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BLUE FAIR FISH

International Cooperation on Combating IUU Fishing
Topic: Legal & Regulatory Updates to Eradicate IUU Fishing in Indonesian Watersitle

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COMBATING IUU

Practical Workshop on Strengthening Control Activities for Effective Combating of IUU Fishing in Southeast Asia
27-29 October 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand

Legal and Regulatory Updates to Support the Eradication of IUU Fishing in Indonesian Waters

This presentation focuses on the legal and regulatory updates Indonesia has implemented to combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing — known as IUU fishing — across our vast maritime territory. Thank you for the opportunity to share our progress, our framework, and our path forward.

ESTABLISHED LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- Law No. 31/2004 amended by No. 45/2009 — Fisheries Law, licensing, management, penalties
- Law No. 32/2014 — Marine Affairs, maritime zones, enforcement roles
- Law No. 21/2019 — basis for international cooperation
- Ratification of PSMA — blocks IUU vessels from entering our ports

Indonesia has built a strong legal foundation.
Our main law is Law Number 31 of 2004 on Fisheries, updated by Law Number 45 of 2009.
This covers licensing, management rules, and penalties.
Then we have Law Number 32 of 2014 on Marine Affairs,
which defines our maritime areas and assigns duties to the Ministry of Marine Affairs, the Maritime Security Agency, and the Navy.
Law Number 21 of 2019 gives us the legal basis to join international treaties.
And we have ratified the Port State Measures Agreement — PSMA —
which stops vessels linked to IUU from using our ports to land their catches.

UPDATE 1: MEASURED FISHERIES — PP No. 11/2023

- Catch limits based on science — 80% may be harvested, 20% stays in the sea
- All catches must be fully reported
- Landing only at officially designated ports
- Electronic tracking and standardized monitoring

Now I turn to our key updates.
First is Government Regulation Number 11 of 2023 on Measured Fisheries.
This changes our approach completely.
Instead of unlimited harvesting, we now set limits based on scientific study.
Up to 80 percent of the sustainable fish stock may be taken.
The remaining 20 percent must stay in the ocean so fish can reproduce.
Every vessel must report all its catch completely and accurately.
Every landing must happen only at approved ports where authorities can verify the amount
and species. And we are standardizing electronic systems so vessel movements and harvest data
can be checked in real time.

UPDATE 2: NATIONAL IUU ACTION PLAN 2025–2029 — Kepmen KP No. 79/2025

- Effective: 3 December 2025
- Strengthen laws and policies
- Modernize monitoring with satellites and digital tools
- Enforce laws firmly and transparently
- Expand cooperation — national and international
- Involve communities, industry, and civil society
- Goal — significantly eliminate IUU fishing by 2029

Second is our National Action Plan through Ministerial Decree Number 79 of 2025. It takes effect on 3 December 2025 and runs until 2029. It has five main focus areas.

First, keep strengthening laws and policies.

Second, modernize monitoring using satellites and digital reporting.

Third, enforce rules firmly and fairly without exception. Fourth, work more closely together inside Indonesia and with other countries.

Fifth, make sure coastal communities, the fishing industry, and civil society are fully involved and informed. Our target is to end IUU fishing across Indonesian waters by 2029

UPDATE 3: STRENGTHENED LIABILITY — NEW CRIMINAL LAW

- Effective: 2 January 2026
- Fisheries Law remains as special legislation
- Liability extended — not only captain and crew, but also owners, managers, and companies
- Financiers and organizers held accountable
- Electronic and satellite data accepted as legal evidence
- Faster and clearer court proceedings

Third, new criminal laws take effect on 2 January 2026.
Our Fisheries Law stays fully in force as specialized legislation — it is not replaced.
The most important change is accountability.
Responsibility now applies not only to the captain and crew on board.
Vessel owners, company managers,
those who finance or organize illegal operations can all be held directly responsible.
Electronic records, satellite data, and digital logbooks .are accepted as valid evidence in court.
And legal processes are streamlined so cases move forward more quickly.
This sends a clear message — you cannot hide behind your crew.
Those who profit from IUU will face the law.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Fully implements PSMA — IUU vessels denied port entry
- Shares vessel data with neighboring countries
- Active in regional fisheries management bodies
- Conducts joint patrols and cross-border operations
- Builds capacity with partner nations

IUU fishing does not respect borders — and neither can our response.

Indonesia fully applies the Port State Measures Agreement.

Any vessel linked to IUU is refused entry to our ports and cannot unload its catch.

We share vessel information and movement data with neighboring countries.

We are active members of regional organizations that set conservation rules across shared waters.

We carry out joint patrols and coordinated operations with maritime neighbors.

And we work with international partners to build skills and systems across the region.

IUU fishing is a shared challenge — and it needs shared solutions.

CHALLENGES

- Vast maritime area — 5.8 million km² hard to monitor fully
- Evolving tactics — reflagging, fake documents, transshipment at sea
- Inter-agency coordination — still being improved
- Uneven resources — patrol vessels and tools not yet everywhere
- Transnational networks — ownership and finance cross borders

we have made progress , but real challenges remain. Our sea area covers 5.8 million square kilometers.

It is impossible to watch every spot all the time. Those involved in IUU keep changing their methods

they change vessel registration, falsify papers, and transfer catches between ships far out at sea.

Aligning data systems and coordination across our agencies is still being strengthened.

Patrol vessels and monitoring equipment are not yet evenly distributed across all regions.

And because IUU crosses borders, the companies and financiers behind these operations often span multiple countries.

These are difficult problems — but we are addressing them systematically.

CONCLUSION

- Legal framework is complete, updated, and aligned with international standards
- Built on three principles — sustainability, accountability, transparency
- Success needs — consistent enforcement, stronger partnership, inclusive participation
- Invitation — work together, share data, build capacity
- Protecting shared seas = protecting shared future

Indonesia now has a comprehensive and updated legal system to combat IUU fishing.

 We have set sustainable catch limits, strengthened port controls, clarified accountability for owners and companies, and deepened international cooperation.

 Our framework stands on three principles — sustainability, accountability, and transparency. But laws alone are not enough.

 Success needs consistent enforcement, stronger partnership across borders, and full participation from all communities.

I invite all nations and partners here today to deepen our cooperation, share information, and build capacity together. Our seas are shared — and our commitment to protect them must be shared too. Protecting our oceans is protecting our common future.

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