



IUU FISHING ACTIVITY

RESOLUTION 16/05
ON VESSELS WITHOUT NATIONALITY

APPLICABLE TO



A vessel without nationality is a vessel that, under international law, is not entitled to fly the flag of any State or sails under the flag of two or more States, using them according to convenience (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea).

This Resolution addresses the concern that vessels without nationality that fish in the IOTC area undermine the objective of the IOTC Agreement and the work of the Commission. It also reaffirms Resolution 17/03 which states that fishing vessels without nationality harvesting tuna or tuna-like species in the IOTC area of competence are presumed to have carried out IUU fishing.

It applies to all CPCs and targets fishing vessels that are suspected of, or confirmed as being, without nationality that may be fishing in the high seas of the IOTC area.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

There is one reporting requirement which relates to sightings of vessels suspected of or confirmed as being without nationality.

WHO

ALL MEMBERS AND CPCs

WHAT

Report sightings of vessels suspected or confirmed to be without nationality that may be fishing in the high seas of the IOTC area to the IOTC Secretariat

WHEN**DEADLINES**

Any time (event-based reporting)

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: FORMAT AND CONTENT

REPORTING REQUIREMENT 1:

REPORT SIGHTINGS OF FISHING VESSELS SUSPECTED OF OR CONFIRMED AS BEING WITHOUT NATIONALITY THAT MAY BE FISHING IN THE HIGH SEAS OF THE IOTC AREA, TO THE IOTC SECRETARIAT. (PARA 5)

IMPLEMENTATION

- How to report: A report on the sighting of the vessels without nationality should be sent to the IOTC Secretariat.
- Reporting format: An official letter with completed sightings report including all identifiers relating to the vessel, positions and any evidence of fishing activities attached to it.
- Where to send the information: The report should be sent to iotc-secretariat@fao.org

COOPERATION REQUIREMENTS

CPCs are encouraged to cooperate by:

- sharing information about vessels suspected of or confirmed as being without nationality,
- cooperate with all flag States to strengthen their legal, operational and institutional capacity to take action against their flagged vessels engaged in fishing activities in the IOTC area, including the imposition of adequate sanctions, as an alternative to de-flagging vessels

OBLIGATIONS OF THE INDUSTRY

None in this Resolution.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The IOTC Secretariat must:

- circulate information received on sightings to CPCs;
- provide a report to the annual session of the Compliance Committee on all information received.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSION & BODIES

None in this Resolution.



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