

Resolution No. 460 dated 29 March 1965
Fishing Regulation in salt water

In accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Legislative Decree No. 30 dated 25 August 1964 on protection of aquatic life, and on the basis of the viewpoint of the Directorate General of Ports - Directorate of Fisheries and Licenses, as well as upon the proposal of the Higher Council of aquatic life.

The Minister of Agriculture
has decided the following:

CHAPTER I:

GENERAL PROVISIONS:

Article 1:

The provisions laid in this Resolution shall be applied on various kinds of sea fishing, and the Directorate General of ports shall undertake the execution of provision of this Resolution.

Article 2:

The provisions laid in this Resolution shall be applied only on professional fishermen, whereas the.....shall be liable to special provisions issued by the Minister of Agriculture.

Article 3:

Sea fishing is any fishing in the sea as well as in the coastal waters where salinity is above 0.20‰.

Article 4:

Whoever may practice sea fishing in the waters of the Syrian Arab Republic should obtain a fishing license from the Directorate General of Ports - Directorate of Fisheries and Licenses.

Article 5:

The fishing zones shall be defined in a decision from the Director General of Ports, in such a way that is commensurate with the administrative classification stipulated in Article 8 of the Legislative Decree 154 dated 3 December 19611 on the powers of the Directorate General of Ports.

Article 6:

The number of licenses and related issuing pre-requisites shall be outlined in a decision by the Minister of Agriculture, upon a proposal from the Director General of Ports, after the pre-requisites in connection with sea fishing licenses have been seen.

CHAPTER II

PLACES AND PERIODS OF FISHING:

Article 7:

Fishing shall be prohibited in the coastal areas exploited by the state of those given with permission or authorized legally to set up fisheries at a distance of a minimum of 500 meters from the permanent establishments legally authorized.

Article 8:

All kinds of fishing shall be prohibited within the ports, but the Directorate General of Ports may grant fishing rights in agreement with the administration of port authorities, to the cooperative societies for fishing purposes only on the condition that such an action will not be an obstacle to the process of ordinary work at the port. The decision to grant fishing rights shall be published by the Director General of Ports.

Article 9:

Sea fishing by means of drift nets shall be prohibited as from 15 June to the end of September each year, and as from sunset to sunrise unless there is a written approval by the Directorate General of Ports, and is should be at a distance of at least 3 kilometers away from the floating nets used for catching fish.

Article 10:

Unless otherwise mentioned in the articles 8, 9 and 0 of this Resolution, fishing may be prohibited temporarily at certain times and places whenever the protection of aquatic life requires it. The decision to prohibit fishing shall be made up by the Director General of Ports, and in accordance with the recommendations of the Higher Council on Aquatic Life.

CHAPTER III

THE NETS

The nets are subdivided into three categories no matter how they are called or joined or their purpose measures, as far as the execution of provision of this Resolution:

1st Category:

The permanent nets are usually at the bottom of the sea by means of stakes or ropes or heavy objects. Such nets remain where they are fixed, but should have the following characteristics:

- a) The minimum opening should be not less than 25 mm.
- b) If composed of three layers, then the opening of the two lateral layers should not be less than 60 mm.
- c) Such nets are not allowed for towing at the bottom of the sea.

2nd Category:

The floating nets, are usually placed at the highest sea layers, and moved according to the winds, tides, or the current without touching the bottom of the sea. The nets in this category are not subject to any condition regarding the size of the openings, but if used in another way, then there should be the required pre-requisites for the nets used in that manner.

3rd Category:

The drift nets in the lower part of which a weight is placed to sink and then towed at the bottom of the sea no matter how far the towing distance or means of doing it. Drift nets are sub-divided into two types:

- **First Type:** The nets which are towed by a boat or more like a deep spade, but this kind is not allowed for use at a depth less than 50 meters.

- **Second type:** The nets which are pulled by hands from the sea or land or from the deck of a pointed boat; or submerged in the bottom of the sea and dragged immediately to the land or to the boat. However, the opening of the drift net in both kinds should not be less than 25 mm.

Article 12:

All divisions of major and minor nets should have legally the required conditions. The openings of the nets shall be measured once they are wet.

Other fishing gear and means as well as their conditions.

Article 13:

The following equipment shall be allowed for fisheries, on the condition that such equipment will not cause damage to the aquatic life. These will include:

- a) The fishing rod, regardless of their numbers.
- b) Various waiving threads
- c) The hooks
- d) The spears
- e) Various kinds of traps
- f) Various kinds of cages, the meshes of which should not be less than 25 mm as for the square and 35 mm for the triangled ones.
- g) Sea gunpowder
- h) The utilities used in catching scale fish or shellfish.

The means that are not allowed:

Article 14:

The following means are prohibited in sea fishing in addition to the means indicated in the Legislative Decree No. 30 dated 25 August 1964:

- a) Sea gunpowder together with sinking tool
- b) Fire weapons at a depth less than six meters
- c) Inflammable materials
- d) Electric power.

Article 15:

Some of fishing means could be prohibited temporarily in certain places or times, when there is a necessity to protect the aquatic life. The decision to this effect shall be taken by the Minister of Agriculture upon a proposal by the Director General of Ports and in accordance with the recommendations of the Higher Council on Aquatic Life.

Article 16:

Several authorized boats can carry out a certain fishing operation of a specific kind of immigrant fishes on the condition that such boats should have a prior permission from the Directorate General of Ports.