

**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:	Slovenia
Organisation:	Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
Date:	
Name, position and contact details of responsible official:	

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

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.

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):

- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
- Inspectorate of RS for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries
- Financial Administration of RS

Section 1. Information on legal framework²

Since the last reporting exercise covering the period 2020-2021, has your country adopted/modified national law or any administrative guides for the application of any of the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation)?

- Yes No

If yes, please detail and provide copies or provide link to the official national database.

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);

Not applicable

Slovenia has not designated ports for access to port services or direct landings or transshipment of fishery products by third country fishing vessels in accordance with Article 5 of the IUU Regulation therefore no port inspections of direct landing of third country fishing vessels carried out.

— catch certification scheme (Chapter III);

Implementation of Catch certification scheme is managed centrally from The Financial Administration of RS (FURS) - Customs Department in Ljubljana. On the operational level, its organizational units – eight (8) regional financial offices (Customs Clearance Department) implement these tasks. All eight (8) Customs Clearance Department conduct checks and verifications of catch certificates. If doubts arise, the findings are reported to the FURS, Customs Department in Ljubljana. Findings are assessed and, if necessary, a request for assistance is sent to a third country (i.e., flag state). The outcome of the request for assistance is reported back to the Customs Clearance Department and based on the information provided in the reply by third country, the importation is either authorised or denied.

— nationals (Chapter VIII).

For nationals are responsible:

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.

- Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries (IRSKGLR) and
 - Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (FURS)
- in accordance with their respective responsibilities.

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;*

Not applicable

- *checks and verifications of catch certificates for fishery products arriving on board of third country fishing vessels at designated ports;*

Not applicable

- *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);*

FURS, Customs Department, Financial office - Customs Clearance Department

- *validation of catch certificates for exports;*

Not applicable, so far no one catch certificate validated for exports.

- *validation and verifications of re-exports.*

FURS, Customs Department, Financial office - Customs Clearance Department

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

- vertical co-operation (between local/regional authorities and their headquarters/central authorities);*
- 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.).*

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.

In Article 2, the national Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing defines the competent authorities for the implementation: the competent authorities for the implementation of Regulation 1005/2008/EC and Regulation 1010/2009/EC are the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food (MAFF), Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries (IRSKGLR) and the Financial Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (FURS) in accordance with their respective responsibilities.

The competent authorities for supervising the implementation of Regulation 1005/2008/EC and Regulation 1010/2009/EC are IRSKGLR and FURS, each in accordance with their respective competences. The FURS is responsible for check and verification of Catch certification scheme and for collecting information, informing and reporting to the European Commission in accordance

with Regulation 1005/2008/EC, whereby the MAFF and IRKSGLR transmit all necessary information to the FURS. The single liaison office in accordance with Article 39 of Regulation 1010/2009/EC is the FURS.

MAFF was also the authority which was responsible for the preparation of the national Decree on the implementation of the Regulation (EC) establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing itself, because it has the task of taking care of implementation of the IUU Regulation in Slovenia in areas other than catch certificates, imports, exports and re-exports. Within the Ministry, the fisheries inspection (part of IRSKGLR) is the body responsible for the implementation of operational tasks related to fisheries inspection and surveillance at sea, including of landings, internal transports of fisheries products, fishing at sea, and inspections regarding marketing of fisheries products.

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:

There are 12 people from the Financial Administration RS (FURS) working on the catch certificate system in Slovenia. No one works full-time on CCS matters; they also perform other customs work in accordance with the Customs Code.

- *for checks and verifications in accordance with Articles 16 and 17 of the IUU Regulation.*

2022: 0,26 FTE (FURS)

2023: 0,24 FTE (FURS)

- *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.*

2022: 0 FTE (FURS)

2023: 0,0014 FTE (FURS)

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.

Slovenia has one freezone/freeports, namely: Luka Koper – Prosta cona Koper, Financial Office Koper, Ferrarska ulica 30, 6001 Koper SI – Slovenia.

Only import and export of fishery products in terms of Article 2, Paragraph 11 and 13 of the IUU Regulation.

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

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.

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

Yes

No

This Section does not apply in Slovenia because Slovenia does not have a designated port, in accordance with Article 5 of the IUU Regulation, and therefore Chapter II of the IUU Regulation does not apply. Therefore, we do not fill in the information below in this section.

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

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

Please fill-in the table below (2022):

Inspections of third country fishing vessels in Member States ports (2022)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2022)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ⁹					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					

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

⁸ It is reminded that provisions of Chapter II apply to third country fishing vessels aiming to access EU ports for port services, even in cases where they do not carry fishery products on board and therefore no landing or transshipment operation is foreseen. Third country fishing vessels shall only access ports designated in accordance with Article 5.

⁹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

		Number of infringements	0				
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Please fill-in the table below (2023):

Inspections of third country fishing vessels in Member States ports (2023)								
Type of operation	Vessels	Figures (2023)	Flag of the third country vessel(s) ¹⁰					Total
			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 ¹¹	Name of the third country vessel	Type of infringements	Measures taken
FS1			
FS2			
...			
FSx			

Please fill-in the table below (2023):

¹⁰ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

3.5. Please provide:

- the quantities of fish landed by third countries' fishing vessels in your designated ports in 2022 and 2023, respectively (by species and flag of the catching vessels);
- the quantities of fish transhipped from third countries' fishing donor vessels (to third countries or EU fishing receiving vessels) in your designated ports in 2022 and 2023, respectively (by species and flag of the vessels):

Please fill-in the table below (landings):

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

¹² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹³ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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

¹⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Flag of the third country vessel¹⁶	Transhipped quantities by species¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)	Flag of the third country vessel¹⁷	Transhipped quantities by species¹⁴ (weight in tonnes)
FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS1	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:	FS2	Species 1: Species 2: Species x:
...
FSx	...	FSx	...

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

Yes *No*

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

In 2022:

In 2023:

3.7. Since January 2022, has your country denied access to its ports to a fishing vessel for port services, landing or transhipment of fishery products based on the conditions of the IUU Regulation?

Yes *No*

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

In 2022:

In 2023:

3.8. Do you have cases of third country fishing vessels landing in your ports with the landed products destined to another Member State? [Article 19(3) of the IUU Regulation]

Yes *No*

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

In 2022:

¹⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

¹⁷ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

In 2023:

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

Yes

No

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

If yes, please detail, in order to reach the objective of at least 5% of landing and transshipment operations as set in Article 9(1) of the IUU Regulation, which benchmarks you use and rank them:

.....

Section 4. Information on catch certification scheme for importation¹⁸

4.1. How many catch certificates¹⁹ from non-EU countries were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please complete the following table by flag State validating the catch certificates, including cases where catch certificates are accompanied by processing statements.²⁰ Please only provide information on catch certificates accompanying the consignments to be imported in your country; for consignments meant for transit to another Member State (Article 19(1) of the IUU Regulation), please see the question 4.7. of this questionnaire.

Flag State (non-EU) ²¹	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³
AR	25	0	25	0
BZ	2	0	0	0
CA	0	0	1	0
CN	17	0	16	0
EC	3	0	3	0
FK	0	0	1	0
ID	1	3	2	0
IN	0	0	0	6
KR	35	0	7	0
MA	4	0	3	0
MU	0	0	1	0
MV	0	0	1	0
NO	1	0	2	0
NZ	1	0	2	0

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

¹⁹ Please provide only the number of catch certificates i.e. not the number of all transactions (imports/declarations) where the same certificates have been (re)used.

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

²¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

²² Based on Annex II to the IUU Regulation

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

Flag State (non-EU) ²¹	2022		2023	
	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³	Annex II catch certificate ²²	Simplified catch certificate ²³
<i>PE</i>	0	0	0	1
<i>RU</i>	3	0	2	0
<i>SC</i>	4	0	5	0
<i>SN</i>	0	2	0	0
<i>TN</i>	1	14	7	6
<i>US</i>	12	0	7	0
<i>VN</i>	6	0	1	0
<i>ZA</i>	12	0	20	0
Total	127	19	106	13

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

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

4.3. How many catch certificates from EU Member States (including from your country) were presented to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023?

Flag State (EU)	2022	2023
<i>ES</i>	16	27
<i>FR</i>	3	4
<i>IT</i>	0	1
Total	19	32

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

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

RFMO document	2022	2023
Total	0	0

4.5. How many processing statements (Article 14(2) – Annex IV) were submitted to the authorities of your country from 1 January 2022 until 31 December 2023? Please provide details per year and per processing country.

Processing non-EU State²⁴	2022	2023
<i>AL</i>	0	1
<i>BA</i>	5	15
<i>CN</i>	12	13
<i>EC</i>	1	0
<i>MU</i>	2	4
<i>TH</i>	0	1
Total	20	34

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>SC</i>	0	2
<i>Total</i>	0	2

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.

None

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>		

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.

²⁶ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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: 125 consignments

In 2023: 100 consignments

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

Yes *No*

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

.....

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

Yes *No*

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

If yes, please provide details:

.....

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

Yes *No*

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

Destination country (non- EU) ²⁸	2022	2023
<i>AL</i>	0	1

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

²⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Destination country (non-EU)²⁸	2022	2023
Total	0	1

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 re-export certificate must be attached to the export declaration. When goods are released for export, the SIAES customs system automatically sends a message to the office of exit. The customs office of exit checks the consignment and confirms the exit of the consignment in SIAES. As a customs authority, we are responsible for validating the re-export certificate in accordance with the IUU Regulation therefore we control that the consignment leaves the EU in accordance with customs legislation. Therefore, we monitor whether the consignment leaves the EU.

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 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.

.....

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

Yes No

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

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

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

Yes No

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

Yes No

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

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.

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.

[Instruction on the catch certificates scheme for fishery products, No 10/2021](#)

It is currently in the process of being amended.

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

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) ³⁴	2022	2023

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).

³⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>	Overall number of catch certificates received	Number of catch certificates <u>checked</u>
<i>Country 1</i>				
<i>Country 2</i>				
...				
<i>Country x</i>				
<i>Total</i>				

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:

In the catch certificate, in accordance with Article 16/1 of the IUU Regulation, we check the information provided in catch certificate step by step, as follows:

- whether CC was presented within the applicable deadlines (as a customs authority, we have data on when the consignment entered the EU),
- notification from the flag States in accordance with Article 20 of IUU Regulation (through CIRCABC),
- flag state validation (seal, signature, competent authority) (through CIRCABC),
- flag state status – noon cooperation third country (DG MARE IUU website),
- whether CC template is in accordance with Annex II IUU Regulation, or the format of the CC corresponds to the notification and contains all the information specified in the Annex II of IUU Regulation (through CIRCABC),
- fishing vessel (through RFMO fishing vessel register/World Shipping Register/ Vessel Finder/Marine Traffic)
- IUU fishing vessel (IUU RFMO vessel list, EU IUU vessel list – Regulation 468/2010 and amendments),
- Products (the customs declaration and other supporting documents is used to checks which goods are being imported; whether product name corresponds to products code – 6 digits, corresponds to consignment and Health Certificate; weight is check with custom declaration, Health certificate, BL),
- are there any inconsistencies in dates (certain fields on the catch certificate are checks against each other, namely: the date of validity of the fishing licence, the date of catch, the date of transshipment, if any, the date of application by the exporter and the date of validation by the competent authority),
- transport details (the transport route is verified through ConTraffic, BL),
- cross-checks of CC data with data in custom declaration.
- Mutual Assistance Message (MA) received from the Commission/MS.

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 verification is carried out:

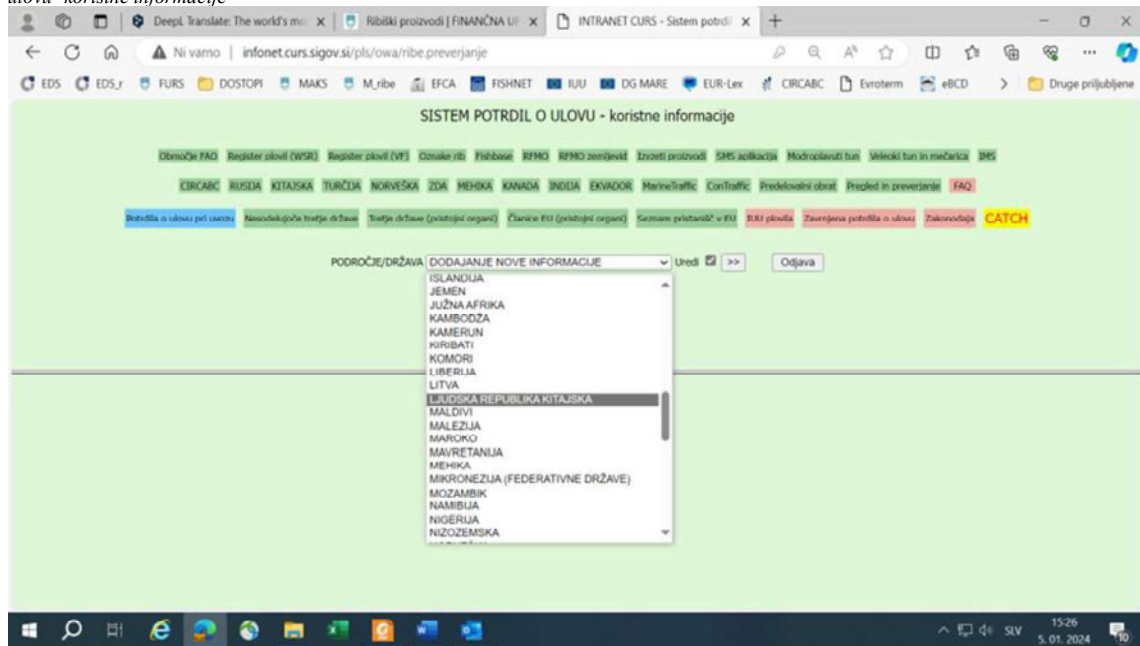
- where irregularities are found during the checks,

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

- we have notification from the Commission or another Member State (Mutual Assistance Message – Risk management - EU criteria- Article 17/3 IUU Regulation)
- where the conditions of Article 17/4 of IUU Regulation are met.

For checks and verification purposes we use our own developed applications, namely: Application called "Catch certification scheme – useful information" where all information is collected in one place for checks and verification purposes.

Print Screen of the application called "Catch certification scheme – useful information" in the Slovenian language title is "Sistem potrdil o ulovu -koristne informacije"



For checks and verification purposes, the "Register of catch certificate at import" is also used to verify whether quantities of catches in CC box 3, submitted of various CC/PS linked to the same vessel, do not exceed a quantity in box 3 CC imported into Slovenia.

Print Screen of the application called "Register of catch certificate at import" in the Slovenian language title is "Evidenca predloženih potrdil o ulovu pri uvozu"



The current instruction related to checks and verification is [Instruction No 10/2021](#). It is currently in the process of being amended. Two new instructions are being prepared, one with basic information for importers and will be published on our website and other one for the competent authority for checks and verification purposes according to the guidance document *Checks and verifications - Common approach (Version: June 2022)*.

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

Note: According to the clear division between these two main areas (checks under Article 16 of the IUU Regulation and the verification under Article 17 of the IUU Regulation), we have re-examined all submitted catch certificates again to confirm that we have checked all the submitted catch certificate under Article 16 of the IUU Regulation; under Article 17 of the IUU Regulation we carried out verification if we find any irregularities during the checks, if the conditions of Article 17/4 of the IUU Regulation are met, and we also take into account certain EU criteria (consideration of MA messages)) that we received from the Commission or from another Member State. This also mean that we apply a certain level of risk management to verification (EU criteria), therefore we have ticked this box as well.

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):

We only use the EU criteria communicated by the Commission (Mutual Assistance message) or another Member States.

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

.....

6.7. If you apply risk management to verifications, please provide information on the risks identified in 2022 and 2023 respectively (Article 32 of Commission Regulation (EC) 1010/2009) on the basis of the criteria used. Please also provide information on whether all consignments identified as risky have been covered by verifications. If this is not the case, please specify the percentage of consignments identified as risky that have been covered by verifications and the reasons of such situation.

Consideration of MA messages (containing e.g., information on possible irregularities) from the Commission or another MS.

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

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

³⁷ Please provide a complete an accurate description

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>
AR	25	1	25	
BZ	2		0	
CA	0		1	
CN	17	1	16	
EC	3		3	1
ES	16		27	
FK	0		1	
FR	3		4	
ID	4		2	
IN	0		6	
IT	0		1	
KR	35	25	7	5
MA	4		3	
MU	0		1	1
MV	0		1	1
NO	1		2	
NZ	1		2	
PE	0		1	1
RU	3	1	2	1
SC	4	4	5	3
SN	2	1	0	
TN	15		13	

³⁸ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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>
US	12		7	
VN	6	4	1	
ZA	12	1	20	
Total	146	43	119	13

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)?
2022: 10
2023: 5
- b) How many catch certificates have you verified on the basis of risk identified in accordance with Article 17(3)?
2022: none
2023: none
- c) How many catch certificates have been verified at random (Article 17(5))?
2022: none
2023: none

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

We have not carried out any physical checks in relation to the IUU Regulation during the period concerned, but otherwise we carry out physical checks in cooperation with the veterinary authority. Reason: in case of doubt that consignment corresponds to the submitted catch certificate physical verify the consignment.

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:*

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?

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.

Yes

No

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

Flag States⁴¹	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)
<i>AR</i>	1	The CC was digitally validated and signed; we could not establish the identity of the signature.		
<i>CN</i>	2	In both cases verification of weight discrepancies on the catch certificate and customs declaration		
<i>FK</i>				
<i>KR</i>	1	Signature does not correspond to date provided in CIRCABC database	1	Signature does not correspond to date provided in CIRCABC database
<i>PE</i>			1	The simplified catch certificate does not meet the conditions for its issue in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation 1010/2009
<i>RU</i>			1	Signature does not correspond to date provided in CIRCABC database
<i>SC</i>	1	Stamp does not correspond to date provided in CIRCABC database		
<i>SN</i>	1	Signature does not correspond to date provided in CIRCABC database		
<i>VN</i>	1	Stamp does not correspond to date provided in CIRCABC database and for Vietnam		

⁴¹ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

Flag States⁴¹	Number of assistance requests for verifications 2022	Justification <i>(please provide a brief description)</i>	Number of assistance requests for verifications 2023	Justification <i>(please provide a brief description)</i>
		fishing vessel it was not possible to verify the flag of the fishing vessel in the register because only the registration number of the vessel is indicated on CC		
Total	7		3	

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: Senegal: we sent a reminder and received a reply (verification sent 8.4.2022, reminder sent 22.4.2022, reply received 26.4.2022)

2023: None

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

7.4. Have you sent assistance requests 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.

For validation of the re-export catch certificate under article 21 of IUU we checked the release for free circulation with the Spanish authorities where the products were released for free circulation (box 12 CC).

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)?

These countries are China, Ecuador, India, US, Russia, Norway. We have checked all of them (as listed in the table under point 4.1 of this report) and we have considered as part of the checks.

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.			PE	1
The products intended for importation are not the same as those mentioned in the catch certificate.				
The catch certificate is not validated by the notified public authority of the flag State.				
The catch certificate does not indicate all the required information.				
The importer is not in a position to prove that the fishery products comply with the conditions of Article 14.1 or 2.				
A fishing vessel figuring on the catch certificate as vessel of origin of the catches is included in the EU IUU vessel list or in the IUU vessel lists referred to in Article 30.				
The catch certificate has been validated by the authorities of a flag State identified as a non-cooperating State in accordance with Article 31.				
Further to the request for verification (Article 18.2).				

8.2. If the answer to point 8.1 is yes, what measures were taken by your authorities in relation to the consignments refused (Article 18.3)? Please also quote the national legal basis for the measures taken.

⁴³ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

⁴⁵ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

The consignment was refused and sent back to Peru because the Peruvian simplified catch certificate did not comply with the conditions for its issuance, in accordance with Article 6/1 of Regulation (EC) No 1010/2009 (some of the vessels mentioned in annex to the CC did not meet criteria in Article 6/1 of Regulation No 1010/2009).

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)

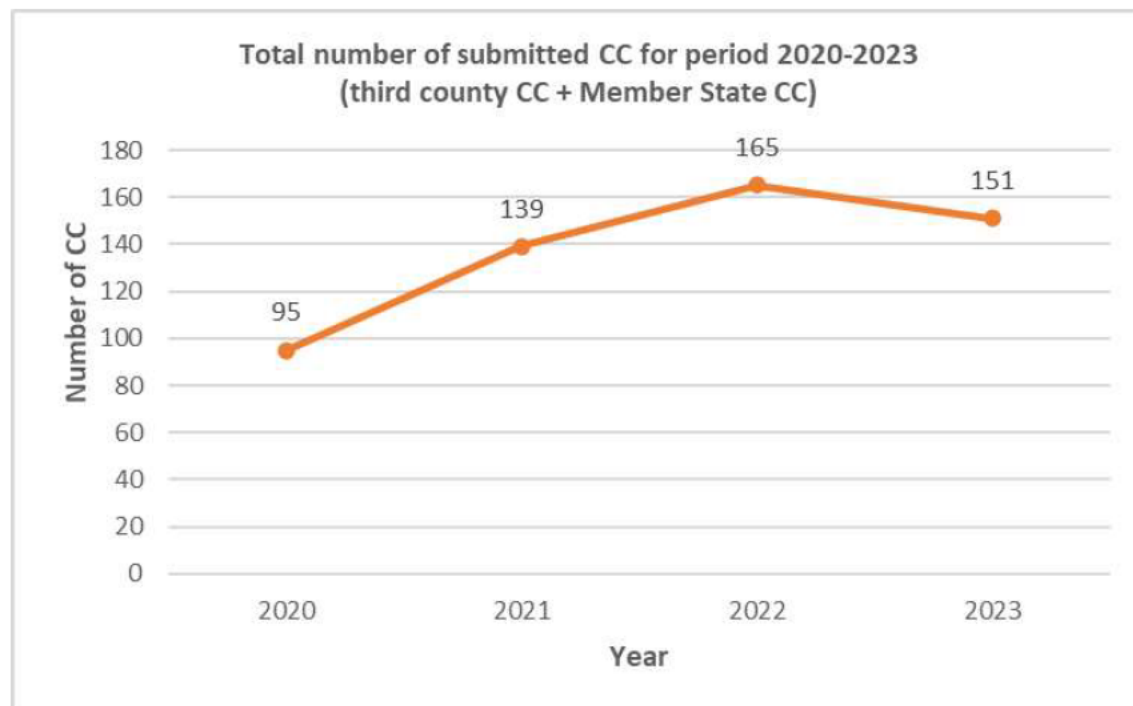
If yes, please provide details:

Section 9. Information on trade flows⁴⁶

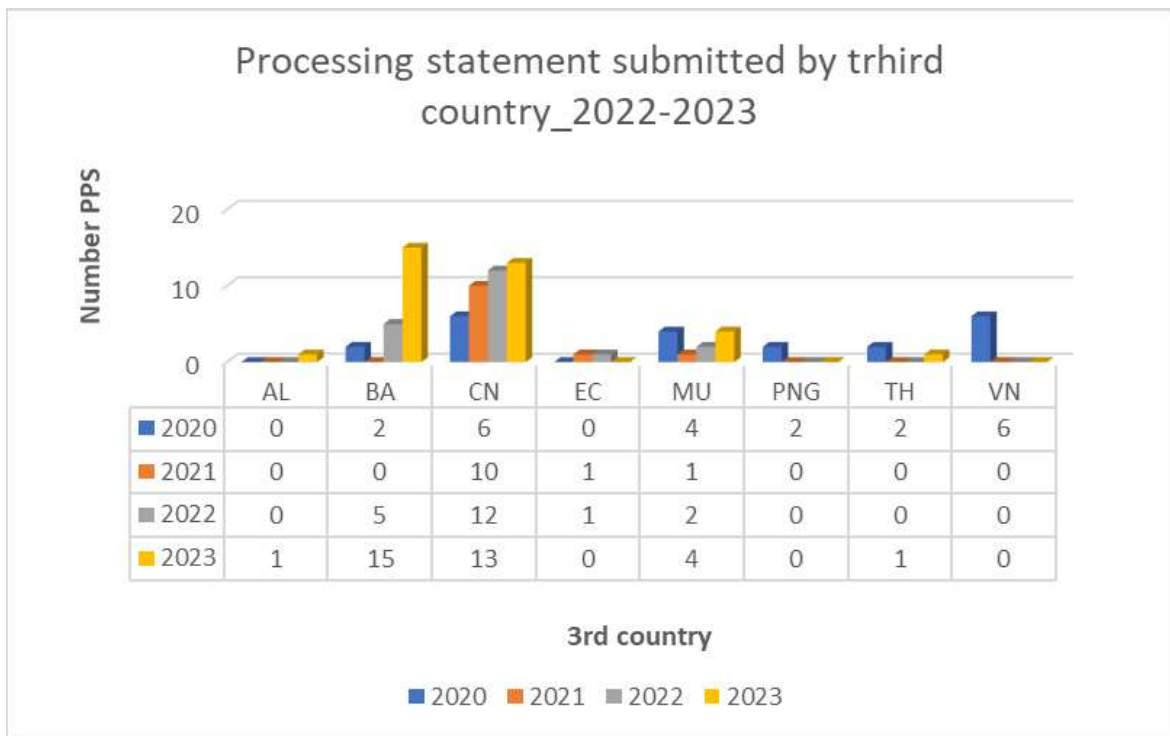
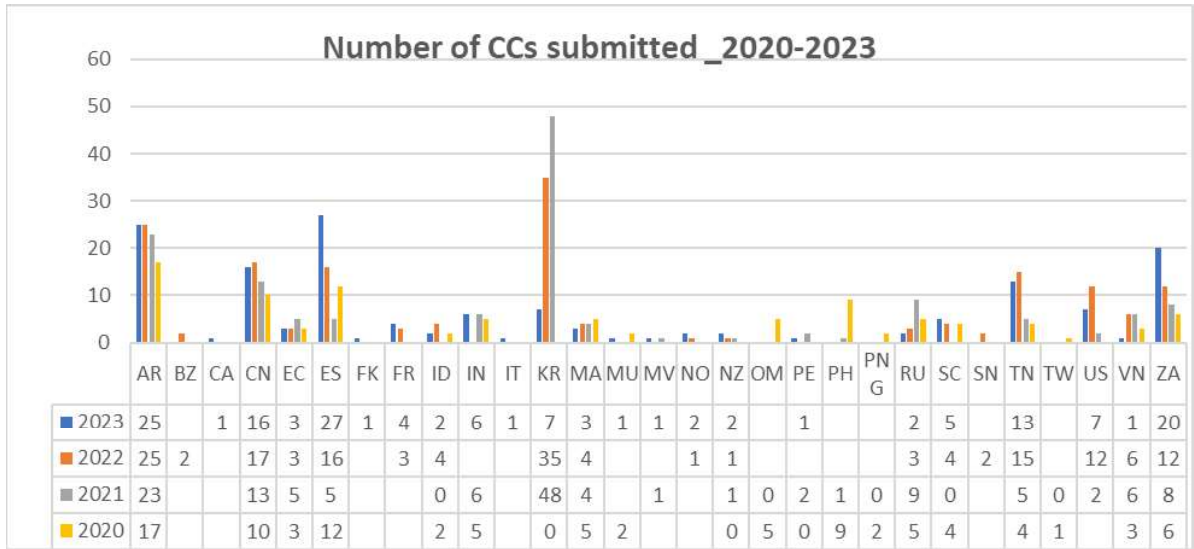
Please provide information and relevant import figures, based on your statistical data, concerning any important change of trade patterns in imports of fishery products into your country since the last reporting period covering 2020-2021:

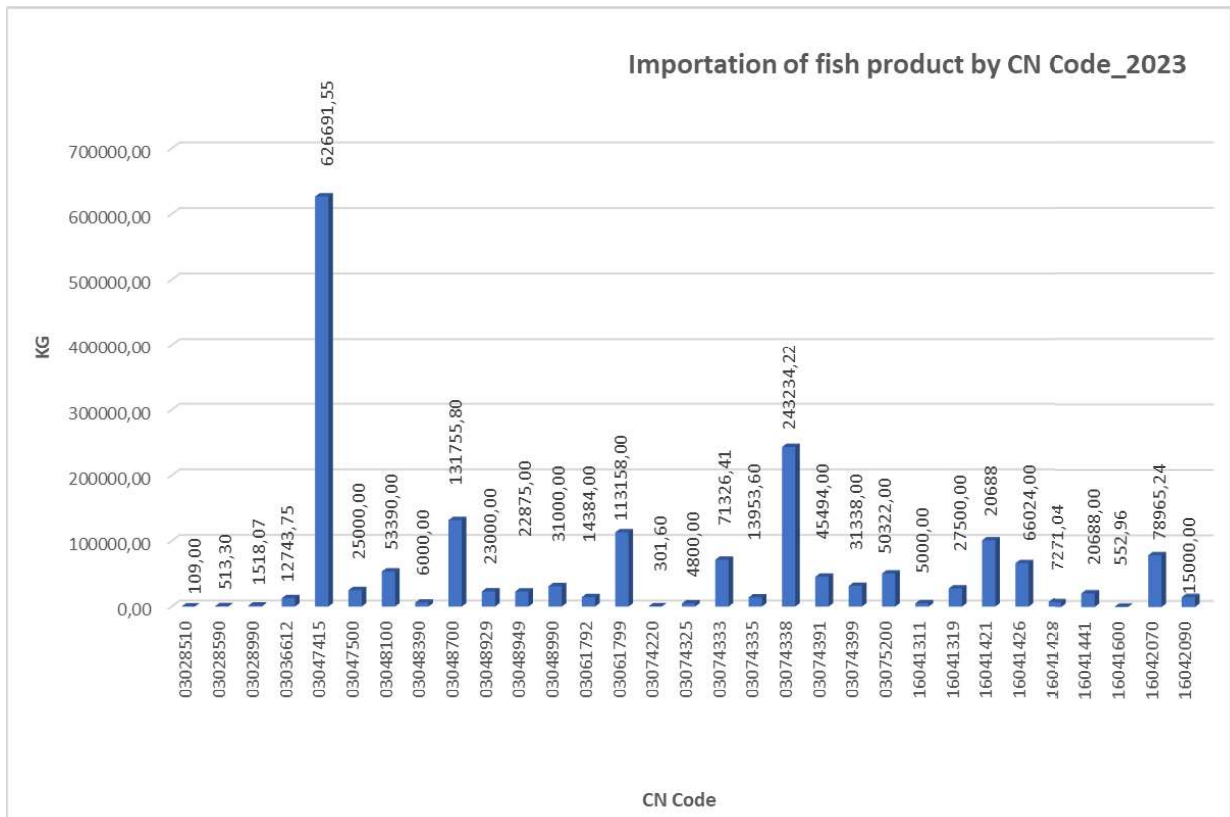
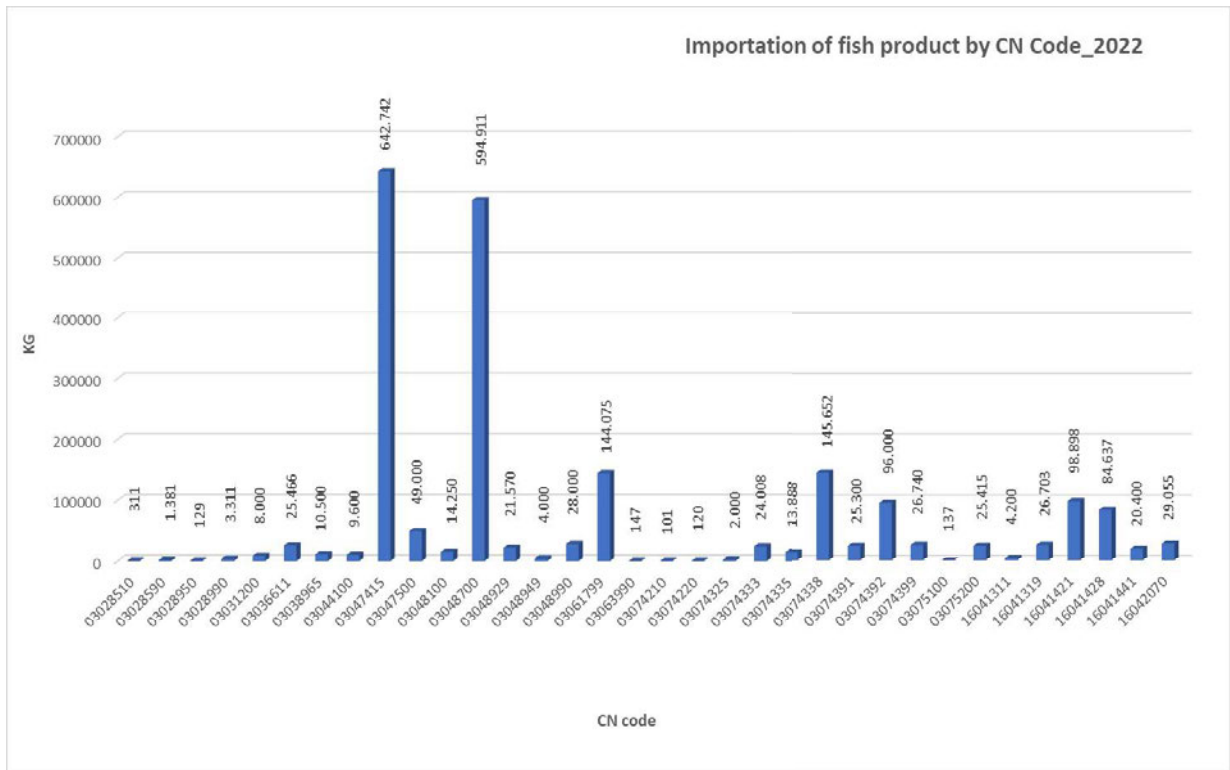
In comparing last report in 2022 (period 2020-2021) and this report in 2024 (period 2022-2023) the following is noticeable:

- In 2022, the number of catch certificates submitted increased significantly (18.7%) compared to 2021. According to our assessment mainly due to restart after the end of covid-related periods and a new trading from Tunisia. The catch certificates that increased in 2022 were from CN, EC, TN, US, ZA.
- in 2023, the number of certificates submitted decreased by 9%, mainly for catch certificates from the KR, RU and VN and significantly increased from ES and ZA, due to a change in trade flows.



⁴⁶ Section to be filled-in by all Member States





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: 3 MA + 2 MA (through platform FISHNET- representative samples of Mauritian and Ecuadorian CCs)

2023: 2 MA + 1 MA (through platform FISHNET- representative samples of Senegal CCs)

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

No case was relevant for us, except those samples of catch certificates we entered via the FISHNET platform.

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: 37 (Croatia)

2023: 18 (Croatia) + 1 (notification of refusal of a simplified catch certificate from Peru sent to all MS)

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).

.....

Section 12. Information on nationals⁵⁰

⁴⁷ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁴⁸ Please provide the number of all replies, regardless of their content i.e. including replies which, for example, only confirmed that the request was not relevant for your country.

⁴⁹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁵⁰ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

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))?

None

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: It adopted the Regulation on the Implementation of Regulations (EC) on the establishment of a Community system for the prevention, deterrence and elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (Ur.l. RS, no. 50/16, 76/17)

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

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)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?

⁵¹ Section to be filled-in by all Member States

⁵² ISO Alpha-2 country codes.

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>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?

- Verification of flag state vessel because not all fishing vessels are in publicly available database.
- Compliance with the conditions for issuing a simplified catch certificate (annex IV of Regulation 1010/2009), no data available to verify the conditions for small vessels.

Section 16. Any other comment

No other comments.

• • •

⁵⁴ ISO Alpha-2 country codes.