

International tools for information exchange





What is the PSMA and its relevance to ports?

PSMA application

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Question & Answers

What is the PSMA

The Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA) is the first binding instrument to specifically target illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing)

How?

Its objective is to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing by preventing vessels engaged in IUU fishing from using ports and landing their catches.

In this way, the PSMA reduces the incentive of such vessels to continue to operate while it also blocks fishery products derived from IUU fishing from reaching national and international markets

Relevant Articles of the PSMA

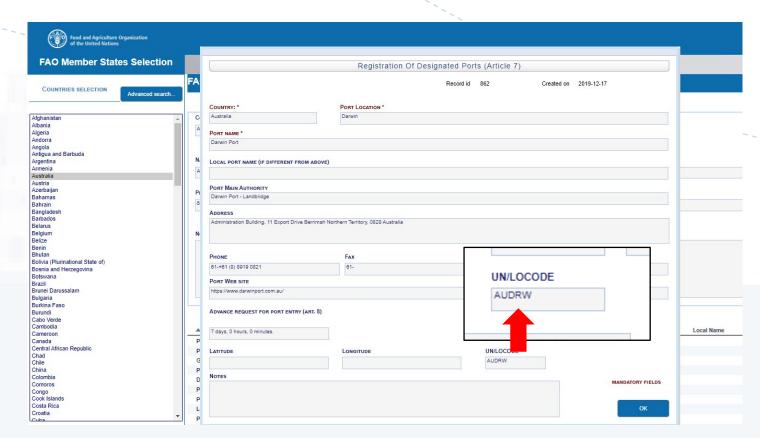
- Article 7 Parties are requested to designate ports to which foreign vessels may request entry and should communicate these ports to FAO, which shall give it due publicity
- Article 9, 11 and 18 Parties are requested to exchange information with regard, port entry denials, port use denials and inspection reports, respectively.
- Article 16 a system should be created to allow for direct electronic exchange of information, relevant to the Agreement

The PSMA Application

As first phase, the PSMA
Application was developed to allow parties to communicate and publicise their designated ports and national contact points under the PSMA.

Currently, 76 national contact points and 600 Designated Ports have been communicated (>50% covered by UN/LOCODE)!

One of the data fields of the designated ports form is the UN/LOCODE



Article 7: Designation of ports

Each Party shall designate and publicize the ports to which vessels may request entry pursuant to this Agreement. Each Party shall provide a list of its designated ports to FAO, which shall give it due publicity.

The GIES application

The PSMA Global Information Exchange System or GIES in short is the application that was developed by FAO, as called for under Article 16 of the PSMA.

This application allows for the electronic exchange of official vessel compliance-related information such as port inspections, and port entry and use denials.

As per the annexes of PSMA there are several data fields in PSMA reports that refer to ports, such as the port of inspection, the intended port of call, and the previous port of call which use the name of the port.

The UN/LOCODE is not one of the data fields requested or international coding systems referred to within the annexes of the Agreement.

GIES PILOT PHASE

Launched successfully on 12/2021, pilot phase ongoing



GIES V1 OFFICIAL LAUNCH

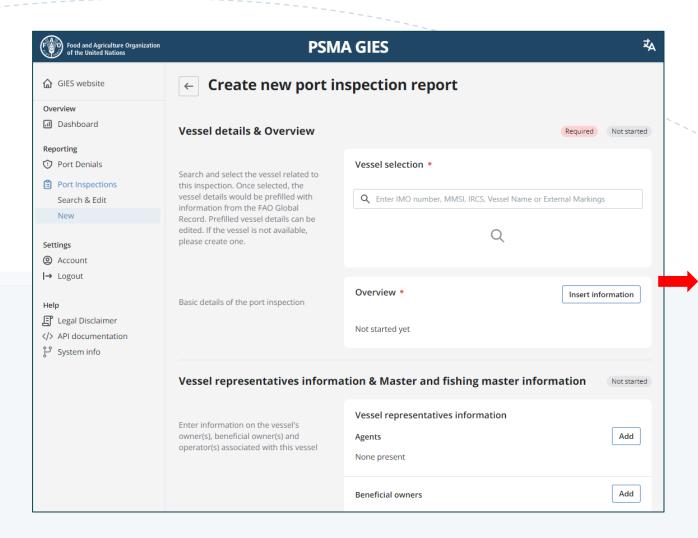
Pending decision from Parties, the system is expected to soon be made operational. This point is being be discussed during the MOP4 this week

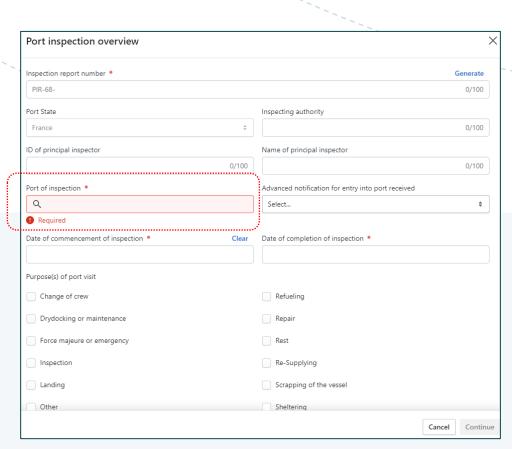


GIES V2 (FUTURE)

Further development and features are expected to be developed in accordance with guidance received from the Parties to the Agreement.

The Port inspection form in GIES



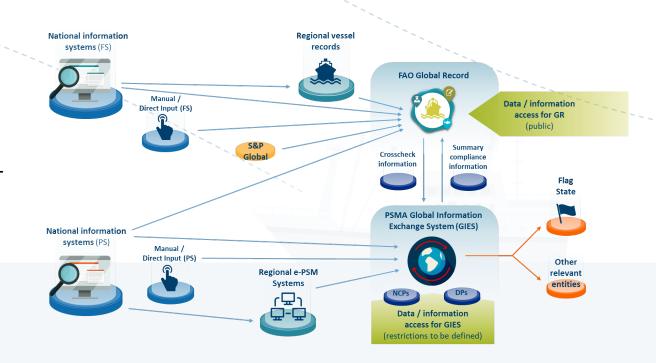


An application connected thru APIs

APIs in PSMA application to facilitate the use of UN/LOCODE

Beyond the use of forms where port information is entered manually, GIES has several APIs capable of allowing machine-to-machine exchange and synchronization of port data, including the UN/LOCODE field.

This "numerical discussion" avoids errors through the standardized use of a port name.



API (Application Programming Interface) is a software intermediary that enables communication and data exchange between two separate applications; for eg: exchanging and/or syncronising automatically a list of ports between two different data applications.

TWG-IE recommendations and decisions from Parties

In consideration of the benefits of using an international coding systems to ensure correctness when exchanging information globally in various languages, such as the UN/LOCODE. The FAO has been working with the UNECE to inform PSMA Parties of advancements on the UN/LOCODE.

During the third meeting of the PSMA Technical Working Group on Information Exchange, in December 2022, the Working Group:

'highlighted the importance of ensuring that all designated ports under the PSMA, have been attributed UN/LOCODE, when possible'

This recommendation will be brought to the fourth Meeting of the Parties to the PSMA, occurring this week in Bali Indonesia, the decisions making body of the Agreement.

Future work

Engage further with Parties to explore the addition of the UN/LOCODE as an optional or required data field within reports exchanged within the PSMA GIES.

The FAO Global Record application

A collaborative global tool that gathers and disseminates through a unique access point, certified, relevant & upto-date information on vessels used for fishing or in support of fishing activities.

Goal

To address IUU fishing through increased transparency and traceability

Nature

A single hub for flag State fleet information (requested by COFI)

Scope

All fishing and fishing related vessels (transport, support and supply vessels):

- That have an IMO number (as per IMO Resolution A.1117(3))
 - LOA ≥ 24m
 - 12m ≥ LOA < 24 m that operates in waters beyond national jurisdiction
- Whose products access international markets.

Port of registration

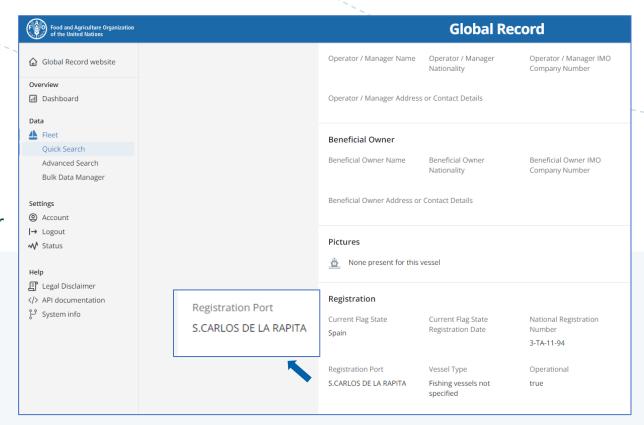
The port of registration number

Code or reference established in the reporting country for that port. The use of UN/LOCODE is encouraged when it is available.

To avoid clashes with Codes issued by other countries in case UN/LOCODE isn't used, user should ensure to prefix his code value with an ISO 3-alpha country code. Ideally follow the country code by a space character.

How do we update?

Through the use of the APIs or the CSV upload functionality, Global Record offers the ability to users to upload their list of ports.



GRWG and future work

The Global Record Working Group is the forum where FAO Member States advise FAO on aspects related to the Global Record.

Following discussions at the 6th meeting of the Global Record Working Group in December 2022, the Secretariat of the UNECE was invited to present on the UN/LOCODE. Following discussions, the Working Group concluded that:

'The GRWG noted that not all vessel registration ports currently have a UN/LOCODE. In this regard, the Group welcomed the UNECE providing a process whereby ports not currently registered with a UN/LOCODE could be registered within 6 months of asking, and that new types or categories of ports could be added in the UN/LOCODE registry in the future if deemed necessary. The Group expressed concerns that these 6 months can be too long in some cases.'

Future work

Further engagement with FAO Member States on the benefits of the use of the UN/LOCODE, and ensure clear understanding of the process for the creation of UN/LOCODEs for ports where required



Thank You!

Your participation is valuable and will deepen our understanding and discussion. I strongly encourage you to ask any questions you may have and share your thoughts by email at : stefano.piredda@fao.org