

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA)  
MONTSERRADO COUNTY)

**FISHERIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA AND THE  
Asociación de Grandes Atuneros Congeladores (A.G.A.C.)**

This Agreement is entered into this 9 day of May A.D. 2019 by and between the **Republic of Liberia**, represented by the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority, Hon. Emma Metieh Glassco, of the City of **Monrovia, Liberia** (Hereinafter referred to as "the **Government**") and the Company "Asociación de Grandes Atuneros Congeladores (A.G.A.C.)", represented by its Managing Director, **Julio Moron Ayala**, of the city of **Madrid, Spain**. (Hereinafter referred to as "the **Company**").

**WHEREAS**, the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) is responsible for the development, conservation, and management of the fisheries resources of Liberia;

**WHEREAS**, the Company, plans to exploit for tuna and tuna-like species in the Liberian fisheries waters and, for this purpose, intends to apply for licenses to operate foreign-flagged fishing vessels in the fisheries waters of Liberia from the Government of Liberia.

**WHEREAS**, as both parties are desirous to cooperate and collaborate in the mutual interest of the parties in the exploitation of Liberian fisheries resources for long term sustainable use;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the parties hereto covenant and mutually agree on the following terms and conditions covering fishing activities by fishing vessels operated by the Company, under conditions more particularly described in the schedule to this AGREEMENT, within the territorial waters and exclusive economic zone of Liberia (hereinafter referred to as the Fisheries Waters).

**ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS**

1.1 For the purposes of this AGREEMENT (from the Liberia Fisheries Regulations):

- (a) "DIRECTOR GENERAL" means the Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA);
- (b) "Effective Date" means the date on which the AGREEMENT is signed by the Director General
- (c) "FAD" refers to Fish Aggregating Device means a man-made or partially man-made floating, semi-submerged or submerged device, whether anchored or not, intended to aggregate fish, and includes any natural floating object on which a device has been placed to facilitate its location;
- (d) "fishing" means:
  - (i) Searching for, catching, taking or harvesting of fish species from their wild state or natural habitat, with or without the use of a fishing vessel
  - (ii) Attempting to search for, catch, take or harvest fish;
  - (iii) Engaging in any other activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the locating, catching, taking or harvesting of fish;
  - (iv) Placing, searching for or recovering fish aggregating devices or associated electronic equipment such as radio beacons;
  - (v) Any operations at sea directly in support of, or in preparation for, any activity described in subparagraphs (i) to (iv), including transshipment;
  - (vi) Use of any other vessel, vehicle, aircraft or hovercraft, for any involving the health and safety of the crew or the safety of a vessel.
- (e) "fishing trip" means any period commencing with the departure of the vessel from port for the purposes of beginning until such time as any or all of the fish on board the vessel are unloaded from the vessel, either ashore or onto another vessel;
- (f) "fishing vessel" means any vessel used or intended for use for the purpose of fishing, including support ships, carrier vessels and any other vessel directly involved in such fishing operations;





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- (g) "fisheries waters" means the waters over which the Republic of Liberia exercises jurisdiction or sovereign rights as declared in relevant national laws.
- (h) "Inshore Exclusion Zone" means the area of the Fisheries Waters up to a distance of six (6) nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.
- (i) "Director General" means the Director General of National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority;
- (j) "Operator" means any person who is in charge of, directs or controls a vessel, including the owner, charterer master, and agent;
- (k) "Support Vessel" means any fishing vessel referred to in "f" and not licensed to and shall not actively engage in harvesting/scooping of fish from the fisheries waters;
- (l) "transshipment" means the unloading of all or any of the fish on board a vessel to another vessel either at sea or in port; and
- (m) "tuna and tuna-like species" means those species that are defined by or of direct concern to ICCAT;

This AGREEMENT includes the Schedule and Appendices to this Agreement which shall form an integral part hereof.

## ARTICLE 2: SCOPE

2.1 The purpose of this AGREEMENT is to govern commercial operations by company vessels in the Liberian fisheries waters, and management of ICCAT quotas to facilitate licensing and compliance of the Company's vessels.

2.2 Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this AGREEMENT, the Company is authorized to have a maximum of **15 Purse Seiner** flagged to an ICCAT member state licensed to engage in fishing operations within the fisheries waters. The Company is authorized to have a maximum of **7 support vessels** under this AGREEMENT. In the event that the Company would like to increase the number of vessels, upon authorization of NaFAA, the vessel shall pay the full fee as required in Article 5.1(A)(I). Any increase in the number of vessels, approved by NaFAA, shall constitute an amendment to this Agreement and must be in writing and signed by all parties hereto.

2.3 This AGREEMENT shall grant access to exploit tuna and tuna-like species in the Liberian fisheries waters by vessels of the Company using only the method of fishing, authorized by the license.

2.4 This AGREEMENT grants access to fishing activities in the fisheries waters of Liberia and explicitly prohibits fishing activities in the Inshore Exclusion Zone (IEZ) of Liberia.

## ARTICLE 3: DURATION

3.1 The duration of this AGREEMENT commences from the Effective Date of this AGREEMENT and expires on the 5th anniversary of the Effective Date (the "Term").

3.2 Upon the expiration of the Term, this AGREEMENT may be renewed under terms and conditions to be agreed upon by both parties.

3.3 As is required by the Liberian Fisheries Regulations 2010, fishing licenses issued under this AGREEMENT shall have a maximum duration of twelve (12) months, which shall commence January 1<sup>st</sup> and end December 31<sup>st</sup> of the same year. The issuance of fishing license shall be upon satisfying licensing conditions.

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#### ARTICLE 4: RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMPANY

4.1 The Company shall ensure that its vessels do not fish in Liberia's fisheries waters without first obtaining fishing licenses in accordance with the laws and regulations of Liberia.

4.2 The Company shall ensure that vessels of the Company comply with all current and future applicable laws and regulations of Liberia, including the provisions of this AGREEMENT and any licensing conditions included in this AGREEMENT or in any amendment of this AGREEMENT signed by the two parties. Applicable laws and regulations will be posted on the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority's website as they come into effect.

4.3 The Company shall ensure that all vessels licensed to operate in Liberian waters are flagged to an ICCAT member state. The Company shall ensure that vessels comply with all relevant ICCAT recommendations, including vessel and flag state reporting, observers, FAD management plans, catch and capacity limits, quotas and all other applicable measures.

4.4 In the event that a judgment or other determination has been duly entered against a Company vessel, its crew, or officers by the courts of Liberia or through administrative proceedings for any violations of applicable laws or regulations, the Company shall ensure prompt satisfaction of such judgment or determination.

4.5 The Company shall take, at the request of the Government, all reasonable measures to assist in the investigation of an alleged breach of any applicable laws and regulations of Liberia including an alleged breach of any provision of this AGREEMENT by a Company vessel, its crew or officers and shall promptly communicate all the requested information to the Government.

4.6 The Company shall maintain for the duration of this AGREEMENT an agent, in accordance with subsection (3) of the Fisheries Regulations. This agent will be the legal representative of the Company in Liberia and any communication, information, document, direction, request or response to or from that agent shall be deemed to have been sent to or received from the owner, master or charterer of the vessel concerned, as the case may be. In the event of any change of the fishing agent the company shall inform the Director General, in writing.

4.7 The Company has designated MOFAKTO INC, Mechlin Street, represented by its Manager, Momo Siafa Kpoto as its agent. All notices must be sent to:

[MOFAKTO INC]  
Monrovia, Liberia  
Email: mci5kpoto@yahoo.com

4.8 The Company shall ensure that each vessel of the Company licensed to fish pursuant to this AGREEMENT is appropriately and adequately insured against all risks and liabilities including, but not limited to, collision, protection and indemnity, and oil pollution liability insurance.

4.9 The company shall be required to pay license and other regulating fees for each company vessel as specified in section 5.1.

4.10 All reporting and communications shall be in English.

#### ARTICLE 5: FINANCIALARRANGEMENT

5.1 A) The Company shall make a payment to the Government of Liberia as detailed below:

- I. An annual amount for access to the fisheries resources in the Liberian fisheries waters of **US\$ (36,000/vessel/year)** equivalent to a reference tonnage (300 tonnes/vessel/year); and
- II. A specific annual amount of **US\$ (6,000/vessel/year)** for the support of the implementation of Liberia's sectorial fisheries policy.

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- III. A non-refundable pre-license inspection and license processing fee of **US\$1,250.00** per vessel is due upon license application. The fee for the development of the fisheries policy referred to in paragraphs 5.1 A(II) does not include other charges (Table 2 of Appendix A) and shall be paid into the **Special Fisheries Account**.
- IV. Each Support Vessel of the Company shall pay an annual fee of **US\$3,500.00**.
- V. Each Vessel of the Company shall pay an annual fee of **US\$2,500.00** as observer fee
- VI. The company shall support at least one (1) Liberian Delegate to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Convention annually during the life of this Agreement. The National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority shall present to AGAC Company the cost of such travel three (3) months prior to the convention;

B) The total payment shall include Access cost plus Sectorial support as described in Appendix A; and shall be paid at the same time in separate payments as described in Articles 5.2 and 5.4 herein. In the event that the Company decides to obtain fishing licenses for its vessels individually, the Company shall pay the financial contribution mentioned in 5.1(a)(i) for each vessel, as described in Appendix A, when the Government raises a bill for the fishing authorization.

(C) The total amount of the financial contribution mentioned in 5.1(A) (ii)[sectorial support], shall be paid upon the granting of the fishing authorization of the first vessel in the Company's fleet.

(D) The Company shall be responsible for the payment of all taxes and duties due under Liberian law and specifically, as required under the Revenue Code of Liberia (2011).

5.2 The payment referred to in paragraph 5.1 A(I) as access cost to Liberia's fishing zone shall be paid into NaFAA AccountNo: **001USD21322295001** opened with the Liberia Bank for Development & Investment; while all other required fees, including licensing and the financial contribution for sectorial policy support in paragraph 5.1 A(II) shall be paid into the NaFAA AccountNo. **001USD21322295002** at the Liberia Bank for Development & Investment, responsible for implementing the fisheries sectorial support. For all payments made by the Company, flag receipts will be issued to the agent.

5.3 Both parties shall be responsible for monitoring the company's vessels' catches in the Liberian EEZ. If the total quantity of catches per year by Company's vessels in the Liberian EEZ exceeds **300 tonnes** by the each company vessels, the annual payment, as referred in paragraph 5.1 A(I) of this Agreement, shall be increased to **US\$ 140 per ton** for the additional catch over **300 tonnes**.

5.4 In the event the Company does not exhaust the reference tonnage (i.e. 300 tonnes) in a given year, the difference shall not be credited to the company in the following year.

5.5 The Company shall make the payment required in Article 5.1 (A)(I) for each of Company's vessels within three (3) months of the Effective Date for the first year and on the first month of the calendar year for the following years.

5.6 The Parties have agreed to improve the regular monitoring of catches taken by Company's vessels in Liberia's fishing zone. To this end, over the course of the fishing season, Liberia will regularly analyze data on the catch and effort of Company's fishing vessels operating in Liberia's fishing zone. Liberia will regularly update the Company on the outcome of these analyses. In order to manage the possibility of the reference tonnage being exceeded, Liberia shall inform the Company as soon as the total registered catch in Liberia's fishing zone reaches **80%** of the reference tonnage of **300 tonnes** per each company vessel.



5.7 The fees referred to in paragraph 5.1 shall be non-refundable, regardless of the cancellation of any license/authorization or licenses/permits during the licensing period.

5.8 All fees payable by the Company to the Government under this AGREEMENT shall be paid in full, and any deductions or withholdings that may be due on such fees shall be borne by the Company.

#### ARTICLE 6: ISSUANCE OF FISHING LICENCES

6.1 Subject to the other provisions of this AGREEMENT and the laws and regulations of Liberia, the Government may issue fishing licenses to the vessels of the Company specified in **Appendix B**, to allow said vessels to fish in the Liberian fisheries waters. Licenses will not be issued to vessels of the Company that are not listed in the Schedule to this Agreement. It is prohibited to exchange an approved license of one vessel for another without prior permission of the Director General.

6.2 In respect of each vessel under this AGREEMENT, the Company shall cause to be completed a separate application for a license to fish in the fisheries waters in the form attached hereto as **Appendix C**.

6.3 The licensing authority is the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority is located, Freeport, opposite Liberia Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI), Bushrod Island, Liberia. The completed license application forms and additional information described in this Article shall be forwarded to the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) by hand or email: [nafaa.gov.lr](mailto:nafaa.gov.lr)

6.4 Any fishing licenses issued by the Director General in respect of vessels authorized under this AGREEMENT will be in the form set out in **Appendix D**. Every license issued under this AGREEMENT shall be maintained in good condition and the original copy or certified photocopy shall be prominently displayed on the vessel in respect of which it is issued as soon as reasonably feasible and in no case longer than one month in a place where it can be readily inspected and is safe from the elements, and until that time shall maintain and display a clear copy.

6.5 Pre-license inspections are required for all company vessels the first year of this Agreement. These inspections should take place either in the Port of Monrovia, or in designated ports agreed by both parties. Any inspections taking place outside of the Port of Monrovia shall be done so with all associated costs paid for by the Company.

6.6 All Company vessels are required to have an active Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), compatible with the Iridium-based Liberian VMS system or an ARGOS system. The code shall be submitted to the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) for communication to the Liberian VMS platform. Company vessels that do not have a compatible VMS system are required to purchase a Mobile Transceiver Unit (MTU) at the Company's expense; installation is also at the Company's expense, and must be completed under the observation of a NaFAA representative. No vessel shall be granted permission to fish until the VMS track of the vessel can be monitored by the NaFAA Fisheries Monitoring Center.

6.7 Licensed company vessels are required to keep their VMS on at all times while in Liberian waters, including while in port or in transit. Tracking data will be monitored continuously by the Fisheries Monitoring Center. In the event of a technical failure or non-operation of the MTU fitted on board a fishing vessel, the vessel's operators are required to notify the Director General immediately. The device shall be repaired or replaced within one month. After this period, the company vessel is not authorized to commence a fishing trip with a defective MTU.

6.8 The Company shall ensure that a company fishing vessel with VMS that becomes defective shall communicate after every two (2) hours daily reports to the Fisheries Monitoring Center and the Director General by other means of communication (HF radio or email) the following information:

- i) The vessel's identification:

*(Signature)*

*(Signature)*

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- ii) The most recent geographical position of the vessel (longitude, latitude) with a margin error lower than 100 meters, with a confidence interval of 99%.
- iii) The date and time of the fixing of said position of the vessel.
- iv) Fishing activities conducted since the previous report

#### ARTICLE 7: REPORTING CONDITIONS

7.1 The operator of every licensed company vessel shall provide to the Coordinator information relating to the position of, and catch on board, the vessel by email to [fmc@nafaa.gov.lr](mailto:fmc@nafaa.gov.lr) in the form prescribed in **Appendix E** at the following times:

- (a) within 72 hours prior to entry into the fisheries waters; this predominates the 24 hours required by the Liberia Fisheries Regulations.
- (b) daily while within the fisheries waters;
- (c) at least 24 hours prior to the estimated time of entry into port in Liberia or other port of offloading; and
- (d) upon departure from the fisheries waters.

7.2 Within 72 hours of completion of each fishing trip, a trip completion report shall be transmitted to the Coordinator in the form prescribed in **Appendix E**.

7.3 The operator of every vessel licensed to fish under this AGREEMENT shall duly complete, in the English language, a daily report while operating in the Liberian fisheries waters. This shall be submitted in the form prescribed in **Appendix F** of all catch in the fisheries waters of Liberia and shall certify that the information contained in such reports is true, complete and accurate.

7.4 An authorized copy of the relevant sections of the catch log (Appendix D (4) & E) shall be forwarded to the Director General within 30 days of the completion of each fishing trip.

7.5 Every vessel issued with a fishing license pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall maintain on board current fishing logs in English which can be easily understood by observers of the Government. Such logs shall contain, in English, a record of every instruction, direction or requirement communicated to the master by Liberian authorities while the vessel is in the fisheries waters as well as the following information relating to the activities of the vessel during the day:

- (a) the fishing effort of the vessel;
- (b) the method of fishing used;
- (c) the areas in which fishing was undertaken;
- (d) the quantity of each species of fish taken; and
- (e) such other information as the Director General may from time to time require.

7.6 Any data reports collected by the observers from other countries or institutions engaged in collecting information on board company vessels operating under this AGREEMENT while they are conducting fishing operations in the fisheries waters must be provided to the Liberian Observer who shall submit this information to the Government of Liberia at the end of each fishing trip. In conformity with ICCAT requirements Contracting Parties' vessels 20 meters or greater fishing for bigeye and/or yellowfin are required to report catches. Accordingly, non-Liberian observers on board licensed fishing vessels under this AGREEMENT not covered by Liberian observers shall report their catches through the fishing company to the Coordinator by hard copy and by email: [www.nafaa.gov.lr](http://www.nafaa.gov.lr) and [fmc@nafaa.gov.lr](mailto:fmc@nafaa.gov.lr)

#### ARTICLE 8: OBSERVERS

8.1 Until an ICCAT Regional Observer Program for the Atlantic Ocean is established, the Company shall maintain **five (5)** observer coverage by the National Scientific Observer Program for all vessels... The Company shall submit all reports generated by observers for all fishing activities conducted within the Liberian waters.

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8.2 The company shall, during the period of this AGREEMENT, pay a flat fee to the Sectorial Support Account at LBDI in the amount of US\$1,000 per company per annum for the services of the National Scientific Observer Program. When the Regional Observer Program is established and operational, the Company shall make a contribution to the program that will be agreed among the parties of this agreement.

8.3 The operators of the Company's vessels licensed under this AGREEMENT shall provide the observer with food, accommodation and medical facilities of such reasonable standard equivalent to that provided for the officers of the vessels, while on board the vessels and at no expense to the Government.

8.4 The operator and each member of the crew of a Company's vessel licensed to fish under this AGREEMENT shall allow and assist observers pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article to: (a) at the point and time notified by the Government to the Party, board the vessel for scientific, compliance, monitoring and other functions; (b) have full access to and the use of facilities and equipment on board the vessels which the observer may determine is necessary to carry out his or her duties provided that the observer shall neither interfere with the lawful operation of the vessel nor violate relevant laws and regulations of Liberia 2010 Fisheries Regulations, or any subsequent amendment; (c) have full access to the bridge, fish on board and areas which may be used to hold, process, weigh or store fish; (d) have full access to the vessel's records including its log-books and other documentation for the purpose of inspection or copying; and (e) gather any other information relating to fisheries in the fisheries waters or on the high seas without unduly interfering with the lawful operation of the vessels.

8.5 No operator or crew member of a vessel from the Company shall assault, obstruct, resist, deny, refuse boarding to, intimidate or interfere with an observer in the performance of his or her duties.

8.6 The Company shall be held responsible for any casualty or personal injury to any observer resulting from the vessel operator's or crew member's negligence; provided, however, that liability of the vessel, her master or her owner under traditional principles of maritime law shall not be affected or diminished.

8.7 The Company will not be held responsible for any casualty or personal injury to observers resulting from the observer's own negligence or force majeure.

8.8 For each Company vessel not carrying a Liberian observer, the Company will provide the Liberian authorities with complete observer reports on catches of target and non-target species taken in the Liberian fisheries waters for every fishing trip within the fisheries waters.

8.9 The salary and social contribution of the observer shall be borne by the Government.

#### ARTICLE 9: ENFORCEMENT

9.1 The master and each member of the crew of a vessel operating under this AGREEMENT shall comply with instruction and direction given by an authorized and identified Fisheries Officer including to stop, to move to a specified location, and to facilitate safe boarding and inspection of the vessel, its license, gear, equipment, records, facilities, fish and fish products. Such boarding and inspection shall be conducted as much as possible in a manner so as not to interfere unduly with the lawful operation of the vessel. The operator and each member of the crew shall facilitate and assist in any action by an authorized Fisheries Officer and shall not assault, obstruct, resist, delay, refuse boarding to, intimidate or interfere with an authorized Fisheries Officer in the performance of his or her duties.

9.2 Vessels licensed to fish under this AGREEMENT shall comply with the 1989 FAO standard specifications for the marking and identification of fishing vessels. In particular the international radio call sign of the vessel, or, if the vessel does not have a radio call sign, its signal letter shall be painted in white on a black background, or in black on a white background on the port and starboard sides of the vessel's hull or superstructure in block letters not less than one (1) meter in height in such a manner that the markings are clearly visible from the air and at sea level.



9.3 At all times while the vessel is in the Liberian fisheries waters all parts of these marking shall be clear, distinct and uncovered.

#### **ARTICLE 10: TRANSHIPMENT AND OFFLOADING**

10.1 No vessel operating under this AGREEMENT shall land at any port or place in Liberia without the expressed written or emailed permission of the Director General.

10.2 Vessels licensed under this AGREEMENT shall not transship at sea, including at high sea. Transshipment can only take place in accordance with Article 35 of the Liberia 2010 Fisheries Regulations.

10.3 Any offloading of catch that takes place in Liberia must take place at the Port of Monrovia. If catch is offloaded outside of Liberia, the port of offloading must be reported to the Director General at least 24 hours prior to arrival in said port, and in the Catch Report referred to in Article 8 only for the fish caught in Liberian EEZ.

10.4 The Company shall provide to the Director General information relating to the catch only for the fish caught in Liberian EEZ, offloaded using a form prescribed by the Director General. Such information shall include details of the catch offloaded by weight by species and final destination of the catch transshipped.

10.5 At the request of the Director General, vessels permitted to offload in Liberia, or export catch from Liberia, shall make available, at the prevailing international market price, ten percent (10%) of the catch on board to be sold to local fish retailers/fish importers for domestic consumption in Liberia.

10.6 If the Mesurado fisheries terminal becomes operational, the Company's vessels shall benefit from a financial incentive of a partial reduction of US\$10 per tonne of target species landed. An additional reduction of US\$10 per tonne for target species landed shall be given if sold to the local industry. With regards to bycatch, a special reduction in the fee of US\$20 per tonne of bycatch landed will be given when the catch is sold to the local market. This mechanism shall be limited to a maximum of 50% of the final tuna catches reported.

#### **ARTICLE 11: RESTRICTIONS ON FISHING OPERATIONS**

11.1 The Company shall ensure that all vessels of the Company or persons on board a vessel of the Company will make all the maximum to release alive any marine mammal, turtle or sea-bird during any fishing.

11.2 In order to protect local and artisanal fishing operations, the Government may from time to time, after consultation with the Company in writing, close certain areas in the fisheries waters to certain types of fishing operations. Where such closed areas have been established pursuant to this paragraph, no fishing shall take place. The Company shall notify the Government at least 24 hours prior to the entry of a vessel into or departure of a vessel from a closed area for transit purposes only. The vessel shall be required to report the amount and type of fish species on board.

11.3 The use of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), including deployment and retrieval, while in the Liberian fisheries waters may be conducted, so long as the required written regulatory permission of the Director General is obtained on an annual basis. This permission is dependent on the requirement that the Company submits annual reports on the number of FADs deployed and the numbers of FAD sets for each Company vessel in Liberian EEZ only. In addition, the FAD management plan of the Flag state of the authorized fishing vessels that is required by ICCAT must include the relevant information on FAD use during fishing in the Liberian fisheries waters and a copy must be submitted

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to the Liberian Government. Failure to submit information shall be deemed as contravention of Section 30 of the 2010 Fisheries Regulations.

11.4 Taking into account the dependence of the people of Liberia on the marine living resources found in the Liberian fisheries waters for their food and livelihood, the Company shall ensure its vessels adopt all reasonable measures to minimize catches and injury of non-target species, including the use of equipment and techniques shown to be effective in minimizing catches of non-target species and enhancing post-release survival. The Company shall ensure that the operators of all vessels authorized to fish pursuant to this AGREEMENT report full details of all catches of non-target species, including non-fish species. Further, except where such retention is prohibited under ICCAT recommendations, the vessels operating under this AGREEMENT shall retain on board all tuna and tuna-like species caught during a fishing trip, regardless of size and/or marketability.

11.5 The Company shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that its vessels operating under this AGREEMENT do not in any way interfere with or damage the fishing activities and fishing gear of the artisanal fishing vessels and people of Liberia. Any incidents of this nature must be immediately reported to the Director General by email or HF radio.

11.6 Taking into account the objective of the Government to build capacity of Liberian nationals to conduct fishing operations on industrial fishing vessels, and the goal of optimizing employment in the fishery sector, the Company shall:

- (a) For the training and facilitation of the employment of Liberian crew members on board the Company's vessels, the Company shall pay a contribution to the Liberia Seamen's Union at a flat rate of **US\$6,000 per annum**, and
- (b) Employ trained at least three (3) Liberian seamen on board the Company's vessels.

#### ARTICLE 12: CONFIDENTIALITY

All information, data and statistics received by the Government pursuant to this AGREEMENT shall become the property of the Government. However, the Government undertakes that all such information, data and statistics will remain confidential between the Parties to the AGREEMENT and shall not be disclosed to any third party for purposes other than national and regional fisheries management. After the expiration of twelve (12) months from the date of expiry of this AGREEMENT, the Government may use the data received pursuant to this AGREEMENT for the purpose of scientific publications and as necessary in relation to national and regional fisheries management.

#### ARTICLE 13: CONSULTATIONS AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

13.1 The Government and the Company shall hold consultations relating to the implementation of this AGREEMENT within thirty (30) days upon request by the Government or the Company.

13.2 In the event of any dispute arising out of the interpretation or application of any of the provisions of this AGREEMENT, the two parties shall endeavor to settle such dispute through peaceful consultations.

13.3 In the event that it is not possible to settle such dispute by consultations between the two parties, the affected party may institute a legal action.

13.4 In the event of failure, by either party, to perform its duties, functions, responsibilities herein contained in this AGREEMENT, the affected party shall notify the other party in writing, and where there is no response or remedial action taken by the concerned party within 10 working days, the affected party may terminate this AGREEMENT by issuing a notice of termination and such termination shall become effective five (5) days after the date of the notice. The affected party may also institute legal action against the other party for breach of the AGREEMENT



13.5 The costs of the legal action including legal fees shall be paid by the losing party.

#### ARTICLE 14: REVIEW AND MODIFICATION

14.1 The Government and the Company shall meet annually to jointly review the Company's vessels catches, including the parties' analyses of the catch.

14.2 This AGREEMENT may be reviewed or amended at any time by mutual agreement between the two parties in writing.

14.3 The Company shall inform the Government immediately of any change in the details provided to the Government pursuant to Article 2.2 including, in particular, any change in the financial relationship or the corporate structure of any entity of the Company and any change in the contractual or other relationship between the Company and the owners of the vessels operating under the AGREEMENT.

14.4 In the event of a material change in circumstances, the Government reserves the right to cancel or suspend the licenses issued pursuant to this AGREEMENT. The Government may require additional information from the Company and may require the deposit of a financial guarantee or other form of security for the continued operation of the vessels licensed under the AGREEMENT.

#### ARTICLE 15: ENTRY INTO FORCE AND EXTENSION

15.1 This AGREEMENT shall enter into force on the Effective Date and shall remain in force for five years and thereafter, may be extended conditioned upon review and approval by the Parties.

15.2 In the event of change of address or contact, the changing party is obliged to immediately inform the other party of such change.

#### ARTICLE 16: TERMINATION

16.1 This AGREEMENT may be terminated by either party and the terminating party shall notify the other party in writing of its intention to terminate this AGREEMENT at least two (2) months before termination.

16.2 Government reserves the right to terminate this AGREEMENT or any and all vessel licenses issued under this AGREEMENT for cause or any violation of the Liberian Fisheries Regulations and any subsequent amendments. In the event of such termination, there shall be no refund of fees paid or payable under this AGREEMENT

16.3 If the AGREEMENT is terminated, all valid fishing licenses shall remain effective until their expiry date, with the exception of the following circumstances:

- (a) Whereby the Government has terminated the AGREEMENT for violations of the Regulations or the terms of this AGREEMENT. Under these conditions all Company vessel licensed shall automatically terminate along with the AGREEMENT.
- (b) Whereby a new agreement has developed that incorporates Company vessels. Under these conditions, each existing license shall automatically terminate with the coming into force of the new agreement and each vessel shall be issued a new license under the terms and conditions of the new agreement.

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**ARTICLE 17: OBLIGATION OF THE PARTIES**

17.1 It is faithfully agreed that all parties shall fulfill their respective obligations under the terms and conditions of this AGREEMENT.


17.2 It is also agreed that all communications to either party shall be in writing and served on the party in person or its business office.

**ARTICLE 18: SEVERABILITY**


The provisions of this Agreement are severable, and if any one or more provisions may be determined to be illegal or otherwise unenforceable, in whole or in part, the remaining provisions, and any partially enforceable provision to the extent enforceable in any jurisdiction, shall nevertheless be binding and enforceable.

This Agreement is binding on the PARTIES, their Representative, heirs, Assigns, Successor-IN OFFICE as if they were specifically named herein.

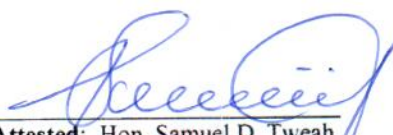
IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by the respective parties, have signed this AGREEMENT in this day 9 of MAY 2019.

  
Hon. Emma Metieh Glassco  
**DIRECTOR GENERAL**  
National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority




  
Mr. Julio Maron Ayala  
**Managing Director**  
AGAC



  
Attested: Hon. Samuel D. Tweah  
**Minister of Finance & Development Planning**

Oct. 1, 2019

  
Attested: Cllr. Musa Frank Dean  
**Minister of Justice**

Witnesses

Witnesses



ENG

Appendix A Technical Annex for the Agreement

NO	Name of Vessel	Total Payment/Vessel/Annum	Ref. Ton/Vessels/Annum	Price/Vessel/Ton	Access Fee/Vessel/Annum (USD)	Sector's Support/Vessel
1	SANT YOGO TRES	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
2	MONTECELO	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
3	MONTEFRISA NUEVE	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
4	MONTELAPE	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
5	MONTEALEGRE	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
6	ALBACORE NUEVE	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
7	GALERNA	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
8	ALBACORA CARIBE	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
9	CAPE CORAL	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
10	PACIFIC STAR	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
11	TXORI BERRI	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
12	ALBACORA SEIS	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
13	GURIA	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
14	GALERNA LAU	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
15	SANT YOGO UNO	42,000.00	300	120.00	36,000.00	6,000.00
	Total Access Fees	630,000.00			540,000.00	90,000.00

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No.	Other Fees	Total Number of Vessels	Fees/vessel/annum	Annual Fee
2	Observer Fee	15	2500	37,500.00
3	License Processing Fee	15	1250	18,750.00
4	Seamen Union	Flat Rate	Flat Rate	6,000.00
TOTAL				62,250.00

Appendix B: VESSEL LIST

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NO	Name of Vessel	Flag of Vessel
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		



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APPENDIX C: LICENSE APPLICATION FORM (SCHEDULE 2; SECTION 20(1) OF FISHERIES REGULATIONS)

- 1. Full name of the fishing vessel
- 2. Previous names of the fishing vessel, if known
- 3. Registration number
- 4. IMO Number, if available
- 5. Port of registry
- 6. Has the vessel identified above flown the flag of another State or States within the last three years? YES NO

If yes, provide the following information for each period during which the vessel operated under such other flag or flags.

SDP

- a. Period: Beginning mm-dd-yyyy; End mm-dd-yyyy

- b. Vessel Name

- c. Flag

- d. International Radio Call Sign

- e. Homeport

- f. Owner Name, Address, Phone, Fax

- g. Operator Name, Address, Phone, Fax (If necessary provide additional information on a separate sheet of paper)

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7. International radio call sign
8. Vessel communication types and numbers (Inmarsat A, B and C numbers and satellite telephone number, fax)
9. Identifying code letters and/or numbers used for identification during radio transmission
10. Type of Vessel Monitoring System installed. (Model and serial numbers)
11. Navigation and position fixing aids
12. Name and address of the owner(s) of the vessel
  - a. Name and mailing address of owner, date and place of birth, phone, fax
  - b. if company is owner, name and registered address of company, date and place of incorporation, phone fax
13. Full name, address and nationality of each person who is an operator of the vessel, state whether owner, charterer, master or other (if other, please state details)
14. Normal crew complement
15. Vessel type
16. Vessel specifications
  - a. material of construction
  - b. date and location of build

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- c. length (Please indicate type: LOA, length between perpendiculars, registered length, etc.)
- d. gross registered tonnage
- e. power of main engine or engines
- f. hold capacity
- g. moulded depth and beam
- h. carrying capacity
- i. freezer type, capacity and number
- ii. fish hold capacity

17. Fishing gear description

(SOT)

- a. types (as defined by the International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gears)
- b. gear specifications
- c. quantity

18. Authorization or license granted by the flag State

- a. Form and number
- b. Period of validity

28

c. Specific area(s), species and time periods for which it is valid

19. Full name and address of insurer
20. Registration number and make of helicopter, if any, to be carried on the vessel
21. Registration number, make and name and address of any operator of any aircraft to be used in association with fishing activities
22. State whether the owner or charterer is insolvent or in any bankruptcy proceeding under the laws of any State
23. State whether the owner, operator or vessel has been involved in a violation of any law of the Republic of Liberia
24. Has the vessel identified above, under its current name/flag, or any previous names/flags, had any permit or license suspended or revoked within the past three years? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, list and attach on a separate sheet of paper the circumstances surrounding each such instance and include an explanation of the current status of the suspension or revocation.

25. Attach a recent photograph of the vessel showing all required markings

26. Submit a copy of vessel registration documents from the Flag State

27. Submit a copy of the business registration license with proof of address in country of business registry

28. Is the vessel currently licensed to fish in other countries other than the Flag State

YES                      NO

If yes submit copies of all licenses currently held by the vessel



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29. Submit a copy of documents detailing the VMS code

30. Does the vessel carry authorization to fish in Liberia waters from the Flag State

YES NO

If yes submit a copy of the authorization document

31. Please sign the following statement in regards to the submitted license application

I hereby confirm that all information given, furnished or maintained or required to be given, furnished or maintained in the license application for the vessel is true, complete and accurate and no such information shall be false, misleading or inaccurate.

Name:

Company:

Position:

Signature:

Date:

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Appendix D: Fishing License (see [www.nafaa.gov.lr](http://www.nafaa.gov.lr))

#### APPENDIX E: REPORTING FORMS FOR FISHING VESSELS IN LIBERIA

All fishing vessels operating in the Liberia EEZ, whether fishing or transiting must transmit entry and exit reports. Vessels conducting fishing operations must further provide daily reports, and a trip completion report. Any vessels wishing to enter and offload fish in a Liberian port must provide a Port Entry report.

This information should be provided to the Liberia Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) by email to [fmc@liberiafisheries.net](mailto:fmc@liberiafisheries.net). Report templates are provided below.

##### 1. ZONE ENTRY AND EXIT REPORT FORM

From: Vessel Name

To: Liberia Fisheries Monitoring Center

Date:

Vessel Information:

Vessel Name	
Call Sign	
Fishing License #	
Validity	

Reported Activity:

Date	
Time of Expected Entry (GMT)	
Position of vessel (to one minute of arc)	
Intended Action (Fishing / Innocent Passage)	

Total catch tonnage on board:

Species	MT
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**2. DAILY REPORT FORM**

From: Vessel Name

To: Liberia Fisheries Monitoring Center

Date:

Vessel Information:

Vessel Name	
Call Sign	
Fishing License #	
Validity	

Reported Activity:

Date	
Fishing begin date	
Position (to one minute of arc)	

Total catch tonnage on board:

Species (ICCAT common name)	MT
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### 3. PORT ENTRY REPORT FORM

From: Vessel Name

To: Liberia Fisheries Monitoring Center

Date:

Vessel Information:

Vessel Name	
Call Sign	
Fishing License #	
Validity	

Reported Activity:

Date	
Time	
Fishing begin date	
Position (to one minute of arc)	
Estimated time of entry into port (GMT)	
Port name	
Intended action	

Total catch tonnage on board:

507

18



Species	MT

#### 4. TRIP COMPLETION REPORT FORM

From: Vessel Name

To: Liberia Fisheries Monitoring Center

Date:

Vessel Information:

Vessel Name	
Call Sign	
Fishing License #	
Validity	

Reported Activity:

Date	
Fishing begin date	
Port of unloading	

Total catch tonnage caught in Liberian EEZ unloaded:

Species	MT
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APPENDIX F: LOGSHEETS FOR LONGLINER, POT GEAR AND TRAWL & PURSE SEINE GEAR

Daily Fishing Log		Vessel name		IRCS	Date (dd-mm-yy)	Page	
Longline and pot gear		Operator name & signature					Fisheries Permit No.
Gear type (circle one)	Crew size	Reporting area	Observer Name	Trip start date (dd-mm-yy)		Target	
Hook & line Pots			Observer code/Trip no.				

Catch by set		Set No.	Date set	Time set	Date haul	Time haul	Buoy or bag no.	Begin position Latitude / longitude	Buoy or bag no.	End position Latitude / longitude	Depth (m) Begin / end	No. Hooks/pots Set Haul	Target (kg)	Bycatch (kg)	Discard (kg)
								°N		°N					
								°W		°W					
								°N		°N					
								°W		°W					
								°N		°N					
								°W		°W					
								°N		°N					
								°W		°W					

Record the number of cartons / bags produced by species for each set. Record number of protected species caught (far right)

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Daily Fishing Log

Longline and pot Gear

Vessel name

IRCS

Date (dd-mm-yy)

Page

Operator name & signature

Fisheries Permit No.

Gear type (circle one)

Non-pelagic

Pelagic

Crew size

Reporting area

Observer Name

Trip start date (dd-mm-yy)

Observer code/Trip no.

Target

Catch by haul											
Set No.	Date set	Date haul	Begin position Latitude / longitude	End position Latitude / longitude	Ave. fishing depth (m)	Ave. bottom depth (m)		Target retained (kg)	Bycatch retained (kg)	Discard (kg)	
	Time set	Time haul									
				°N							
				°W							
				°N							

[illegible][illegible]



Daily total	Daily total

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8

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