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## NORWAY

On substantial matters, the OECD+ should discuss the substantial scope of the geographical extent of our obligations as flag states for fishing vessels. Do our flag state obligations extend to our national vessels fishing in the EEZ of another state? And should flag state responsibilities according to the guidelines include obligations for national vessels within their own national zones? (Norway favors the broadest scope).

Secondly, it is important to discuss ambitions. There is, for instance, the issue of whether a list of available sanctions pursuant to international law should be reflected in the guidelines. Norway would not object to any mention of sanctions, but considers that such reference is not strictly necessary, as sanctions ultimately will be enforced by states on basis of national law. Guidelines for responsible flag states will be useful regardless of whether sanctions are specified.

Meanwhile, Norway advocates elaboration of a system similar to the IMO system for implementation of flag state duties, including a role for the classification companies in aiding, evaluating and assessing flag state performance, at the request of flag states themselves. Such a role for the classification companies may provide the middle ground needed as a compromise between those who want tangible external assessment of state performance, and those who express concern about concepts involving foreign state evaluation.