THE REGIONAL PORT INSPECTION PROGRAM IN ATLAFCO ZONE

ATLAFCO Secretariat

Coordination meeting LDAC/ATLAFCO

Vigo, 24 January 2017
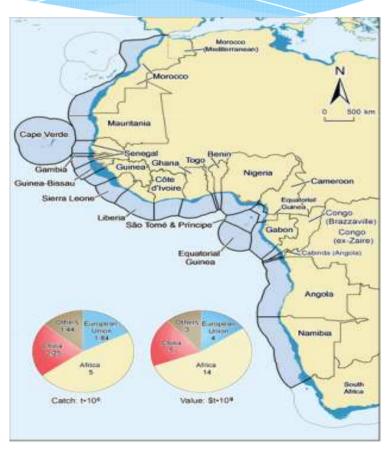
Harnessing today without compromising tomorrow ...

- **Regional cooperation in MCS** for west african countries is crucial to achieve effective fisheries management, particularly of shared stocks

- Bilateral, sub-regional and regional cooperation on MCS can include the exchange of fisheries data, harmonized legislation, implementation of flag and **port State control** agreements, and **combined measures** to address IUU fishing

- In 2014, the African Ministers reaffirmed commitment to strengthen the **MCS capacity including implementation of port states measures**, flag state measures and related instruments in order to combat IUU fishing
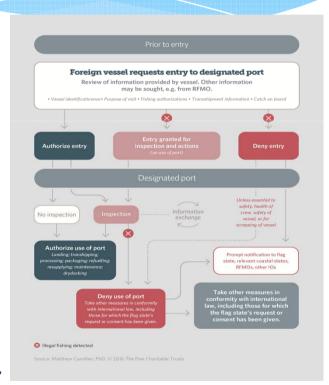
REGIONAL PORT INSPECTION PROGRAM

❑ One of the recommendation of MCS in ATLAFCO zone seminar(2015 Marrakech) is the establishment of a **Regional Port Inspection Program**

❑ It was reiterated during the **GFCM/ATLAFCO** joint workshop (2016 Tangier)

❑ A regional system of port State measures could entail

➢ **Common procedures for inspection,**

➢ **Qualification requirements for inspection officers**

➢ **Agreed consequences for vessels found to be in non-compliance.**

❑ Possible common elements could also include, in addition to **denial of port access and/or landing and transshipment of catch, denial of requests for fishing access to coastal State waters** and **denial of requests for vessel registration**
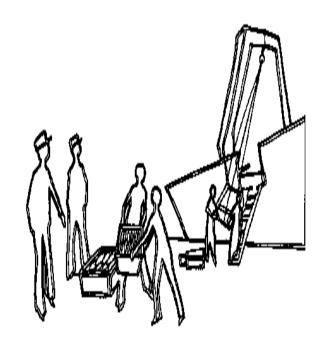
Prior to entry

Foreign vessel requests entry to designated port
Review of information provided by vessel. Other information may be sought, e.g. from RFMO.
• Vessel identificationnac • Purpose of visit • Fishing authorizations • Transshipment information • Catch on board

Authorize entry | Entry granted for inspection and actions *(no use of port)* | Deny entry

Designated port

No inspection | Inspection | Information exchange | Unless essential to safety, health of crew, safety of vessel, or for scrapping of vessel

Authorize use of port
Landing; transhipping; processing; packaging; refuelling; resupplying; maintenance; drydocking

Prompt notification to flag state, relevant coastal states, RFMOs, other IOs

Deny use of port
Take other measures in conformity with international law, including those for which the flag state's request or consent has been given.

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⊗ Illegal fishing detected

Source: Matthew Camilleri, PhD, © 2016 The Pew Charitable Trusts

Fisheries inspectors should be:

❑ Thoroughly **conversant** with relevant provisions of the **PSMA.**

❑ **Trained in inspection procedures** as set out in **Article 13** and **Annex B** and consistent with existing, broader port State control inspection procedures.

❑ Able to design a **sampling plan** for vessel inspection and/or appreciate the importance of doing so in accordance with **Article 12.**

❑ Familiar with the use of i**nternational coding systems** referred to **in Annex D, Paragraph d**), and required for inspection reports.

❑ Conversant with provisions of international fisheries instruments and requirements of **relevant RFMOs and the PSMA** to advise who should receive inspection reports in accordance with **Article 15.**

❑ Trained in accordance with **Article 17,** which includes, as a minimum, the areas described in **Annex E**

BENIFITS OF THE REGIONAL PORT INSPECTION PROGRAM

❑ Using information gathered systematically in Regional port inspections can reduce **the overall costs of the port nation's risk assessment and MCS system.**

❑ Better regional integration should **reduce the time, effort, and resources spent** on monitoring, pursuing, and inspecting vessels at sea.

❑ Regional Port inspection Program **is safer and less expensive** than conventional air and surface compliance enforcement tools.

The objective of the Regional Port Inspection Program

The objective is to develop national capacities and promote regional coordination so that countries are better positioned **to strengthen and harmonize their port State measures and therefore implement** :

- ❑ The relevant tools of FAO's **2001** International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing,

- ❑ The FAO Model Instrument on Port State Measures **2005** to Combat IUU Fishing

- ❑ The **2009** Agreement on Port State Measures to Combat IUU Fishing

The feasibility of the Regional Port Inspection Program

In the short upcoming days ATLAFCO secretariat will launch a study related to the implementaion of the Regional Port Inspection Program which expected results/outputs :

- ❑ Definition/recommendations of Regional Port Inspection Program
- ❑ Road map for implementation of Regional Port inspection Program
- ❑ Best practice guide to cooperation at regional level