ADVANCING SEAFOOD TRACEABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Importance of robust data collection & management schemes in the fight against illegal, unreported & unregulated (IUU) fishing

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Third Session – Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries
4 February 2020
Global fish import control schemes

• Evaluation best practices across market states and RFMOs

• Identify significant scope to improve seafood traceability globally

• Risk that non-harmonised trade instruments won’t prevent IUU fish from entering markets
Evaluation of market import controls

- Successfully tracing seafood products throughout the entire supply chain

- Three major markets: EU, USA & Japan (relying on RFMO CDS requirements)

- Approximately 64% of the total value of global fish imports

- Best practice in 17 Key Data Elements (KDEs) who, what, when, where and how
Comparison between EU / US import requirements

- EU is missing critical data on catch area, fishing gear & port of landing
Comparison of different import control schemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key data element (KDE)</th>
<th>European Union</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>RFMO &amp; CCAMLR Catch Documentation Schemes</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vessel name</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unique vessel identifier (IMO number)</td>
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<td>Vessel flag</td>
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<td>International Radio Call Sign (IRCIS)</td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
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<td>Information on exporter / re-exporter</td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<td>Identity of import company</td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Product type</td>
<td></td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Species name – ASPIS 3-Alp Code</td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated live weight (kg)</td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catch area (better defined with a clear distinction between the EEZ and the high seas)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<td>Authorisation to fish</td>
<td></td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Port of landing</td>
<td></td>
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<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Processing location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fishing gear type or catching method</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ICCAT</td>
<td>CCSBT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Market state alignment is essential

Statement by DG Mesak Pakdeekong, Department of Fisheries, The Royal Thai Government:

“Thailand believes that the ultimate goal for all nations should be to secure an ethical, legal, and sustainable global seafood industry. This goal can only be accomplished with strong commitments and international cooperation to promote greater transparency and traceability, including through aligned CDS.”
The opportunity provided by the EU Control Regulation revision

• Ongoing revision process of the EU Fisheries Control Regulation (EC 1224/2009)

• Impact on the traceability of seafood

• Opportunity to fix gaps in the current system

• EU contribution to SDG 14.4 – in 2020
Vital missing information: Catch area
Fishing gear & catching method are essential information requirements
Summary & Recommendations

- **Import control schemes are essential** to improve traceability to prevent IUU seafood from entering markets.
- Challenges remain in both global and European seafood traceability.
- **Global alignment** of KDEs between major markets is an effective way to ensure seafood traceability and prevent IUU fish entering the market.
- Control Regulation will be instrumental to ensure seafood traceability in Europe and best-practice for other markets, but needs strengthening.
- European Parliament have a vital role to improve the proposal on Control Regulation revision and deliver SDG 14.4.
THANK YOU

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For more information:
www.iuuwatch.eu