
AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA



TECHNICAL NOTICES

N° 070-2023

FOR: Shipowners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents

ON BEHALF: General Directorate of Inspection, Surveillance and Control (DGIVC)

SUBJECT: *Inspection mechanism, surveillance and control of Panamanian fishing vessels and activities related to the fishing vessels of international services.*

DATE: November 22, 2023

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) reiterate to Shipowners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents, through **Executive Decree No. 161 of June 6, 2013**, establish the inspection mechanisms, surveillance and control to the Panamanian fishing vessels and activities related to the fishing vessels of international services. Particularly, in reference of established in the Decree in its Articles sixth and twenty first:

“ARTICLE 6. *In the fishing logbook referred in the previous article, the following information shall be consigned.*

1. *Identification number and fishing vessel name.*
2. *Date (dd/mm/yyyy), haul number (consecutive for the tide), start time (24-hour local format), and starting position (degrees/minutes), end time, and haul position.*
3. *Common name in Spanish and English, as per the catch, the 3-alpha Code of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for each species, and the relevant geographical zone in which the catching were made.*
4. *Departure and arrival dates to the port and the period of the tide.*
5. *Type of fishing method.*
6. *Composition of the species, estimated catch quantities in metric tons, and when applicable, the number of specimens.*
7. ***The authorized tolerance margin in the estimations recorded in the fishing logbook for metric tons of fish transported on board shall be ten percent (10%) for all species.***
8. *The number of fishing operations.”*

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“ARTICLE 21. Without prejudice to specific provisions, captains of fishing vessels and fishing support vessels participating in a transshipment operation shall complete a transshipment declaration, expressly recording all quantities of each species transshipped or received in terms of live weight. Captains shall be responsible for the accuracy of data recorded in the fishing logbook. The aforementioned transshipment declaration shall, at a minimum, contain the following information:

1. The International identification number (IMO) and the fishing vessels names.
2. The 3-alpha code of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for each species, and the relevant geographical zone where the catches were made.
3. **Estimated quantities of each species in kilograms of product weight, itemized by product presentation type or, when applicable, by the number of specimens. The authorized tolerance margin in the estimation of transshipped or received fish in kilograms to be recorded in the transshipment declaration shall be ten percent (10%) for all species.**
4. The designated port.
5. The landing port for the vessel receiving the transshipment.”

Based on the above, this Authority will ensure faithful compliance with the established regulations, particularly regarding the tolerance margin per species. Likewise, the Authority reiterates its responsibility as the flag State in implementing necessary measures to contend IUU fishing, with the measures of the Port State being an essential element to prevent, discourage, and eliminate these illegal activities.

✓ Important and Mandatory

Vessels that are detected not complying with these guidelines and measures, will be subject to the application of the regulations in force and established by this Authority in sanctioning matters in accordance with Law N°204 of March 18, 2021.

- **Attached:** Executive Decree No. 161 of June 6, 2013.

For more information about this Technical Notices, please contact:

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