

**(5) Global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, and supply vessels**

The term “global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels, and supply vessels” means the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ initiative to rapidly make available certified data from state authorities about vessels and vessel related activities.

**(6) IUU fishing**

The term “IUU fishing” means illegal fishing, unreported fishing, or unregulated fishing (as such terms are defined in paragraph 3 of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted at the 24th Session of the Committee on Fisheries in Rome on March 2, 2001).

**(7) Port State Measures Agreement**

The term “Port State Measures Agreement” means the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing set forth by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, done at Rome, Italy November 22, 2009, and entered into force June 5, 2016, which offers standards for reporting and inspecting fishing activities of foreign-flagged fishing vessels at port.

**(8) Priority flag state**

The term “priority flag state” means a country selected in accordance with section 8032(b)(3) of this title—

(A) whereby the flagged vessels of which actively engage in, knowingly profit from, or are complicit in IUU fishing; and

(B) that is willing, but lacks the capacity, to monitor or take effective enforcement action against its fleet.

**(9) Priority region**

The term “priority region” means a region selected in accordance with section 8032(b)(2) of this title—

(A) that is at high risk for IUU fishing activity or the entry of illegally caught seafood into the markets of countries in the region; and

(B) in which countries lack the capacity to fully address the illegal activity described in subparagraph (A).

**(10) Regional Fisheries Management Organization**

The term “Regional Fisheries Management Organization” means an intergovernmental fisheries organization or arrangement, as appropriate, that has the competence to establish conservation and management measures.

**(11) Seafood**

The term “seafood”—

(A) means marine finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms of marine animal and plant life, including those grown, produced, or reared through marine aquaculture operations or techniques; and

(B) does not include marine mammals, turtles, or birds.

**(12) Transnational organized illegal activity**

The term “transnational organized illegal activity” means criminal activity conducted by self-perpetuating associations of individuals who operate transnationally for the purpose of obtaining power, influence, or monetary or commercial gains, wholly or in part by illegal means, while protecting their activities through a pattern of corruption or violence or through a transnational organizational structure and the exploitation of transnational commerce or communication mechanisms.

**(13) Transshipment**

The term “transshipment” means the use of refrigerated vessels that—

(A) collect catch from multiple fishing boats;

(B) carry the accumulated catches back to port; and

(C) deliver supplies to fishing boats, which allows fishing vessels to remain at sea for extended periods without coming into port.

(Pub. L. 116–92, div. C, title XXXV, §3532, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1997.)

**Editorial Notes**

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this subtitle”, meaning subtitle C of title XXXV of div. C of Pub. L. 116–92, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1997, known as the Maritime Security and Fisheries Enforcement Act and also as the Maritime SAFE Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 116–92, div. C, title XXXV, §3531, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1997, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle C (§§3531–3572) of title XXXV of div. C of Pub. L. 116–92, enacting this chapter and amending section 7103 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse] may be cited as the ‘Maritime Security and Fisheries Enforcement Act’ or the ‘Maritime SAFE Act’.”

**§ 8002. Purposes**

The purposes of this chapter are—

(1) to support a whole-of-government approach across the Federal Government to counter IUU fishing and related threats to maritime security;

(2) to improve data sharing that enhances surveillance, enforcement, and prosecution against IUU fishing and related activities at a global level;

(3) to support coordination and collaboration to counter IUU fishing within priority regions;

(4) to increase and improve global transparency and traceability across the seafood supply chain as—

(A) a deterrent to IUU fishing; and

(B) a tool for strengthening fisheries management and food security;

(5) to improve global enforcement operations against IUU fishing through a whole-of-government approach by the United States; and

(6) to prevent the use of IUU fishing as a financing source for transnational organized

groups that undermine United States and global security interests.

(Pub. L. 116-92, div. C, title XXXV, § 3533, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1999.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this subtitle”, meaning subtitle C of title XXXV of div. C of Pub. L. 116-92, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1997, known as the Maritime Security and Fisheries Enforcement Act and also as the Maritime SAFE Act, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 8001 of this title and Tables.

#### § 8003. Statement of policy

It is the policy of the United States<sup>1</sup>

(1) to take action to curtail the global trade in seafood and seafood products derived from IUU fishing, including its links to forced labor and transnational organized illegal activity;

(2) to develop holistic diplomatic, military, law enforcement, economic, and capacity-building tools to counter IUU fishing;

(3) to provide technical assistance to countries in priority regions and priority flag states to combat IUU fishing, including assistance—

(A) to increase local, national, and regional level capacities to counter IUU fishing through the engagement of law enforcement and security forces;

(B) to enhance port capacity and security, including by supporting other countries in working toward the adoption and implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement;

(C) to combat corruption and increase transparency and traceability in fisheries management and trade;

(D) to enhance information sharing within and across governments and multilateral organizations through the development and use of agreed standards for information sharing; and

(E) to support effective, science-based fisheries management regimes that promote legal and safe fisheries and act as a deterrent to IUU fishing;

(4) to promote global maritime security through improved capacity and technological assistance to support improved maritime domain awareness;

(5) to engage with priority flag states to encourage the use of high quality vessel tracking technologies where existing enforcement tools are lacking;

(6) to engage with multilateral organizations working on fisheries issues, including Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to combat and deter IUU fishing;

(7) to advance information sharing across governments and multilateral organizations in areas that cross multiple jurisdictions, through the development and use of an agreed standard for information sharing;

(8) to continue to use existing and future trade agreements to combat IUU fishing;

(9) to employ appropriate assets and resources of the United States Government in a coordinated manner to disrupt the illicit networks involved in IUU fishing;

(10) to continue to declassify and make available, as appropriate and practicable, technologies developed by the United States Government that can be used to help counter IUU fishing;

(11) to recognize the ties of IUU fishing to transnational organized illegal activity, including human trafficking and illegal trade in narcotics and arms, and as applicable, to focus on illicit activity in a coordinated, cross-cutting manner;

(12) to recognize and respond to poor working conditions, labor abuses, and other violent crimes in the fishing industry;

(13) to increase and improve global transparency and traceability along the seafood supply chain as—

(A) a deterrent to IUU fishing; and

(B) an approach for strengthening fisheries management and food security; and

(14) to promote technological investment and innovation to combat IUU fishing.

(Pub. L. 116-92, div. C, title XXXV, § 3534, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2000.)

#### SUBCHAPTER I—PROGRAMS TO COMBAT IUU FISHING AND INCREASE MARITIME SECURITY

##### § 8011. Coordination with international organizations

The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, shall coordinate with Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and may coordinate with other relevant international governmental or nongovernmental organizations, or the private sector, as appropriate, to enhance regional responses to IUU fishing and related transnational organized illegal activities.

(Pub. L. 116-92, div. C, title XXXV, § 3541, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2001.)

##### § 8012. Engagement of diplomatic missions of the United States

Not later than 1 year after December 20, 2019, each chief of mission (as defined in section 3902 of title 22) to a relevant country in a priority region or to a priority flag state may, if the Secretary of State determines such action is appropriate—

(1) convene a working group, led by Department of State officials, to examine IUU fishing, which may include stakeholders such as—

(A) United States officials from relevant agencies participating in the interagency Working Group identified in section 8031 of this title, foreign officials, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, and representatives of local fishermen in the region; and

(B) experts on IUU fishing, law enforcement, criminal justice, transnational orga-

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “States—”.