

DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
“RESPONSIBLE FISHING DECLARATION, SANTIAGO 2000”

The representatives from agencies responsible for monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities participating in the Conference on the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance of Fishing Activities, from 25 to 26 January, 2000, in Santiago, Chile.

In support of implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries have agreed on the following:

**INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR COORDINATION OF FISHERIES
ENFORCEMENT**

The Conference recommends that the States make their best efforts to organise and to establish an international network for coordination of fisheries enforcement to facilitate the establishment of cooperation, information and technical assistance mechanisms in the areas of monitoring, control and surveillance.

The international network will be technical in nature and it will be constituted by the agencies responsible for fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance in the countries that voluntarily agree to participate in it. Because the international network is voluntary, it does not reflect a binding commitment by participating States or agencies under international or national law. Agreed network activities will be subject to the will and availability of each participant.

The Conference recommends that FAO, subject to the availability of funding and the necessary FAO approvals, coordinate the international Monitoring, Control and Surveillance, (MCS) network, and promote participation by lesser-developed countries in the network.

The Conference recommends that States make their best efforts to establish contact with the MCS authorities of neighbouring States and/or States fishing in the same area.

Conference participants and other interested States and entities are invited to meet again before the February 2001 meeting of FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) to consider terms of reference for an international network for cooperation on fisheries enforcement. Draft terms of reference and a draft agenda will be prepared by an executive committee composed of Chile, the United States, Australia, Peru and Commission of the European Community.

Santiago Declaration

ILLEGAL, UNREGULATED AND UNREPORTED FISHING

The Conference affirms that the FAO is the international forum with the membership, the expertise and the mandate spell out efforts to achieve sustainable fisheries and also recognises FAO coordination with International Maritime Organisation, IMO, World Trade Organisation, WTO, Commission on Sustainable Development, CSD on the issue.

The Conference recommends urgent action designed to solve the problem of illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, and urges all States to support and take part in the FAO initiative on this subject.

The Conference further affirms that flag States must carry out their duties with respect to fishing vessels flying their flags, in particular:

- (1) Take measures to ensure that these vessels not undermine the effectiveness of international conservation and management regimes;
- (2) Not allow any fishing vessel entitled to fly its flag to be used for fishing on the high seas unless it has been properly authorised by the flag State;
- (3) Not authorise any fishing vessel entitled to fly its flag to be used for fishing on the high seas unless the State is satisfied that it is able to exercise effectively its control over that vessel.

The Conference urges States:

- to ratify and apply the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement as a matter of urgency that have not ratified the Agreement not to act in a manner inconsistent with the provisions of the Agreement.
- to accept and apply the FAO Compliance Agreement as a matter of urgency.
- to implement the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, including the international plans of action concluded within the framework of the Code.
- to undertake to provide to FAO detailed information on fishing vessels on their registries, as specified in Article VI of the FAO Compliance Agreement, on a voluntary basis, even before the Agreement enters into force.
- to take measures to ensure that their fisheries processors, brokers and dealers do not process or trade in IUU-harvested fisheries resources.
- to take actions available to coastal and port states under international law to deter IUU fishing.
- to share information on incidents of IUU fishing
- to undertake to provide to FAO detailed, non-confidential information on fisheries catch and effort data.

Santiago, 26 January, 2000