141	220
NZ	107	75
OM	131	99
PA	78	62
PE	993	719
PF	2	
PG	254	185
PH	450	261
PK		8
RU	190	102
SB	170	82
SC	210	206
SN	1.708	809
SV	543	169
SY	4	8
TH	2.838	1.241
TN	4.061	2.573
TR	443	239
TW	47	33
TZ	6	4
UA	7	
US	2.351	2.143
UY	3	2
VA	1	
VE		1
VN	494	296

YE	77	66
ZA	1.051	941
Total	35.185	25.718

N.B. The data does not distinguish between the simplified CC and the Annex II CC as the customs information system does not allow this distinction to be made, considering that the only document code present in TARIC is C673 (catch certificate).

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>	124(CA)+35(DZ)+116(MA)+24(NO)+107(TN). The numbers only refer to the transactions, accompanied by an eBCD originated by a Third Country. However, in all the cases the transactions occurred between another MS and Italy and never between the concerned Third Country and Italy.	288(CA)+128(MA)+5(NO)+85(TN)+3(TR). The numbers only refer to the transactions, accompanied by an eBCD originated by a Third Country. However, among them only 8 transactions occurred between the concerned Third Country (Canada) and Italy. In the other cases the transactions occurred between another MS and Italy
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>		
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>		
Total	406	509

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
BE		3
ES	352	206
EU	1	3
FR	92	101
GR	9	8
HR	248	221
IT	761	474
NL		1
PT	2	3
SE	4	
Total	1.469	1.020

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.

N.B. Since the eBCD issued by MSs does not enter the Custom circuit the below transactions accompanied by eBCDs should be added to the number reported in the table above.

RFMO document	2022	2023
<i>ICCAT (electronic)-bluefin tuna catch document</i>	100(CY)+2727(ES)+1411(FR)+1867(GR)+200(HR)+35(MT). The numbers only refer to the transactions, accompanied by an eBCD originated by another MS, occurred between another MS (which could be other than the catching MS) and Italy.	117(CY)+3535(ES)+2156(FR)+1884(GR)+144(HR)+1(IE)+353(MT)+154(PT). The numbers only refer to the transactions, accompanied by an eBCD originated by another MS, occurred between another MS (which could be other than the catching MS) and Italy.
<i>Dissostichus spp. (CCAMLR)</i>		
<i>CCSBT CDS</i>		
Total	6340	8644

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

N.B. The data is not available for ADM as the document is not codified in the TARIC customs tariff.

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>		
<i>S 2</i>		
...		
<i>S x</i>		
<i>Total</i>		

N.B. The data is not available for ADM as the document is not codified in the TARIC customs tariff.

²⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

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

N.B. The data is not available for ADM as the document is not codified in the TARIC customs tariff.

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:

In 2022: 2

In 2023: 2.

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)

²⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

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>AE</i>		4
<i>AL</i>	1	-
<i>AU</i>	2	-
<i>TN</i>	-	1
<i>US</i>	10	2
<i>XK</i>	-	1
Total	13	8

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?

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)

N.B. Customs offices generally carry out customs checks on CCs when products are released for free circulation, i.e. at the place of final destination of transit.

²⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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.

CG Officials, according to circular "IUU n. 003", should check, before validating a catch certificate:

- a. Compatibility of fishes caught with fishing gears authorized in licence;*
- b. Landing declaration and logbook;*
- c. History track of fishing vessel, during fishing trip concerned, if satellite or VHF localization is available;*
- d. Sales note, transport declaration and eventually other commercial documents*

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
AL	338	335
AE	67	42
CH	3	1
GB	39	158
HK	16	10
MA	-	7
NO	18	3
PH	2	2
SC	23	12
SG	2	1
TH	8	4
TN	352	350
US	48	23
Total	916	948

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.

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*

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 Regulation³²

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.

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 question³³)?

Yes *No*

³² Section to be filled-in by all Member States

³³ 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).

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:

N.B. The risks identified in 2022 and 2023 were mainly connected to the project currently underway and to the alerts received from the competent national authority. There are other profiles for selecting controls on fishery products (e.g. origin, bans, tariff, sanitary, under-invoicing) but not strictly linked to the verification of catch certificates.

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>
AG	1			
AL	1.094	80	656	58
AR	956	225	960	9
AU	8	1	7	
BA	3	1	1	
BZ	34	1	14	
CA	772	8	677	1
CC			1	1
CH			1	
CI	244	17	183	13
CL	176	118	267	223
CN	1.394	120	1.150	90
CO	287	26	226	11
CU			2	
CV	21	10	4	3
CW	17	1		
DZ	22	1	52	
EC	823	44	697	21
EG	1			
FK	3	1	1	
FO	17		6	
GB	267	25	336	11
GH	217	26	258	12

³⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

<i>GL</i>			1	
<i>GM</i>	157		53	2
<i>HK</i>	8		1	
<i>ID</i>	1.246	148	989	54
<i>IN</i>	2.307	273	1.822	241
<i>IR</i>	1			
<i>IS</i>	14	2	8	
<i>JP</i>	22	2	33	
<i>KE</i>	62	3	46	1
<i>KI</i>	7	3		
<i>KR</i>	281	101	273	56
<i>LB</i>			2	
<i>LK</i>	2.397	885	1.603	992
<i>MA</i>	3.877	139	3.272	52
<i>MG</i>	14	2	24	
<i>MM</i>	69		41	
<i>MR</i>	149	4	89	2
<i>MU</i>	571	64	449	15
<i>MV</i>	662	5	466	2
<i>MX</i>	86	4	69	3
<i>MY</i>	29	1	13	
<i>MZ</i>	12		5	1
<i>NA</i>	489	223	400	75
<i>NC</i>	1			
<i>NI</i>	7	1	16	1
<i>NO</i>	141	2	220	3
<i>NZ</i>	107	2	75	4
<i>OM</i>	131	2	99	3
<i>PA</i>	78	14	62	4
<i>PE</i>	993	53	719	14
<i>PF</i>	2	1		
<i>PG</i>	254	37	185	5
<i>PH</i>	450	57	261	6
<i>PK</i>			8	
<i>RU</i>	190	5	102	14
<i>SB</i>	170	35	82	4
<i>SC</i>	210	17	206	26
<i>SN</i>	1.708	61	809	12

<i>SV</i>	543	8	169	3
<i>SY</i>	4		8	
<i>TH</i>	2.838	109	1.241	2
<i>TN</i>	4.061	90	2.573	24
<i>TR</i>	443	34	239	7
<i>TW</i>	47	12	33	
<i>TZ</i>	6		4	
<i>UA</i>	7			
<i>US</i>	2.351	30	2.143	50
<i>UY</i>	3		2	1
<i>VA</i>	1			
<i>VE</i>			1	
<i>VN</i>	494	122	296	71
<i>YE</i>	77	6	66	1
<i>ZA</i>	1.051	71	941	28
<i>BE</i>			3	
<i>ES</i>	352	24	206	15
<i>EU</i>	1		3	
<i>FR</i>	92	24	101	16
<i>GR</i>	9	1	8	2
<i>HR</i>	248	36	221	39
<i>IT</i>	761	26	474	28
<i>NL</i>			1	1
<i>PT</i>	2		3	
<i>SE</i>	4			
Total	36.654	3.444	26.738	2.333

N.B. The data refers to the so-called customs controls selected (documentary control) by the customs control circuit at the time of submission of customs declarations for the import of fishery products

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:

the customs control of a documentary nature concerns the existence of the catch certificate, the consistency of the data contained therein with that present in the customs declaration and in the documents (e.g. commercial, transport documents, etc.), correct compilation on the basis of the information held by customs officials. In case of doubt, the local health and/or maritime authorities are alerted.

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

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

Yes

No

N.B. In case of selection of the Customs Control Circuit, the Customs proceeds with the physical and documentary verification of the goods, evaluating the adequacy and correctness of the CC with respect to the goods declared and the documentation presented

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

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):

In the reference two-year period a mixed approach was used. As regards the European criteria, 3 parameters were mainly taken into consideration:

- Importation of products of species of high commercial value (with particular reference to highly migratory species, such as tuna, swordfish, etc.);
- Documents that presented partially incomplete information compared to that required by the EU CC;
- Alleged deficiencies in the control system of a flag State, due to the procedures activated by the EC (yellow card).

If you apply national criteria, please detail them and the methodology used³⁶:

Inconsistencies between catch data and other information or documents available to the supervisory authority; reports from the Commission or other Member States; criteria based on commodity flows of fishery products and countries at risk.

The "weight" criterion was added as a "national" parameter (differences of 30-40% between net weight and gross weight including glaze for octopus and cuttlefish).

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.

2022: Risk linked to the inconsistency between imported fishery products and those indicated in the catch certificate.

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

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

.....

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:

Flag State (EU or non-EU) ³⁸	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>
AG	1			
AL	1.094	13	656	14
AR	956	28	960	8
AU	8		7	
BA	3		1	
BZ	34		14	
CA	772	7	677	1
CC			1	
CH			1	
CI	244		183	
CL	176	4	267	4
CN	1.394	50	1.150	15
CO	287	5	226	9
CU			2	
CV	21		4	
CW	17			
DZ	22		52	
EC	823	9	697	12
EG	1			
FK	3		1	
FO	17		6	
GB	267	1	336	1
GH	217	4	258	2
GL			1	
GM	157	2	53	2
HK	8		1	
ID	1.246	4	989	
IN	2.307	26	1.822	15
IR	1			
IS	14	1	8	
JP	22		33	
KE	62	4	46	

³⁷ Please provide a complete and accurate description

³⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

KI	7			
KR	281	25	273	15
LB			2	
LK	2.397	9	1.603	13
MA	3.877	36	3.272	13
MG	14		24	
MM	69	2	41	
MR	149	2	89	
MU	571	4	449	1
MV	662	6	466	
MX	86	2	69	
MY	29		13	
MZ	12		5	
NA	489	7	400	5
NC	1			
NI	7		16	
NO	141		220	1
NZ	107		75	
OM	131	3	99	
PA	78	1	62	1
PE	993	26	719	13
PF	2			
PG	254	3	185	1
PH	450	1	261	
PK			8	
RU	190	4	102	1
SB	170		82	
SC	210	1	206	
SN	1.708	12	809	100
SV	543	2	169	
SY	4		8	
TH	2.838	7	1.241	1
TN	4.061	83	2.573	46
TR	443	6	239	
TW	47		33	
TZ	6		4	
UA	7			
US	2.351	18	2.143	7
UY	3		2	
VA	1			
VE			1	
VN	494	12	296	4
YE	77	18	66	13
ZA	1.051	5	941	4
BE			3	

ES	352	5	206	5
EU	1		3	1
FR	92	1	101	
GR	9		8	
HR	248	4	221	12
IT	761	18	474	11
NL			1	
PT	2		3	1
SE	4			
Total	36.654	481	26.738	352

N.B. The data refers to the customs controls selected VM (goods verification) and/or CS (scanner control) by the customs control circuit upon submission of customs declarations for the import of fishery products

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: all imported customs declarations issued VM (goods verification) by the customs control circuit are physically checked*
- b) *Method of selection of consignments:*

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:*

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.

Flag States ⁴¹	Number of assistance requests for verifications 2022	Justification (please provide a brief description)	Number of assistance requests for verifications 2023	Justification (please provide a brief description)
LK	1	SWO – doubts on FV authorization to fish highly migratory species	-	-
IN	-	-	1	SWO - Discrepancy between quota caught by small IN FV (simplified CC) in short period and scientific regional documents describing average annual quota of SWO caught. Doubts on correctness of use of simplified CC.
Total	1	-	1	-

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 *yes 1 from SRI LANKA remained unanswered (first request sent 9th February 2022; reminder sent 22th February 2022). Confiscation of products (about 400 Kg of fresh swordfish);*

2023//.....

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).

INDIA: YES quality was sufficient

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, Thailandia (processing State of importation) was not involved in M.A. procedure.

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)?

No we didn't use

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.	LK (falsified authorization of catching vessel)	1		
The products intended for importation are not the same as those mentioned in the catch certificate.				
The catch certificate is not validated by the notified public authority of the flag State.				
The catch certificate does not indicate all the required information.	OM (discrepancy among data fill in CC)	1		
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.

Violation of art. 18.1 (b) and 12.2 of IUU Regulation and art. 11 of National Decree 1923/1926:

⁴³ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁴⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

OMAN:

- administrative fine of 826,00 €;
- seizure of products (200 kg. of *seriola dumerili*).

SRI LANKA:

Confiscation of 400 Kg SWO

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:

the information is contained in the EUMOFA reports which, for Italy, can be consulted, for the reference years, at the following link: <https://eumofa.eu/en/italy>

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

2023 ... 1 – VIETNAM (rife ARES(2023)2290878 dated 30th march 2023).....

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

Information requested by EC sent to IUU EC team.

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

2023

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.

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 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).

2023 (1 request to GM in order to verify a possible «National supporting or engaged in IUU fishing» case)

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:

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))?

.....

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*

⁴⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁵⁰ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

If yes, please provide details: The deflagging and sale abroad of fishing vessels is subject to authorization by the competent Italian administration, also in order to verify that no illicit use of the fishing vessel is made

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: The deflagging and sale abroad of fishing vessels is subject to authorization by the competent Italian administration, also in order to verify that no illicit use of the fishing vessel is made

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 *no evidences on ITA citizen involved*

If yes, please provide details:

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>EG</i>	1	Fishing without AUT. inside ITA TTW	Seizure fishing gears and caught; local prosecutor informed	1	Fishing without AUT inside ITA TTW	Seizure fishing gears and caught; local prosecutor informed
<i>MT</i>	-	-	-	1	Fishing without AUT inside ITA TTW	Seizure fishing gears and caught; local prosecutor informed

⁵¹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁵² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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>TN</i>	5	Fishing without AUT. inside ITA TTW	Local prosecutor informed	3	Fishing without AUT inside ITA TTW	Seizure fishing gears and caught; local prosecutor informed
<i>Total</i>	6			5		

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

Yes *No*

If yes, please provide details: *details will be reported in answer to EU PILOT note to Italy (reference ARES(2024)2186378 dated 22th march 2024).*

Have you used criminal sanctions? If yes, please specify if in addition to or in replacement of administrative sanctions: *YES depending on type of infringements. To fish in Italian TW, in Italy, is a crime. So third countries FV and EU fishing vessel had been defeated to Prosecutor for criminal trial. No administrative sanctions, for these cases, can be applied.*

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?

Internal sighting, not under art. 48 IUU reg. using national template (not the one agreed at EFCA level in 2010)

⁵³ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

Flag State of the sighted fishing vessel (EU and non-EU)⁵⁴	Number of sighting reports issued in 2022	Number of sighting reports issued in 2023
<i>CY</i>	2	//
<i>ES</i>	1	3
<i>HR</i>	4	//
<i>MA</i>	4	1
<i>MT</i>	4	1
<i>PT</i>	-	3
<i>TN</i>	1	-
<i>TR</i>	//	1
<i>UNKNOWN</i>	3	2
<i>Total</i>	19	11

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

15.1 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?

.....

Section 16. Any other comment

1. The main problem Italy faces with has been related with interpretation of art. 12, 16,17 IUU reg. Due to art. 16.1 Italy has always thought that only CC selected for checks or verifications should have been signed by competent Authority. No agent takes responsibility to sign a document without having a look sharp on it. This should mean that all CC should be checked in antithesis with what art. 16.1 establishes. But Commission clarifies that art.12 from one side and art. 16 e 17 on the other side are completely independent (how does an agent sign without performing a minimum check?). This is not

⁵⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

the Italian opinion but if that were the case Italy should deeply modify its IUU system and it will take time for sure;

2. The second problem is linked with misalignment of TARIC and custom system with IUU system. Most of information required by IUU regulation are not manage by Custom digital platform. It not counts ordinary and simplified CC, annex IV is not a requirement to be filled in and neither next «no manipulation» template. So it is quite impossible have statistics on these topics. Probably everything will change with the implementation of IT CATCH system when the new EU system will become mandatory for all importers.
3. The third problem is that a challenging discussion is on the way from 2022 with all the Administrations involved in order to verify if an internal remodulation of competences is possible and this is the reason why the MoU between DG PESCA – DOGANA -GUARDIA COSTIERA expired in June 2022, even if local relationship keep on be active. What has been explained in point 1 is the main object of discussion.

• • •