



**MedFisis**

Fishery Statistics and  
Information System in  
the Mediterranean



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## **Working document prepared for the 8<sup>th</sup> session of the GFCM SAC**

**(25-28 October 2005, Tirana – Albania)**

### **Working document on the GFCM record of vessels over 15 metres authorized to operate in the GFCM area**

During its session on 26 September 2005, the transversal workshop on GFCM Statistical Framework and Databases (including IUU white list) requested the MedFisis project to take the lead in developing and distributing (in close collaboration with the GFCM Secretariat) a data collection form/file for Member States to be filled in with regards to, and compliance with, recommendation GFCM/2005/2 (see Annex 1) concerning the establishment of a GFCM record of vessels over 15 metres LOA authorized to operate in the GFCM area. Apart from this list of vessels, the workshop recommended that the MedFisis project developed a similar list for fishing vessels under 15 metres LOA.

In response to this, the MedFisis project has developed a framework for the collection of the relevant data for the GFCM record of vessels over 15 metres authorized to operate in the GFCM area and for vessels under 15 metres operating in the GFCM area.

This document presents the framework for both lists as developed so far. It consists of the codification tables, three data collection options and related software, and a regional database containing the GFCM vessel list. For the codification tables, reference is made to Annex 4-6.

The three methods Member States can use for supplying data are described below:

1. Member States with MedFisis/MedStat most recent software (developed with Microsoft Visual Studio.Net technology) will be provided with a module with which they will be able to produce a file in XML (Extensible Markup Language) format. This file could be sent to the GFCM Secretariat and imported by the framework developed by MedFisis project.

2. Member States having MS Access based MedFisis/MedStat software, or other vessel registry software capable of producing Excel sheets are requested to produce an Excel file with fields described in Annex 3, this Excel file could be sent to the GFCM Secretariat. Note should be taken that at this point in time, no multiple entries can be made per field for one vessel.
3. Member States without a computerized fishing vessel registry, or without a fishing vessel registry capable of producing an Excel output, are requested to fill in an Excel file as indicated in Annex 7, this file could be sent to the GFCM Secretariat.

It is expected that most Member States will produce an Excel datasheet. The file should be organized in such a way that per row only one vessel will be recorded, and that the columns contain the fields which need to be filled in.

The different column headings should be:

**Vessel Name**  
**Vessel register number**  
**Flag**  
**Previous name** (if any)  
**Previous flag** (if any)  
**Previous details of deletion from other registries** (if any)  
**International radio call sign** (if any)  
**Vessel type**  
**Length**  
**Gross registered tonnage (GRT)**  
**Gross Tonnage (GT)**  
**Starting date of fishing and/or transshipping authorisation**  
**Ending date of fishing and/or transshipping authorisation**  
**Gear used**  
**Name of the owner**  
**Address of the owner**  
**Name of the operator**  
**Address of the operator**

When producing the Excel file, the codification as given in Annex 4-6 should be followed to ensure regional consistency of the vessels lists originating from national datasets. Important is also that no multiple entries are allowed per column heading at this point in time.

The software developed by MedFisis project (see Annex 2) for the collection of the relevant data for the GFCM record of vessels has been designed to:

- a) make the data-entry of the information sent by Member States in Excel format;
- b) import the XML file generated by MedFisis/MedStat Vessel Register software;
- c) generate the reports and make the export of collected data.

## **Annex 1 – Recommendation GFCM**

### **RECOMMENDATION GFCM/2005/2 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GFCM RECORD OF VESSELS OVER 15 METRES AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE IN THE GFCM AREA**

The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM),

*RECALLING* that the objectives of the Agreement establishing the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean are to promote the development, conservation, rational management and proper utilization of living marines resources,

*RECALLING* GFCM Resolution 95/2 concerning the agreement to set a minimum length of 15 metres for the application of the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels in the High Seas; GFCM Resolution 95/4 concerning the preparation of a list of fishing boats in operation from national ports in the Mediterranean and exchange of information on vessels; and GFCM Resolution 97/2 on activities of non-Contracting Parties, and the decision adopted by GFCM at its Twenty-seventh session to establish a fleet segmentation for vessels operating in the Mediterranean,

*RECALLING* that the FAO Council adopted on 23 June, 2001 an International Plan of Action (IPOA) aiming to prevent, to deter and to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, that this plan stipulates that the regional fisheries management organization should take action to strengthen and develop innovative ways, in conformity with international law, to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and in particular to establish record of vessels authorized to operate and records of vessels engaged in IUU fishing,

*CONSIDERING* the conclusions of the Third Ministerial Conference on the Sustainable Development of Fisheries in the Mediterranean,

*ADOPTS*, in accordance with paragraph 1 (h) of Article III and Article V of the GFCM Agreement that:

1. The Commission shall establish and maintain a GFCM record of fishing vessels larger than 15 metres in length overall authorized to fish in the GFCM Area. For the purpose of this Recommendation, the vessels larger than 15 metres in length overall not entered into the record are deemed not to be authorized to fish for, retain on board, transship or land species covered by the Commission.

2. Each Contracting Party shall submit electronically to the GFCM Executive Secretary possibly by 1 July 2006, the list of its vessels that are authorized to operate in the GFCM Area. This list shall include the following information:

1. Name of vessel, register number
2. Previous name (if any)

3. Previous flag (if any)
4. Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any)
5. International radio call sign (if any)
6. Type of vessels, length and gross registered tonnage (GRT)
7. Name and address of owner(s) and operator(s)
8. Gear used
9. Time period authorized for fishing and/or transshipping

3. Each Contracting Party shall promptly notify, after the establishment of the initial GFCM record, the GFCM Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the GFCM record at any time such changes occur.

4. The GFCM Executive Secretary shall maintain the GFCM record, and take any measure to ensure publicity of the record including through electronic means and placing it on the GFCM website, in a manner consistent with confidentiality requirements noted by Members.

5. The flag Contracting Party of the vessels on the record shall:

- a. authorize their vessels to operate in the GFCM Area only if they are able to fulfill in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the Agreement and its conservation and management measures;
- b. take necessary measures to ensure that their vessels comply with all the relevant GFCM conservation and management measures;
- c. take necessary measures to ensure that their vessels on the GFCM record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish and/or transship;
- d. ensure that their vessels on the GFCM record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels, or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their vessels are not engaged in, or associated with, IUU fishing;
- e. ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their vessels on the GFCM record are not engaged in, or associated with, fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the GFCM record in the GFCM Area;
- f. take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the vessels on the GFCM record are citizens or legal entities within the flag Contracting Party so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them, and
- g. keep consistency between the GFCM record and ICCAT record of vessels.

6. The Contracting Parties shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 5, including punitive and sanction actions and in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report the results of the review to the Commission at its 2007 meeting and annually thereafter. In consideration of the results of such review, the

Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag Contracting Party of vessels on the GFCM record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels to GFCM conservation and management measures.

7. The Contracting Parties shall take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on board, the transshipment and landing of species in the GFCM Area by the vessels larger than 15 metres in length overall which are not entered into the GFCM record.

8. Each Contracting Party shall notify the GFCM Executive Secretary of any factual information showing that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting vessels not on the GFCM record to be engaged in fishing for and/or transshipment in the GFCM Area.

9.

- a) If a vessel mentioned in paragraph 8 is flying the flag of a Contracting Party, the Executive Secretary shall request that the Contracting Party take measures necessary to prevent the vessel from fishing in the GFCM Area.
- b) If the flag of a vessel mentioned in paragraph 8 cannot be determined or is of a non- Contracting Party, the Executive Secretary shall compile such information for future consideration by the Commission.

10. The Commission and the Contracting Parties concerned shall communicate with each other, and make the best effort with FAO and other relevant regional fishery management bodies to develop and implement appropriate measures, where feasible, including the establishment of records of a similar nature in a timely manner so as to avoid adverse effects upon fisheries resources in other oceans. Such adverse effects might consist of excessive fishing pressure resulting from a shift of the IUU vessels from the Mediterranean to other seas or oceans.

## Annex 2 – Database User Guide

### System Requirements

Please note the following requirements for the software:

<b>Operating System</b>	Windows 2000 or higher
<b>RAM</b>	64 megabytes (MB) of RAM, 128 MB recommended
<b>Processor</b>	300-megahertz (MHz) Intel Pentium-class processor
<b>Resolution</b>	1024 x 768 or higher-resolution display with 256 colours
<b>CD-ROM drive</b>	Yes
<b>Hard disk</b>	100 MB of hard disk space or more

If a PDF files reader is not present on the pc, it is recommended to install Adobe Reader.

### Installation


The **GFCM Authorized Vessel List** can be installed by double-clicking the file "setup.exe".

This will launch the following operations:

1. The two prerequisite components, the **Microsoft .NET framework** and **Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) 2.8** will be installed if necessary (Note that this component is required only when using Windows 2000, since it's already included in Windows XP)  
Please note that the MDAC installation may require a reboot.  
If after rebooting the installation does not continue automatically, run "setup.exe" to continue the installation.
2. The **GFCM Authorized Vessel List** will be installed and a shortcut will be placed both on the user's desktop and in the program files menu.

The System will give an alert when the setup process is successfully finished.

### How to Start

To start up the **GFCM Authorized Vessel List** software, double-click on the software icon  placed in the desktop.

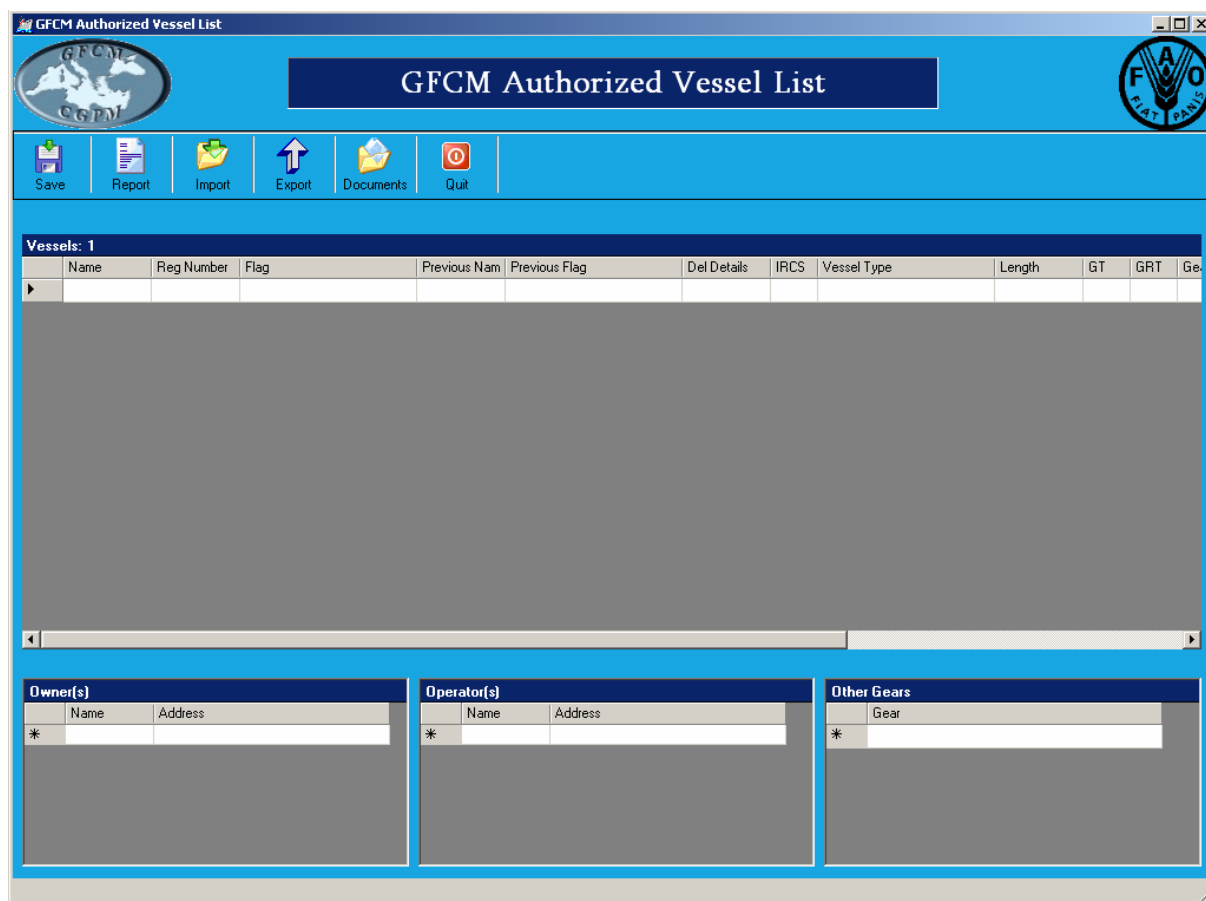








Fig. 1

The toolbar placed in the upper part of the software allows the following features:

	Save the vessel data just entered into the software.
	Open the report tool. This is a tool for further purpose and it is not yet developed.
	Import the XML file generated by National Vessel Register software.
	Generate an electronic file with the complete vessel list. This option is not yet developed.
	Open the Documents Repository to consult the manual of the GFCM software and other official documents.
	Close the application.

## Data entry

The data entry tool is composed of 4 boxes (**Vessel**, **Owner(s)**, **Operator(s)** and **Other gear**) which contains the following fields:

Box name	Field name	Complete field name
<b>Vessel</b>	<i>Name</i>	Vessel name
	<i>Reg Num</i>	Registration
	<i>Flag</i>	Vessel register number
	<i>Previous name</i>	Previous vessel name
	<i>Previous flag</i>	Previous flag
	<i>Del details</i>	Details of deletion
	<i>IRCS</i>	International radio call sign
	<i>Vessel type</i>	Vessel type
	<i>Length</i>	Length
	<i>GT</i>	Gross Tonnage
	<i>GRT</i>	Gross Register Tonnage
	<i>Gear used</i>	Main fishing gear
	<i>Auth start</i>	Authorization start
	<i>Auth end</i>	Authorization end
<b>Owner(s)</b>	<i>Name</i>	Owner name
	<i>Address</i>	Owner address
<b>Operator(s)</b>	<i>Name</i>	Operator name
	<i>Address</i>	Operator address
<b>Other gears</b>	<i>Gear</i>	Other fishing gear


See Annex 3 for the data field description.

The Content of the three little boxes placed at the bottom of the window (*Owner(s)*, *Operator(s)* and *Other gear*) are strictly related to active vessel in the Vessel box. When the selected row in the Vessel box changes, by which you change the active vessel, the viewed info in the bottom tables changes accordingly.

To fill in any eventual information about the owner, operator and/or other gear:


1. select the correct vessel in the Vessel box;
2. go to the box where you want to add/edit data;
3. enter the related information.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE


Before clicking on the Save button , the selected row needs to be changed, in order to commit the modifications applied. If this is not done, the edits/additions will not be saved.

When the Save button is pressed the system will immediately alert the user if the entered length value is lower than 15 metres, or if the time period interval is not consistent. All errors must be corrected, before entered data can be saved.

## Report

With the Report button , reports can be generated and printed. This feature is not yet been developed.

## Import

This tool allows users to import the XML (Extensible Markup Language) file generated by the MedStat Vessel Register. Clicking on the import icon  a system window will be opened from which it is possible to select the folder where the file is stored.

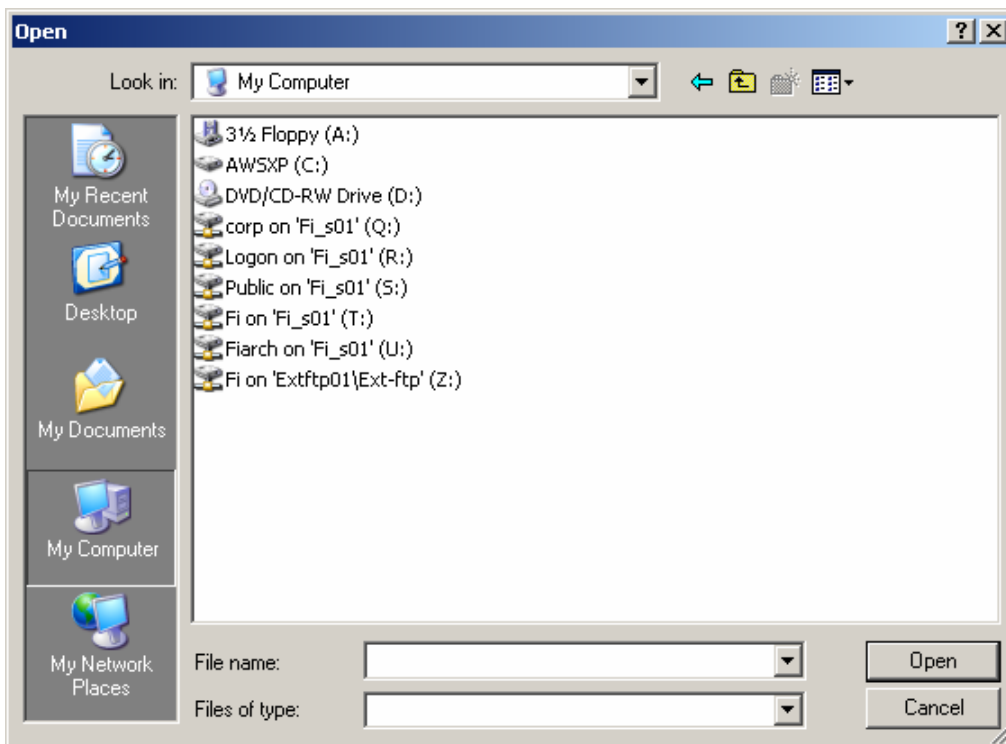



Fig. 2

Once the file has been successfully imported, the vessel list will be immediately displayed in the software menu and any data changes are allowed.

## Export

Clicking on the Export button , a routine for data file generation will be started. This feature is not yet developed.

## Documents

Clicking on the Documents button , the **Documents Repository** will pop up (Fig. 3).

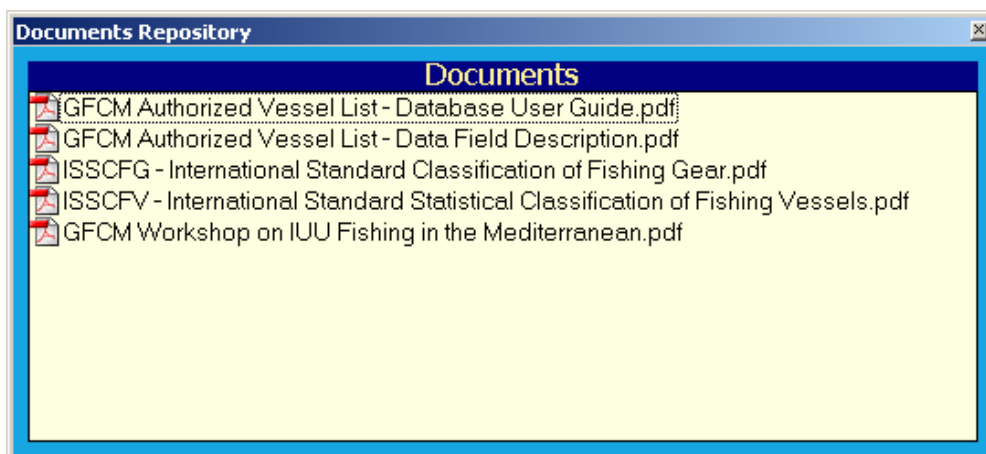


Fig. 3

From this dialog, the following documents can be accessed:

- **GFCM Authorized Vessel List - Database User Guide**  
User guide of the GFCM vessel list software.
- **GFCM Authorized Vessel List - Data Field Description**  
Description of the fields to be requested for the GFCM record of vessels over 15 metres authorized to operate in the GFCM area.
- **GFCM Workshop on IUU Fishing in the Mediterranean**  
Report of the GFCM Workshop on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing in the Mediterranean (Rome, 23 and 26 June 2004).  
[FAO Fisheries Reports R767]
- **ISSCFG - International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear**  
The International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG) adopted during the 10th Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) (Madrid, 22-29 July 1980).
- **ISSCFV - International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Vessels**  
The International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishery Vessels by Vessel Types (ISSCFV), based on the type of gear used by the vessels, approved by the CWP in 1984.

All the documents are in PDF format: Adobe Acrobat Reader software is required.

### Close

Clicking on the Close button , the **Software** will be closed.

## Annex 3 – Data field description

ITEMS	DESCRIPTION
1 Vessel name	The name of vessel.
2 Vessel register number	The registration number assigned to the fishing vessel by the Authorities.
3 Flag	The flag under which the vessel is operating.
4 Previous name	The previous name of vessel (if any).
5 Previous flag	The previous flag of vessel (if any).
6 Details of deletion	Details of deletion from other registries (if any).
7 International radio call sign	International radio call sign (if any).
8 Vessel type	The type of vessel according to the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels by Vessel Types. (The 'International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishery Vessels by Vessel Types' (ISSCFV), based on the type of gear used by the vessels, approved by the CWP in 1984) <sup>1</sup> .
9 Length	Length Over All (LOA, in metres). The principle longitudinal dimension of the hull of the vessel.
10 GRT	The Gross Register Tonnage according to the Oslo Convention (1947) (in use until 1995). (GRT represented the total measured cubic content of the permanently enclosed spaces of a vessel, with some allowances or deductions for exempt spaces such as living quarters [1 gross register ton = 100 cubic feet = 2.83 cubic metres]).
11 GT	The Gross Tonnage according to the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, London, 1969 (in use since 1996) <sup>2</sup> .
12 Owner(s)	The name of owner(s).
13 Owner(s) address	The address of owner(s).
14 Operator(s)	The name of operator(s).
15 Operator(s) address	The address of operator (s).
16 Gear used	The main gear according to the fishing license of the vessel or the owner/operator, using the International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (The International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG) was adopted during the 10th Session of the CWP (Madrid, 22-29 July 1980) <sup>3</sup> .
17 Time period	Time period authorized for fishing and/or trans-shipping.

<sup>1</sup> [www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionL.xml](http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionL.xml) (Annex L III)

<sup>2</sup> [www.admiraltylawguide.com/conven/tonnage1969.html](http://www.admiraltylawguide.com/conven/tonnage1969.html)

<sup>3</sup> [www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionM.xml](http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionM.xml)

## Annex 4 – Provisional List of the GFCM Countries

English short name	UNDP* code	ISO3**
Albania	ALB	ALB
Algeria	ALG	DZA
Bulgaria	BUL	BGR
Croatia	CRO	HRV
Cyprus	CYP	CYP
Egypt	EGY	EGY
France	FRA	FRA
Greece	GRE	GRC
Israel	ISR	ISR
Italy	ITA	ITA
Japan	JPN	JPN
Lebanon	LEB	LBN
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	LIB	LBY
Malta	MAT	MLT
Monaco	MNC	MCO
Morocco	MOR	MAR
Romania	ROM	ROM
Serbia and Montenegro	YUG	SCG
Slovenia	SVN	SVN
Spain	SPA	ESP
Syrian Arab Republic	SYR	SYR
Tunisia	TUN	TUN
Turkey	TUR	TUR

\* United Nations Developed Programme ([www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org))

\*\* ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 (International Organization for Standardization - [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org))

## **Annex 5 – Simplified Classification of Fishery Vessels by Vessel Types (ISSCFV) *in use since 1996***

Simplified version<sup>4</sup> of the “International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishery Vessels by Vessel Types” (ISSCFV), based on the type of gear used by the vessels, approved by the CWP in 1984.

<b>ISSCFV</b>	<b>Vessel type</b>	<b>Standard abbreviation</b>
0100	Trawls	TO
0200	Purse Seiners	SP
0300	Other Seiners	SOX
0400	Gill Netters	GO
0500	Trap Setters	WO
0600	Long Liners	LL
0700	Other Liners	LOX
0800	Multipurpose vessels	MO
0910	Other fishing vessels	DO
0900	Dredgers	FX

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<sup>4</sup> [www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionL.xml](http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionL.xml) (Annex L III)

## Annex 6 – International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG)

The “International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear” (ISSCFG<sup>5</sup>) adopted during the 10th Session of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) (Madrid, 22-29 July 1980).

ISSCFG	Fishing gear	Standard abbreviation
0110	With purse lines (purse seines)	PS
0111	One boat operated purse seines	PS1
0112	Two boats operated purse seines	PS2
0120	Without purse lines (lampara)	LA
0210	Beach seines	SB
0220	Boat or vessel seines	SV
0221	Danish seines	SDN
0222	Scottish seines	SSC
0223	Pair seines	SPR
0290	Seine nets (not specified)	SX
0310	Bottom trawls	TB
0311	Bottom beam trawls	TBB
0312	Bottom otter trawls	OTB
0313	Bottom pair trawls	PTB
0314	Bottom nephrops trawls	TBN
0315	Bottom shrimp trawls	TBS
0319	Bottom trawls (not specified)	TB
0320	Midwater trawls	TM
0321	Midwater otter trawls	OTM
0322	Midwater pair trawls	PTM
0323	Midwater shrimp trawls	TMS
0329	Midwater trawls (not specified)	TM
0330	Otter twin trawls	OTT
0349	Otter trawls (not specified)	OT
0359	Pair trawls (not specified)	PT
0390	Other trawls (not specified)	TX
0410	Boat dredges	DRB

<sup>5</sup> [www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionM.xml](http://www.fao.org/figis/servlet/static?dom=ontology&xml=sectionM.xml)

0420	Hand dredges	DRH
0510	Portable lift nets	LNP
0520	Boat-operated lift nets	LNB
0530	Shore-operated stationary lift nets	LNS
0590	Lift nets (not specified)	LN
0610	Cast nets	FCN
0690	Falling gear (not specified)	FG
0710	Set gillnets (anchored)	GNS
0720	Driftnets	GND
0730	Encircling gillnets	GNC
0740	Fixed gillnets (on stakes)	GNF
0750	Trammel nets	GTR
0760	Combined gillnets-trammel nets	GTN
0790	Gillnets and entangling nets (not specified)	GEN
0791	Gillnets (not specified)	GN
0810	Stationary uncovered pound nets	FPN
0820	Pots	FPO
0830	Fyke nets	FYK
0840	Stow nets	FSN
0850	Barrier, fences, weirs, etc	FWR
0860	Aerial traps	FAR
0890	Traps (not specified)	FIX
0910	Handlines and pole-lines (hand operated)	LHP
0920	Handlines and pole-lines (mechanised)	LHM
0930	Set longlines	LLS
0940	Drifting longlines	LLD
0950	Longlines (not specified)	LL
0960	Trolling lines	LTL
0990	Hooks and lines (not specified)	LX
1010	Harpoons	HAR
1110	Pumps	HMP
1120	Mechanised dredges	HMD
1190	Harvesting machines (not specified)	HMX
2000	Miscellaneous gear	MIS
2500	Recreational fishing gear	RG
9900	Gear not known or not specified	NK



## Annex 8 – Information held by selected Regional Fishery Organizations concerning Authorized Fishing Vessels

	GFCM	CSSBT	ICCAT	IOTC
Details of deletion				
Flag				
Gear used				
GRT				
GT				
International radio call sign				
IOTC record n°				
Length				
Length type				
License				
Operator				
Operator address				
Owner				
Owner address				
Ownership				
Previous details of deletion from other registries				
Previous flag				
Previous name				
Previously suspended by country name				
Time period				
Vessel history				
Vessel name				
Vessel register number				
Vessel type				
Vessel new to LSFV list				

**GFCM**    General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean  
**CSSBT**    Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna  
**ICCAT**    International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas  
**IOTC**    Indian Ocean Tuna Commission