

**Conservation Measure 03/06 on an Interim Prohibition of Transshipments- at - Sea  
in the SEAFO Convention Area and to Regulate Transshipments in Port**

**The Parties to the SEAFO Convention :**

*Taking account* of the need to ensure the control of catches by fishing vessels and to combat IUU activities,

*Recognising* the lack of a comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance system, in particular, at sea,

*Taking account* of the need to collect catch data of fishing vessels to improve the scientific assessments of stocks within the Convention Area,

**Have agreed as follows :**

***1. Prohibition of Transshipments in the Convention Area***

Each Contracting Party shall prohibit transshipments at sea by vessels flying their flag in the Convention Area fishing for species covered by the SEAFO Convention.

***2. Port State authorisation***

Fishing vessels which catch species covered by the Convention in the Convention Area shall only transship in port of a Contracting Party if they have prior authorisation from the Contracting Party in whose port the operation will take place. The fishing vessels shall be permitted to carry out transshipments only if they have obtained such a prior authorisation to transship from the flag State and port State.

***3. Flag State authorisation***

Each Contracting Party shall ensure that their duly licensed fishing vessels obtain a prior authorisation from their Flag State to engage in in-port transshipments. They shall also ensure that transshipments are consistent with the reported catch amount of each vessel and require the reporting of transshipment.

***4. Notification obligations***

**(a) *Fishing vessel:***

The master of a fishing vessel who transships in port to another vessel, hereinafter referred to as “the receiving vessel”, any quantity of catches of species covered by the Convention fished in the Convention Area shall, at the time of the transshipment inform the flag State of the receiving vessel of the species and quantities involved, of the date of the transshipment and the location of catches. He shall submit to his flag State a SEAFO transshipment declaration in accordance with the format set out in annex.

The master of the fishing vessel shall notify, at least 24 hours in advance, the following information to the Contracting Party in whose port the transshipment will take place:

- the names of the transshipping fishing vessels,
- the names of the receiving vessels,
- the tonnage by species to be transshipped,
- the day and port of transshipment.

(b) ***Receiving vessel:***

Not later than 24 hours before the beginning of the transshipment, and at the end of a transshipment, the master of the receiving vessel shall inform the competent authorities of the port state, of the quantities of catches of species covered by the Convention on board his vessel. He shall transmit the SEAFO transshipment declaration to these competent authorities within 24 hours.

The master of the receiving vessel shall, 48 hours before landing, submit a SEAFO transshipment declaration to the competent authorities of the port State where the landing takes place.

## **5. Follow-up by Contracting Parties**

Each Contracting Party referred to in paragraphs 3, 6 and 7 shall take the appropriate measures to verify the accuracy of the information received and shall cooperate with the flag State to ensure that landings are consistent with the reported catches amount of each vessel.

Each Contracting Party shall notify annually to SEAFO the details of transshipments by its flag vessels in accordance with paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5.

## **6. Review**

The Commission shall review these measures at its Annual Meeting in 2009.



## **TRANSSHIPMENT DECLARATION**

**(1) General rule**

In the case of transshipment, the master of the fishing vessel shall enter the quantities on the transshipment declaration. A copy of the transshipment declaration shall be handed to the master of the recipient vessel.

**(2) Procedure for completion**

- (a) Entries on transshipment declaration shall be legible and indelible.
- (b) No entry on the transshipment declaration may be erased or altered. If a mistake is made, the incorrect entry shall be struck out with a line and followed by a new entry initialled by the master or his agent.
- (c) One transshipment declaration should be completed for each transshipment operations.
- (d) Each page of the transshipment declaration shall be signed by the master.

**(3) Responsibilities of the master in respect of the landing declaration and the transshipment declaration**

The master of the vessel shall certify with his initials and signature that the estimated quantities entered on the transshipment declaration are reasonable. The copies of the transshipment declaration must be kept for one year.

**(4) Information to be provided**

The estimates of the quantities trans-shipped are to be indicated as follows, for each species, on one of the declaration forms in respect of a particular voyage:

- **Presentation of fish** (reference n° 1)  
“*Presentation*” means the way fish has been processed. Indicate the nature of this processing if any: GUT for gutting, HEAD for heading, FILLET for filleting, etc ... Where no processing has taken place, WHOLE for whole fish.
- **Measurement unit for landed quantities** (reference n° 3)  
Give the unit of weight used (e.g. basket, box, etc.) for landing fish and the weight of the unit in kilograms. This unit may be different from that used in the logbook.
- **Total weight species trans-shipped** (reference n° 4)  
Give the weight or quantities actually trans-shipped for all species covered by the SEAFO Convention.  
The weight should correspond to the weight of fish as landed, i.e. after any processing on board.  
Conversion coefficients will be applied subsequently by the appropriate authorities in the CPC to calculate the corresponding live weight.
- **Name of Port** (reference n° 2)  
*Name of Port, Country* refers to the port and country in which the transshipment will take place.

**(5) Procedure of transmission**

- (a) In the case of transshipment to a vessel flying the flag of a Contracting Party or registered in a Contracting Party, the first copy of the transshipment declaration shall be handed over to the master of the recipient vessel. The original shall be handed over or dispatched, as the case may be, to the authorities of the Contracting Party whose flag the vessel is flying or in which it is registered, within 48 hours of completion of landing or on arrival in port.
- (b) In the case of transshipment to a vessel flying the flag of a non-member country, the original document shall be handed over or sent, as the case may be, as soon as possible to the Contracting Party whose flag the fishing vessel is flying or in which it is registered.
- (c) In cases where it is impossible for the master to dispatch the original of the transshipment declarations to the authorities of the Contracting Party whose flag the vessel is flying or in which it is registered within the time limits specified, the information required in respect of the declaration shall be transmitted by radio or by other means to the authorities concerned.

The information shall be transmitted via the radio stations usually used, preceded by the name, the call sign and external identification of the vessel, and the name of its master.

In cases where it is not possible for the message to be transmitted by the vessel, it may be transmitted on the vessel's behalf by another vessel or by any other method.

The master shall ensure that information transmitted to radio stations is passed on in writing to the relevant authorities.