



PROSPECTUS

Regional Workshop to Exchange Information on Catch Documentation Scheme and Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products 29-30 November 2022

In the early 2000s, consumers from the EU had become concerned with the trade of fish and fishery products produced through illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing operations as these constitute one of the most serious threats to the sustainable exploitation of living aquatic resources and jeopardize the very foundation of the common fisheries policy and international efforts to promote better ocean governance (EU IUU Regulation). For this reason, the EU adopted the Regulation (EC) No. 1005/2008 establishing a community system to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing, also known as the EU IUU Regulation, which comes with the respective implementing regulations and other legislative tools. The EU IUU Regulation includes a provision on the need for importing countries to develop their respective catch documentation schemes (CDSs) building upon the primary responsibility of the flag States to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing, and constituting a valuable supplement to port State and other measures.

The EU therefore, introduced on 1 January 2010, the Catch Certification Scheme (CCS), whereby fisheries products must be accompanied by Catch Certificate (CC) declaring that the catch was produced in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and international conservation and management measures. While the CDS should be designed to address the concerns on IUU fishing, especially as an important tool to combat IUU fishing, it should be developed from the point of view of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) or from trade documentation perspective.

Meanwhile, the EU IUU Regulation is being applied to all trade of marine fishery products, processed or not, originating from third country fishing vessels and exported to the EU by any means of transportation, and also to any catch originating from EU fishing vessels to be exported to third countries, as well as to transshipments and processing operations. Legally, the CCS is meant to record the origin of all the marine products arriving the EU market. This implies that EU importers must ensure that all consignments to be imported have validated certificates provided by exporters prior to the importation to the EU. Normally, the Fisheries Authority of the flag country of the vessel is responsible for the issuance of the Catch Certificate.

In 2017, FAO developed the Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes (VGCDS), which includes the Catch Documentation Schemes (CDSs) for wild capture fish caught for commercial purposes in marine or inland areas, whether processed or not. The Guidelines had been developed recognizing the relevant international laws and other international instruments, e.g. the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IPOA-IUU). The VGCDS therefore aims to provide assistance to States, regional fisheries management organizations, regional economic integration organizations, and other intergovernmental organizations, in their efforts towards developing and implementing new CDS or harmonizing or reviewing their existing CDSs.

Traceability system is one of the most recent trade requirements being put into force in response to the pressing needs expressed by the markets to ensure that fish and fishery products in the supply chain are not derived from IUU fishing activities. It is also being used to facilitate the tracking of the flow of products through the production processes or the supply chain to ensure that these are safe for human consumption.

0910-0920	Agenda 2: Introduction and Objective of the Workshop/Adoption of the Agenda
0920-1020	Agenda 3: Implementation on Catch Documentation Scheme and Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products by International and Regional Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCAMLR • IOTC • FAO
1020-1050	<i>Coffee/Tea Break and Group Photo</i>
1050-1200	Agenda 3: Implementation on Catch Documentation Scheme and Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products by International and Regional Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SALT • USAID
1200-1400	<i>Lunch Break</i>
1400-1500	Agenda 4: Enhancement and Promotion on Implementation of SEAFDEC Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products for Combating IUU Fishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEAN Guideline for Preventing the Entry of Fish and Fishery Products from IUU Fishing Activities into the Supply Chain (by SEAFDEC/MFRDMD)
1500-1530	<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>
1530-1630	Agenda 4: Enhancement and Promotion on Implementation of SEAFDEC Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products for Combating IUU Fishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of electronic ASEAN Catch Documentation Scheme (eACDS) (by SEAFDEC/TD)
1800-2000	<i>Reception Dinner</i>
30 November 2022 (Wednesday)	
0900-1000	Agenda 5: Lesson Learn and Implementation Catch Documentation Scheme and Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia • Japan
1000-1030	<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>
1030-1200	Agenda 5: Lesson Learn and Implementation Catch Documentation Scheme and Traceability of Fish and Fishery Products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippines • Thailand
1200-1400	<i>Lunch break</i>