

# SEA FISHERIES (FISHING) REGULATIONS

L.N. 53 of  
1972

*Under Section 11(1)*

*Commencement: 15th August 1972*

1. No vessels (except canoes) shall fish within the first two nautical miles of the waters of the Nigerian continental shelf. Restriction on fishing in certain areas etc.
2. Trawlers shall not use a codend with stretch mesh size of less than 76mm when trawling for fish in the inshore waters or less than 44mm when trawling for shrimps in areas approved for shrimp trawling. Trawling in inshore waters.
3. No shrimp trawling is permitted in the inshore waters of the Lagos—West fishing grounds. Shrimp trawling
4. (1) Fishing vessels licensed to fish in the territorial waters of Nigeria must not dump edible and marketable sea products at sea. Accordingly, fish landed by shrimp trawlers must not be less than 75 per cent by weight of the total landings including the head-on weight of the shrimps landed. Dumping of edible and marketable sea products, and export thereof.
  - (2) All the catch must be landed at port and no part of it may be exported or shipped away from Nigeria at sea.
  - (3) Any part of the catch for export shall be exported in the usual manner and subject to any foreign exchange regulations for the exportation of such commodities from Nigeria.

Offences.

5. (1) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence and be liable to a fine of two hundred naira or to imprisonment for six months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(2) Where an offence under these Regulations which has been committed by a body corporate is proved to have been committed by the consent or connivance of, or to be attributable to any neglect on the part of any director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body corporate, or any person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, he, as well as the body corporate shall be guilty of that offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.

Interpretation.

6. In these Regulations—

“the inshore waters” is a reference to that part of the continental shelf with depth not more than 50 metres.;

“the Lagos—West fishing grounds” is a reference to that area of the continental shelf adjacent to the Lagos, Ogun, Oyo and Ondo States;

“shrimp” includes prawns and other similar edible crustacea; and

“the territorial waters of Nigeria” has the meaning assigned thereto in the Territorial Waters Act.

Cap. 428

Short title.

7. These Regulations may be cited as the Sea Fisheries (Fishing) Regulations.

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