

## LDAC-Working Group 5 (Brussels, 12th March 2025)

### - **Preparation of point 5.1 of the agenda:**

5.1- Overview of EU IUU carding process in relation to dialogues with non-EU countries: questions from members to MARE

Please enter the countries which you would like to receive information about as well as any questions that you have into this document (we will share this doc with the Commission beforehand)

### **General updates:**

- South America
  - Brazil
  - Ecuador
  - Suriname
  - Bahamas
- Africa
  - Comoros
  - Ghana
  - Liberia
  - Morocco
  - Sierra Leone
- Asia
  - Malaysia
  - Philippines
  - Vietnam

### **Specific questions:**

- Could DG Mare provide an update on the study on flags of convenience that they are undertaking and the timeline for the release?
- Is action on flags of convenience foreseen to be part of the Ocean Pact? As EU nationals also own vessels flagged to flags of convenience and financial profits of these fishing activities flow back to the EU.
- It would be interesting to have information on Venezuela, St Vincent, Antigua, Dominique, Sainte Lucie and Barbade, in order to better understand our immediate environment, but also to ensure control over import flows (fleet value, size and type of fishery, current fishing regulation like species closures/openings).
- Does the Commission see any progress in Japan and South Korea to expand their very limited CDS?
- How is Senegal cooperating with the Commission? Has the Commission witnessed any positive change since the Parliamentary elections? The draft of the new *Lettre de Politique Sectorielle* acknowledges that the country's system for combating IUU fishing is not fit for purpose. However, it offers little solutions. There is also a clear budget gap. Senegal's fishing sector is powerful and primarily oriented towards maximising value from exports. Is Senegal receptive to discussions on requiring the industry (largely composed of foreign-owned Senegalese companies, from China for example) to contribute more broadly to MCS efforts and research? Or are efforts made to align the country's fleet size with its MCS capacity and the current state of overfished stocks?

- What is the Commission's assessment of the (near) conclusion of the legal reform in Thailand—especially given the lack of positive developments on penalties for IUU fishing? [House of Representatives to vote on the Senate's draft on 12/03/2025]
- The Commission reportedly was in Taiwan in February? How did it go?
- Does the Commission have an understanding of the next steps in the review of China's main fisheries law following the recent public consultation at the National People's Congress level?
- How is Panama cooperating with the Commission? Are there any positive progress?