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COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES

Thirty-fourth Session

1-5 February 2021¹

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE JOINT FAO/ILO/IMO AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING AND RELATED MATTERS AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

¹ Rescheduled from 13-17 July 2020

SUB-COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF IMO INSTRUMENTS
7th session
Agenda item 14

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Recommendations of the fourth session of the Joint FAO/ILO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and Related Matters and recent developments

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document provides the recommendations of the fourth session of the Joint FAO/ILO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and Related Matters and recent developments in the context of IUU fishing and related matters

Strategic direction, if applicable: Other work

Output: OW 23

Action to be taken: Paragraph 2

Related documents: JWG 4/15 and III 7/14/1

Introduction

1 The annex to this document contains the recommendations* of the fourth session of the Joint FAO/ILO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing and Related Matters (JWG 4) and recent developments in the context of IUU fishing and related matters.

Action requested of the Sub-Committee

2 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the information provided and to take action as appropriate.

* The full report of JWG 4 will be issued under the symbol III 7/14/1

ANNEX

RECOMMENDATIONS

Agenda item 5 UPDATE BY THE SECRETARIATS ON THE STATUS OF IUU FISHING (RESPONSIBILITIES OF FLAG STATES, PORT STATES, COASTAL STATES, MARKET STATES, FISHING PERSONNEL TRAINING/PROVIDING STATES, AND STATES WITH FLEET MANAGING, FOOD PROCESSING AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES)

5.1 Noting that States have obligations under instruments covering fisheries, maritime and labour affairs, JWG 4 recommended that FAO, ILO and IMO promote and support the development of ways to increase coordination and information sharing for inspection and control procedures at national level, including through technical assistance to developing countries, thereby increasing efficiency and effectively supporting the implementation of the respective instruments.

Agenda item 6 GLOBAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

6.1 Further to the consideration of document JWG 4/6 on the *IMO Action Plan on marine litter from ships* and the actions related to fishing vessels, JWG 4 recommended that members and observers of FAO and ILO bring forward relevant comments and viewpoints, following further national and international coordination, to the respective meetings of IMO bodies, where the implementation of the actions contained in the *IMO Action Plan on marine plastic litter from ships* will be further discussed.

6.2 JWG 4 also recommended that IMO consider developing guidance to assist competent authorities in the implementation of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the 1993 Protocol relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977, through the most appropriate process. The process of developing guidance should allow for further discussion on its content and scope and be informed by FAO, ILO, other relevant Organizations and stakeholders.

Agenda item 7 STATUS OF COMBATING IUU FISHING INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL INTERAGENCY COORDINATION TO COMBAT IUU FISHING, FISHERIES-RELATED CRIMES AND CRIMES ASSOCIATED WITH FISHERIES

7.1 JWG 4 recommended that various regional PSC inspection regimes consider opportunities to coordinate their activities and to share information about various inspections under FAO/ILO/IMO instruments.

7.2 JWG 4 also recommended that FAO and IMO, together with ILO and relevant Organizations and regimes, as appropriate, consider developing guidance to facilitate cooperation, coordination and information-sharing between authorities carrying out inspections in ports of the merchant and fishing sectors, in line with relevant international instruments related to fishing vessels, fishing vessel personnel and fishing operations.

7.3 JWG 4 welcomed the initiative of the Indian Ocean MoU on Port State Control (IOMOU) to explore a collaborative programme with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), pending consideration by the members of the latter. In this context, JWG 4 also recommended further exchange between IOMOU and IOTC, as well as potential similar

contact opportunities in other regions, for mutual awareness and the consideration of training material, as appropriate.

Agenda item 8 COOPERATION AND DIALOGUE ON LABOUR ISSUES AND FISHERIES

8.1 JWG 4 recommended that FAO, ILO and IMO work together on the proposals contained in document JWG 4/8/2, taking into account the discussions on this item, as well as the responsibilities of flag States under UNCLOS; the lessons learned from the ILO SEA Fisheries project and the SEA Forum for Fishers; and the outcome of the EU social partners' initiative to produce guidelines for decent recruitment, placement and posting of (migrant) fishers. JWG 4 recommended that the outcome of this joint work be submitted to JWG 5, as appropriate.

8.2 JWG 4 also recommended that the work of ILO and IMO, with respect to the issues of abandonment and fair treatment of seafarers, be extended to include fishers.

8.3 JWG 4 further recommended that FAO consider how to promote fisheries observer safety globally, through the most appropriate process. This process should review available information and existing national and regional measures on the safety, security and working and living conditions of fisheries observers under existing observer programmes and be informed by IMO, ILO, other relevant Organizations and stakeholders, while taking into account the views expressed during the discussions on this item.

Agenda item 9 COOPERATION AND DIALOGUE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES RELATED TO FISHERIES (E.G. MARINE DEBRIS)

9.1 JWG 4 recommended that the FAO/ILO/IMO Secretariats consider a joint intervention and/or commitment during the 2020 UN Ocean Conference (Lisbon, 2-6 June 2020) to raise awareness on its joint work on IUU fishing and related matters.

Agenda item 10 JOINT/GLOBAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (INCLUDING PSMA/IUU FISHING, MARINE DEBRIS, ALDFG, PORT RECEPTION FACILITIES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT, REGULATORY ASPECTS OF MARPOL ANNEX V, AND THE LC/LP)

10.1 Following consideration of document JWG 4/10/1, JWG 4 recommended that the FAO/ILO/IMO Secretariats, World Maritime University (WMU), World Fisheries University (WFU), International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), ILO International Training Centre, any relevant UN-Agency such as Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO), and other interested stakeholders, cooperate in the exchange of information and experience in the context of the scope and content of a potential integrated capacity-building and technical cooperation programme on IUU fishing and promotion of international instruments relevant to fishing, taking into consideration existing implementing tools and material.

Agenda item 11 STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE FAO'S GLOBAL RECORD OF FISHING VESSELS, REFRIGERATED TRANSPORT VESSELS AND SUPPLY VESSELS AND IMO SHIP IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SCHEME (RESOLUTION A.1078(28))

11.1 JWG 4 recommended that the Member States of FAO, IMO and ILO, as appropriate, and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), consider taking appropriate action for the effective allocation of IMO ship identification numbers to fishing vessels.

11.2 JWG 4 also recommended that the FAO Member States consider the application of the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme to eligible vessels conducting fishing and fishing-related activities, as per resolution A.1117(30) in the framework of the Global Record.

11.3 JWG 4 further recommended that the review of the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme be carried out at IMO, as may be necessary, in cooperation with FAO and ILO, as appropriate.

Agenda item 12 AGENCIES' REVIEW PROCESSES OF, AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO, THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF JWG 4

12.1 JWG 4 recommended that the FAO/ILO/IMO Secretariats bring its recommendations to the consideration of their appropriate bodies.

Agenda item 13 FUTURE COLLABORATION BETWEEN FAO, ILO AND IMO AND PREPARATION OF JWG 5

13.1 Following consideration of document JWG 4/J/3, JWG 4 recommended that relevant FAO, ILO and IMO bodies review the terms of reference of the JWG with a view to providing directions to the FAO/ILO/IMO Secretariats for the development of draft rules of procedure and revised terms of reference to be considered at, and adopted, as appropriate, by JWG 5.
