



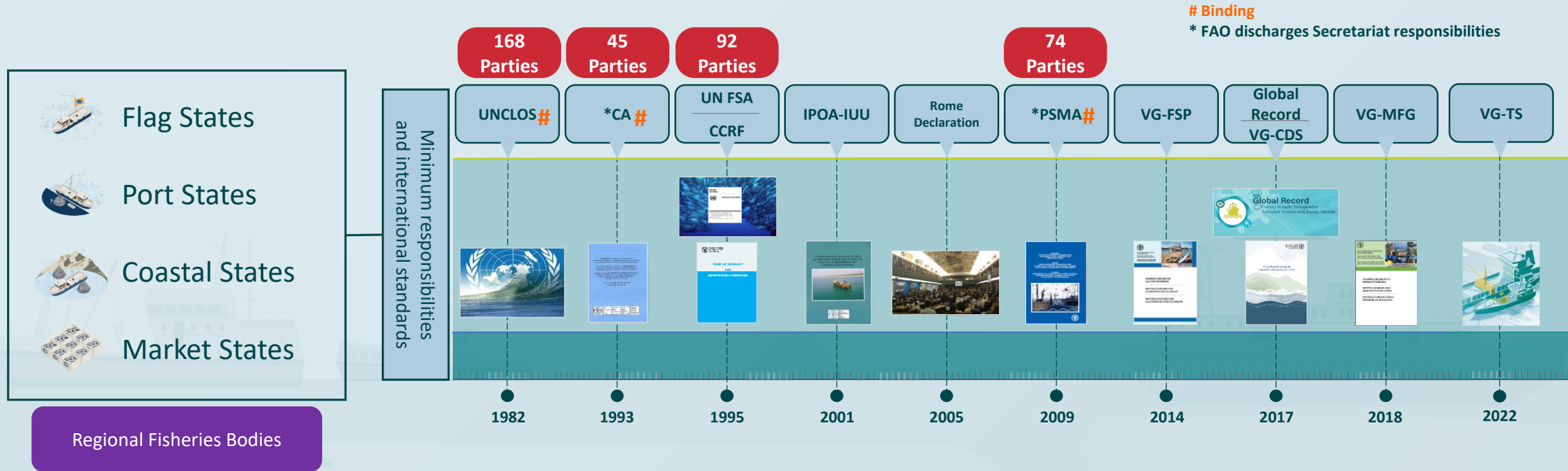
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Fisheries Global and Regional Processes Team
Fisheries and Aquaculture Division
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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The 2022 FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Transshipment

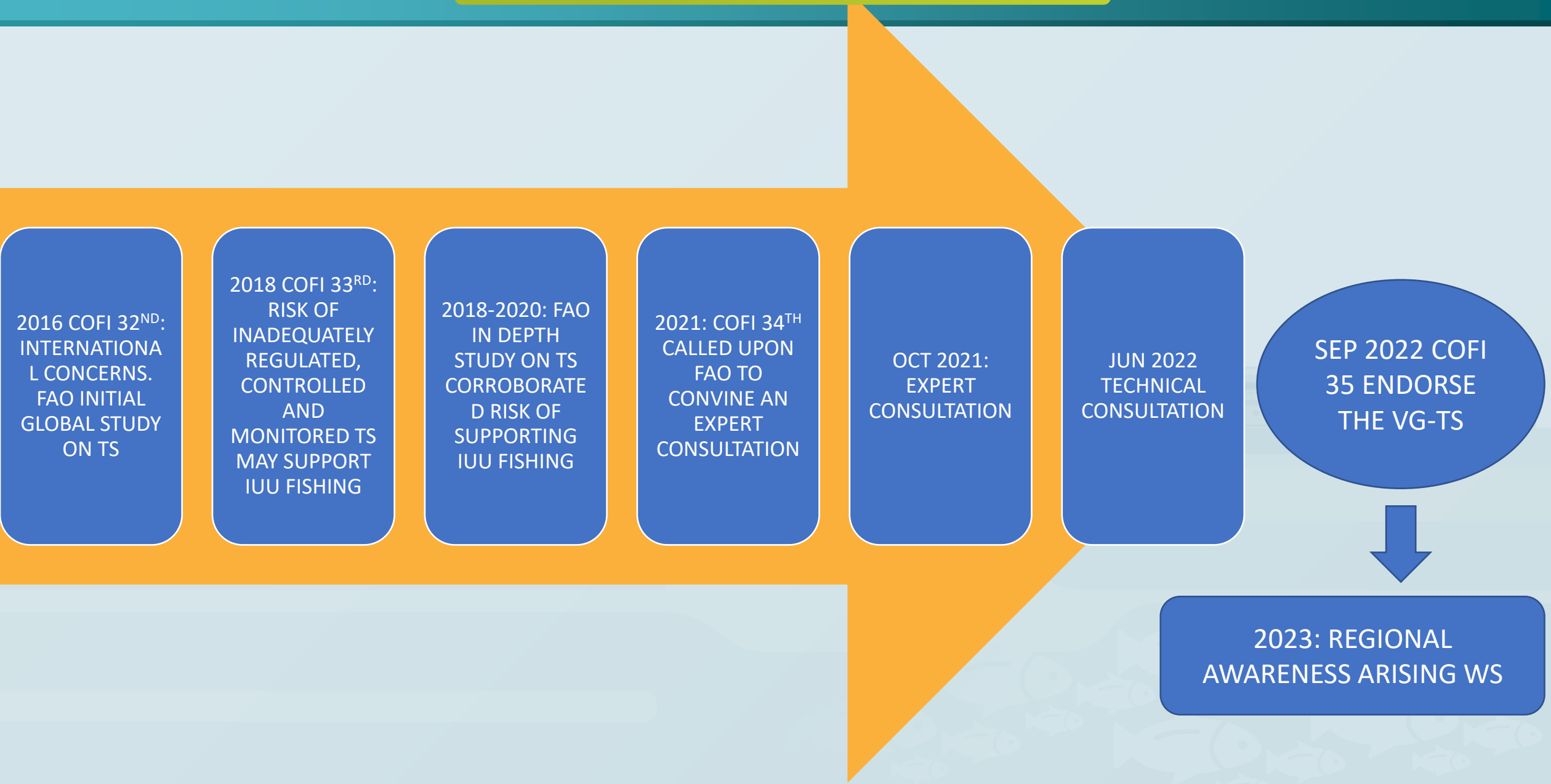
International framework to combat IUU fishing



Target 14.4. By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting, and end overfishing, **illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing** and destructive fishing practices (...) to restore fish stocks (...) to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield (...)

Target 14.6. By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to **illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing** (...)

Chronological developments



The Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment

SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE

- The Voluntary Guidelines for Transshipment address the regulation, monitoring and control of transshipment of fish, which have not been previously landed, whether processed or not.
- The objective of the Voluntary Guidelines is to provide assistance to States, RFMO/As, regional economic integration organizations and other intergovernmental organizations when developing new transshipment regulations, revising existing regulations and integrating these within the broader regulatory framework.

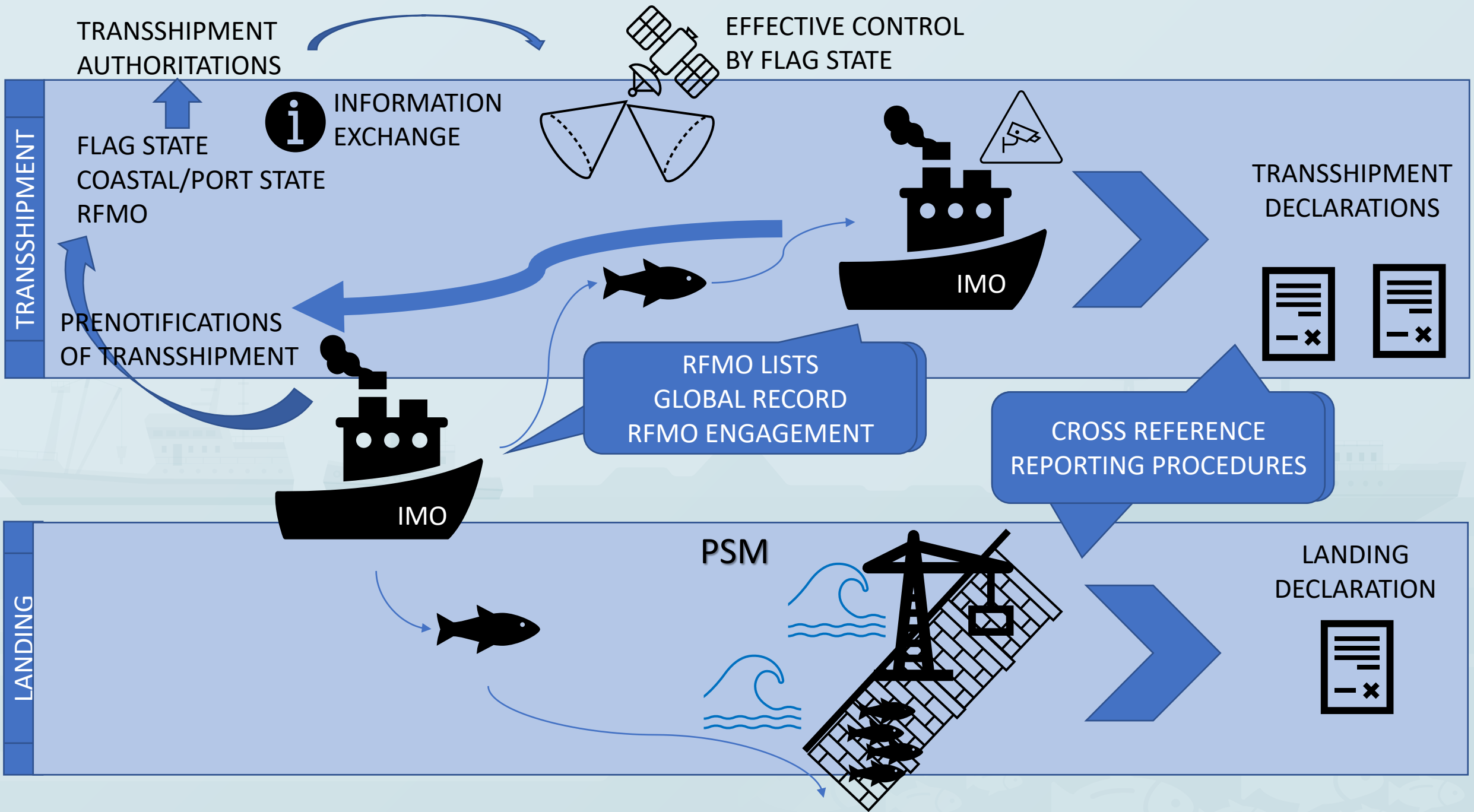
Definition

Article 4. VG-TS:

(g) “Transshipment” means the direct transfer of any quantity of fish onboard from one vessel to another vessel regardless of the location of the event, without the fish being recorded as landed;

(d) “landing” means all transfers of any quantity of fish onboard from a vessel, other than transshipment, including transfers of fish to a port facility, transfers of fish from one vessel to another through a port facility or other means of transportation, and transfers of fish from a vessel to a container, truck, train, aircraft, or another means of transportation;





Implementing the VGT standards



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Moving forward: ensuring the VGT are implemented

1. *Flag State*: a central jurisdiction in applying and implementing the VGT in all stages.
2. *Coastal States* are entitled to know and authorize transshipments in their jurisdictional waters (EEZ) and exercise control through MCS measures.
3. *Port State*: critical role in overseeing landing and transshipment declarations in port. Port States' authorizations and controls are essential.
4. *States acting through RFMOs*: transshipment in the high seas must be subject to that RFMO's regulations (and membership/participation), which should be consistent with the VGT minimum standards.

State responsibilities



Action required	Flag State	Coastal State	Port State
Establish conditions to its flagged vessels to transship	✓		
Establish conditions to authorize transshipment in areas under its jurisdiction		✓	✓
RFMO engagement	✓		
Effective control of the fishing trip	✓		
Receive prenotification	✓	✓	✓
Verify vessel compliance (VMS, observers coverage, regular catch and effort reporting)	✓		
If necessary, request confirmation of compliance to flag State		✓	✓
Acknowledge and confirm that the single event can take place	✓		
Authorize		✓	✓
Request landing declaration if not defined as transshipment	✓		✓
Receive transshipment/landing declaration	✓	✓ (transshipment declaration)	✓
Establish reporting procedures to collect and cross-reference	✓	✓	✓
Confirm if requested by the port State or coastal State or RFMO/A, that the donated fish was taken in accordance with the rules and regulations	✓		
Port State measures consistent with PSMA for ports where receiving vessels land their transshipped fish, including donor vessels arriving from fishing grounds for direct landing or transshipment			✓

PSMA and VG-TS

VG-TS strengthen the effectivity of PSMA

PSMA

Must authorize the entry and use of port

VG-TS

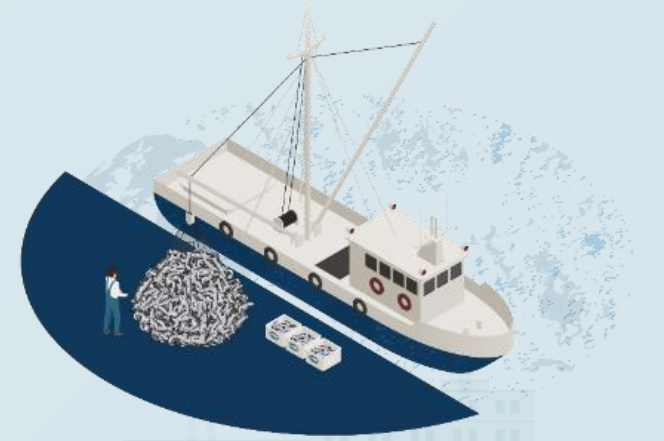
Must authorize the transshipment operation

PSMA

Must inspect % of the activity of foreign FV in its ports

VG-TS

Must request a transshipment/landing declaration



PORT STATE RESPONSIBILITY

PSMA and VG-TS

Article 3. Application

1. Each Party shall, in its capacity as a port State, apply this Agreement in respect of vessels not entitled to fly its flag that are seeking entry to its ports or are in one of its ports, except for:

- (a) vessels of a neighbouring State that are engaged in artisanal fishing for subsistence, provided that the port State and the flag State cooperate to ensure that such vessels do not engage in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing ; and
- (b) container vessels that are not carrying fish or, if carrying fish, only fish that have been previously landed, provided that there are no clear grounds for suspecting that such vessels have engaged in fishing related activities in support of IUU fishing.



LANDING DECLARATION

PSMA and VG-TS

C1: FISH



C2: FISH



C3: FISH



C4: FISH



C5: FISH



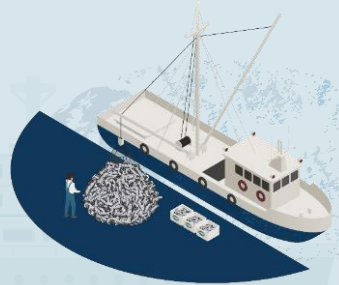
PSMA DOES NOT APPLY



PSMA DOES APPLY:

- AREP
- AUTHORIZATION
- % INSPECTION

PORT STATE



LANDING
DECLARATION



CONTAINER VESSEL



Thank You

any questions?