

**AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA
INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS**

**Technical Circular
024 – 2021**

To:	Resident Agents
From:	Directorate of Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
Subject:	Registration of fishing vessels whose owner is a company incorporated in Panama
Ref.:	ARAP/IFA/TC/024/2021

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama informs the Resident Agents that, through Executive Decree 131 of April 14, 2020, which establishes and regulates catch licenses and fishing related activities for national flag vessels of international service and dictates provisions to prevent, discourage and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, Article 27 establishes the mandatory registration of all fishing vessels owned by companies incorporated in Panama.

The requirements for mandatory registration are:

1. Name, nationality, address, telephone number and e-mail addresses of the shipowner, owner, and charterer of the vessel, if any, as well as the direct beneficiaries of the activity originating from the vessel. In case the beneficiary is a legal entity, the data of its directors, officers and legal representative must be provided.
2. IMO International Identification Number.
3. Nationality or flag of the vessel.
4. Copy of the fishing license and navigation patent issued by the corresponding competent authorities.

That the same Executive Decree establishes the sanction for non-compliance with the aforementioned provisions.

“Article 28. The Authority shall impose a fine in the amount of five thousand balboas and 00/100 (B/5,000.00) on the company that fails to comply with the provisions of the preceding article. The Authority shall proceed to issue an official notice to the General Directorate of Revenues of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, so that the pertinent measures may be taken against the company, owner of the vessel in case it does not pay the fine, once the resolution imposing the fine has been executed.”

They are urged to make the proper communications to their users or representatives in order to comply with the measures provided, these provisions arise as a commitment of the Panamanian State to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

For more information on this Technical Circular, please contact:

Directorate of Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama
Telephone: (+507) 511-6008 / 511-6019
E-mail: hsfs@arap.gob.pa