

3 In April 1999, the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development highlighted the issues of flag and port State responsibilities and the need for FAO and IMO to cooperate on solving problems relating to IUU Fishing. As a result, the Secretariats of IMO and FAO worked together to facilitate the creation of the Joint FAO/IMO Ad Hoc Working Group on IUU Fishing and Related Matters (JWG). Since then, JWG met four times.

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON FISHING VESSEL SAFETY AND IUU FISHING AND JWG 4

Cape Town Agreement

4 The fourth session of JWG (JWG 4) took place after the closure of the Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing, which was organized by IMO and the Government of Spain, Torremolinos, Málaga, Spain, from 21 to 23 October 2019. with the kind support of the FAO of the United Nations (FAO) and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

5 The Conference promoted the ratification of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on

to ratify and promote the Agreement by the tenth anniversary of its adoption (11 October 2022). During the Conference, which is open for further signatures until 21 October 2020, forty-eight countries signed the declaration.

7 As well as taking action to ensure entry into force, States signing the Torremolinos Declaration, pledged to promote the Agreement, recognizing that the ultimate effectiveness of the instrument depends upon the widespread support of States, in their capacities as flag States, port States and coastal States. They also denounced the proliferation of IUU fishing, recognizing that international safety standards for fishing vessels will provide port States with a mandatory instrument to carry out safety inspections of fishing vessels, thereby increasing control and transparency of fishing activities.

8 JWG 4 considered the outcome of the Conference and recommended that IMO consider developing guidance to assist competent authorities in the implementation of the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the 1993 Protocol relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977, through the most appropriate process. The process of developing guidance should allow for further discussion on its content and scope and be informed by FAO, ILO, other relevant Organizations and stakeholders.

Joint/global capacity development programmes

9 WG 4 recommended that the FAO/ILO/IMO Secretariats, World Maritime University (WMU), World Fisheries University (WFU), International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI), ILO International Training Centre, any relevant UN-Agency such as Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of *UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO)*, and other interested stakeholders, cooperate in the exchange of information and experience in the context of the scope and content of a potential integrated capacity-building and technical cooperation programme on IUU fishing and promotion of international instruments relevant to fishing, taking into consideration existing implementing tools and material.

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF IMO INSTRUMENTS
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Agenda item 11 STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE FAO'S GLOBAL RECORD OF FISHING VESSELS, REFRIGERATED TRANSPORT VESSELS AND SUPPLY VESSELS AND IMO SHIP IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SCHEME (RESOLUTION A.1078(28))

11.1 JWG 4 recommended that the Member States of FAO, IMO and, as appropriate, and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), consider taking appropriate action for the effective allocation of IMO ship identification numbers to fishing vessels.

11.2 JWG 4 also recommended that the FAO Member States consider the application of the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme to eligible vessels conducting fishing and fish-related activities, as per resolution A.1117(30) in the framework of the Global Record.

11.3 JWG 4 further recommended that the review of the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme be carried out at IMO, as may be necessary, in cooperation with FAO and ILO, as appropriate.

Agenda item 12 AGENCIES' REVIEW PROCESSES OF, AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TO, THE