

Paper submitted by Iceland

For Discussion

Clarification of the term “fishing vessel” regarding receiving vessels in transshipment operations.

Background:

Experiences have shown that it may be difficult to notify a cargo vessel which is intended for receiving of cargo only into the NEAFC System as outlined in the Annexes of the Scheme as such vessels can not be reported with all the same mandatory information as a fishing vessel. The purpose of the wording in Article 1, d of the NEAFC Scheme must be to make the cargo vessel undertake all the same reporting requirements as the fishing vessel. That includes the cargo vessel must be in the VMS, transmit Catch on Entry, Transshipment and Catch on Exit. However, there is no clear indicator to distinguish between the real fishing vessel and the cargo vessel. To clarification, the following amendments are proposed.

Proposal:

Change Article 1, d, to read as follows:

“fishing vessel” means any vessel used or intended for use for the purposes of the commercial exploitation of fisheries resources, including fish processing vessels and vessels engaged in transshipment. Vessels intended for receiving of cargo only shall be notified as such and are subsequently exempt from notification requirements which are relevant to fishing vessels only, such as FAO marking of fishing vessels.

Change the Notification message in Annex II, mandatory/optional status for the Data Elements XR and TP to be as follows

Data Element:	Code:	Mandatory / Optional	Remarks
External Registration Number	XR	M ³	Vessel registration detail; the side number of the vessel
Vessel Type	TP	O ⁴	Vessel characteristic, FAO vessel code (Attachment IV A)

3 Optional in case of a cargo vessel

4 Mandatory in case of a cargo vessel

Add an indicator into the Catch on Entry message to clearly mark the cargo vessel:

Data Element:	Code:	Mandatory / Optional	Remarks
Activity	AC	O ¹	Activity detail; TRX as transshipment vessel

1 Mandatory in case of a cargo vessel