

CLOSING PORTS TO IUU VESSELS

IMPLEMENTING THE IOTC PORT STATE MEASURES RESOLUTION

The target of port State measures (PSM) is to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities - and the success stories in combating this practice are rapidly multiplying.

Fisheries enforcement has never been so cost-effective and rewarding - but the secret to success is working together.

WORKING TOGETHER through IOTC to give life to the Agreement of its Members to:

- deny entry into port, or
- prohibit port use

by vessels that have carried out IUU fishing or fishing related activities.

WORKING TOGETHER among national agencies that can support information, communications, inspections and enforcement, such as the:

- Fisheries Authorities
- Maritime or Ports Authorities
- Navy/Coast Guard/Maritime Police
- Customs or Immigration Authorities

WORKING TOGETHER with other countries, and/or non-government bodies such as:

- RFMOs
- International NGOs
- Regional NGOs



WHY WORK TOGETHER?

Three good reasons, for a start:

- The IOTC PSM Resolution 10/11 means that countries - port States - are responsible at national level to set the mechanism(s) for interagency cooperation and integrate PSM within the broader system of their port State control,
- No collaboration = no effective implementation of PSM and no proper fight against IUU fishing
- Teamwork gets results!

HOW TO WORK TOGETHER?

Collaborate - Collaborate - Collaborate

- Adopt national laws and procedures,
- Integrate with broader port control,
- Adopt interagency MoUs,
- Set tasks and priorities for inspection,
- Establish a communications network,
- Cooperate to ensure enforcement,
- Strengthen regional cooperation.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO IMPROVE?

The success of implementation of the IOTC PSMR in term of interagency cooperation hinges on several obligations of the port State:

- Participate in the IOTC Training Programme,
- Participate in regional networks,
- Seek assistance for interagency capacity development,
- Fully implement the IOTC Port State Measures Resolution.

Port State Measures can be used to prohibit entry into port, or use of port, by vessels that are suspected of carrying out IUU fishing or fishing related activities....

...and the IUU operators are stuck! They lose serious money and may be subject to heavy fines and other penalties. Many have changed their ways.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR MY COUNTRY?

- ✓ Cost effective and results-oriented enforcement,
- ✓ Enhanced interagency cooperation,
- ✓ Strengthened regional cooperation through IOTC,
- ✓ Resource protected for legitimate fishers.

What are Port State Measures?

As a "Port State", a country has complete sovereignty over its ports - and may establish measures to control foreign flagged vessels for the purpose of detecting and controlling IUU fishing activities.

Key measures may involve denial of entry into port and the use of port.

SUCCESS STORIES: National interagency collaboration and regional cooperation-vessel Premier

RFMO	Time Line	Involved and supporting States
ICCAT	Nov 2011 to May 2012	Fishing Operation in Liberian waters.
	Until November 2012	Operating out of Abidjan, Ivory Coast.
	November 2012	Videoced in St Helena Bay South Africa on route to Indian Ocean (visibly fully laden).
	December 2012	Port Louis, Mauritius - Vessel inspected. Copies of catch log and forged Liberian fishing license obtained.
IOTC	February 2013	Liberia charged vessel for fishing without fishing license in its EEZ.
	January to March 2013	Kenya and Mozambique denied fishing license for their EEZ.
	March 2013	Port Victoria, Seychelles denied off-loading.
	April 2013	Tanzania refused renewal of fishing license for their EEZ
		Port Louis, Mauritius, denied off-loading
		Vessel owners paid Liberia two-million US\$ fine.
		Mauritius still denied vessel permission to offload alleged IUU fish.
	Vessel proceeded to Colombo, Sri Lanka to offload and returned to Busan, South Korea. Name changed.	
Impact on Vessel, Owners/Operators	US\$ 2 000 000 fine Loss of fishing opportunities from three countries Port fees and fuel costs.	

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

FISHING RELATED ACTIVITIES means "any operation in support of, or in preparation for, fishing, including:

- landing
- packaging
- processing
- transshipping or
- transporting

fish that have not been previously landed at a port, and provisioning personnel, fuel, gear and other supplies at sea".

USE OF PORT includes "landing, transshipping, packaging and processing of fish that have not been previously landed and other port services such as refuelling and resupplying, maintenance and drydocking."

VESSEL includes those used for fishing or fishing related activities (transport, supply, bunker).

This brochure aims at providing a general overview of associated responsibilities of all parties involved in the implementation of the IOTC Resolution on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing activities.

For the complete and official requirements, consult the IOTC Resolution. If there is a discrepancy between the Resolution and this brochure, the official Resolution takes precedence.

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**Implementing the IOTC Port State Measures Resolution
Closing ports to IUU vessels**

**National interagency collaboration
and regional cooperation**

*Procedures
Communications
Sharing
Enforcement*

WORKING TOGETHER