

**Eleven recommendations considered by the Technical Consultation
(FAO, Rome, 8–12 November 2010)
for presentation to the Twenty-ninth session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI)**

Recommendation 1:

The TC recommended that all vessels, including vessels of fishing entities that fall within the definitions of ‘vessel’, ‘fishing’, and ‘fishing-related activity’ as specified in the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, be included explicitly in the GR with the following exclusions:

- (i) recreational vessels, as defined by each member State or fishing entity; and
- (ii) container vessels that are not carrying fish or, if carrying fish, only fish that have been previously landed.

Recommendation 2:

Acknowledging the need for a phased and flexible approach, the TC recommended that as a general principle, the GR should apply to all vessels as defined in Recommendation 1 regardless of their area of operation, while at the same time allowing coastal States to determine application.

It was also recommended that a flexible approach should be taken to the inclusion of vessels fishing in fresh water areas to take account of different circumstances. States should be free to include such eligible vessels if deemed appropriate by them.

Recommendation 3:

The TC recommended that all vessels ≥ 10 GT, ≥ 10 GRT or ≥ 12 metres in length (LOA) be included in the GR, recognizing that a phased implementation was necessary and that due consideration be given to the characteristics of smaller vessels.

Recommendation 4:

It was recommended that the provision of UVI numbers to all vessels in Recommendation 1 to be found in the GR be entrusted to a competent body, highlighting that IHS-Fairplay has the capability and experience in this field.

It was further recommended that due consideration be given to the characteristics of smaller vessels and the need for sufficient information to ensure a unique vessel identifier could apply to smaller vessels.

Recommendation 5:

It was recommended that the information contained in tables 1 (‘Core Information Requirements for Obtaining a UVI’) and 2 (‘Additional Information Requirements to be collected within 5 Years of a UVI being Issued’) below should comprise the minimum criteria to be submitted in support of an application for a UVI for all vessels ≥ 100 GT, 100 GRT or ≥ 24 m (LOA).

It was further recommended that member States which have vessels of a lesser size should be free to apply these criteria, if they so wished, in order to expedite an application for a UVI for these vessels and their subsequent entry into the GR.

It was further recommended that separate criteria facilitating the application of the UVI for smaller vessels be developed and that COFI request FAO to work with member States and IHS-Fairplay to develop these criteria.

Recommendation 6:

The TC recommended that associated information be provided for the GR over time which are relevant and add value to the core purpose of fighting IUU fishing, recognizing the ongoing need for capacity development by member States where necessary.

The TC drew attention to the responsibilities of flag States under international law and, therefore recommended the provision and updating of information for the GR by the flag State.

Recommendation 7:

The TC requested that the FAO Secretariat develop a full cost comparison for the various options for COFI and conscious of the need for these cost considerations, the TC recommended that the hosting and management of the GR by FAO be subject to evaluation of the cost considerations by COFI.

Recommendation 8:

It was recommended that the FAO proceed with a phased implementation of the GR over an eight-year period according to a plan developed by FAO.

It was further recommended that COFI request FAO to work with the member countries to clarify the administrative arrangements for the introduction and implementation of phase 1 of the GR.

Recommendation 9:

It was recommended, as a general principle that vessel characteristics information be in the public domain.

It was further recommended that other information would be subject to some restriction if necessary, taking into account national legislative requirements.

Recommendation 10:

It was recommended that the GR should be launched as soon as possible as a voluntary initiative, using a phased approach to the implementation process, including comprehensive evaluation at the end of phase one (approximately the end of 2013).

It was also recommended that based on the findings of that evaluation, further work should be completed to lay a foundation to consider on a voluntary basis a legally binding instrument which provides for the application of a UVI to eligible vessels along with specification as to the current and future information requirements of the GR.

Recommendation 11:

It was recommended that FAO should provide, as far as possible, adequate resources and capacity to identify the needs and opportunities of developing countries in relation to the GR so that once identified, strategies can be developed and implemented to address these needs and to realize opportunities, enabling these developing countries to engage effectively in, and benefit from, the GR process.

Table 1 Core Information Requirements for Obtaining a UVI Vessels \geq 100GT / 100GRT / 24 m (LOA) Plus Other Vessels at Flag State Discretion	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Owner • Flag State • Name of Fishing Vessel • National Registration / Official Number • Previous Vessel Names • Port of Registry • Address of Owner or Owners • Previous Flag or Flags (if any) • International Radio Call Sign (if issued) • Where and When Built • Type of Vessel • Dead Weight (if applicable) Length 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moulded Depth • Beam • MMSI (if issued) • GT or GRT (to be specified) • Net Tonnage (if applicable) • Power of Main Engine or Engines • Ship Builder • Country of Build • Parallel Registry (if applicable) • Commercial Operator (if applicable – Name and Address) • Date Entered onto Flag State Register • Date Ship De-registered (by the previous flag State, if applicable)

Table 2 Additional Information Requirements to be collected within 5 Years of a UVI being Issued Vessels \geq 100GT / 100GRT / 24 m (LOA)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Company Registered Owner • Ship Manager (if applicable) • Bareboat / Demise Charter (if applicable) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parallel-in Ships True Ownership Registration Details (if any) • Parallel-out Ships True Owner Details (if any)

Source:

Extracted from: FAO. Report of the Technical Consultation to Identify a Structure and Strategy for the Development and Implementation of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels, held in Rome, 8–12 November 2010
 FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report. No. 956. Rome, FAO, 2010. 25p.