
Original: French

STATEMENT BY SENEGAL ON INCLUSION IN THE IUU LIST OF THE VESSELS "SAGE" AND "MARIO 11"

Senegal takes careful note of the draft IUU vessel list and the remarks made, and wishes to make the following comments.

Senegal notes the concerns of the EU and the United States regarding the vessel SAGE (OMI 7825215) flagged to The Gambia.

However, Senegal maintains that the vessel SAGE has been authorised to use the port of Dakar following submission of all the documents (Gambian fishing licence, certificate of Gambian nationality, role of crew etc.).

Furthermore, given the cooperation between Senegal and the Gambia in relation to the fisheries, the Senegalese authorities accepted the official documents issued by the Gambia to authorise entry into the port of DAKAR by this vessel and to carry out a routine inspection, during which no infringement was detected.

Consequently, it is the responsibility of the flag State to confirm the authenticity of the onboard documents of the vessel "SAGE" which, in addition, has not returned to the port of Dakar since the Senegalese authorities were alerted to this matter.

Given the absence of a response from the Gambian authorities, Senegal, like the European Union and the United States, supports the inclusion of the vessel "SAGE" on the ICCAT IUU list.

As regards the vessel "MARIO 11", Senegal thanks the United States for the information regarding shark fins attached to the deck, which does not constitute sufficient proof that the vessel had carried out fishing operations especially since it was not authorised under Senegalese legislation.

Therefore, Senegal requests suspension of inclusion of this vessel on the IUU list, until evidence is found proving that the vessel did in fact carry out fishing operations.