

**Recommendation on amending the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement to improve monitoring and control of transshipment operations at sea**

The Commission hereby adopts the following recommendation pursuant to Article 8 of the Convention:

Article 13 of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement is amended as follows:

**Article 13 - Communication of Transshipments and of Port of Landing**

1. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that transshipment operations at sea of fisheries resources caught in the Regulatory Area, regardless of the area where the transshipment takes place, comply with the following conditions:

a. ~~Each Contracting Party shall ensure that its fishing vessels engaged in transshipment operations involving regulated resources~~ shall communicate reports of transshipments in accordance with the specification and format set out in Annex VIII by electronic means to their FMC. These reports shall include the quantities on-loaded and off-loaded for each transshipment ~~during the vessel's stay in the Regulatory Area~~. Donor vessels shall make this report at least 24 hours in advance, ~~and concerning~~ Receiving vessels shall make this report ~~shall be made~~ no later than one hour after transshipment. The report shall include the date, time, geographical position of the planned transshipment and total round weight by species to be off-loaded or which have been on-loaded in kilograms and the call signs of vessels transhipped to or from respectively. The reports shall be given according to the specifications set out in Article 12(2).

b. Transshipment operations may only commence after the authorisations have been given by the flag Contracting Party of the receiving vessel. Each Contracting Party shall transmit without delay to the Secretary a copy of the authorisation.

c. Without prejudice to Chapter V, each Contracting Party shall ensure that its fishing vessels, subsequent to having been involved in a transshipment operation at sea involving ~~fisheries-regulated~~ resources caught in the Regulatory Area as receiving vessel shall report total catch onboard, total weight to be landed, name of port and date and time of landing at least 24 hours in advance of any landing, regardless of whether the landing is to take place in a port inside or outside the Convention Area. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that the report of port of landing is communicated in accordance with the specification and format set out in Annex VIII by electronic means to their FMC.

2. The Secretary shall make the reports mentioned in paragraphs 1(a) and (c) and the authorisation referred to in paragraph 1(b) available for the Contracting Parties without delay.