



SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION  
REPORT OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE  
COMMITTEE (CC) - 2025

**24 November 2025**  
**Virtual & In Person Swakopmund Sands Hotel**  
**Swakopmund**  
**NAMIBIA**

The Secretariat  
NatMIRC Bldg, Strand Street No. 1  
Swakopmund, Namibia  
Phone: + 264 (64) 406-885  
Email: [info@seafo.org](mailto:info@seafo.org)  
Url: [www.seafo.org](http://www.seafo.org)

Mr Beau TJIZOO (REP of NAMIBIA)  
Chairperson of SEAFO Compliance Committee  
Email: [beau.tjizoo@mfmr.gov.na](mailto:beau.tjizoo@mfmr.gov.na)

## **REPORT OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (CC)**

Virtual & In Person, Swakopmund Sands Hotel, Swakopmund, NAMIBIA - 24 November 2025

### **1. Opening of the meeting**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Compliance Committee (CC) was convened on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 virtually and in person at the Swakopmund Sands Hotel in Swakopmund, Namibia.

The Chairperson, Mr. Beau TJIZOO from the Republic of Namibia, opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates.

### **2. Appointment of Rapporteur**

The Secretariat was appointed as rapporteur for the meeting.

### **3. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting arrangements**

The agenda ([DOC/CC/01/2025](#)) ([Appendix I](#)) was reviewed and Japan requested to add a proposal to agenda point 7 regarding revising the SEAFO system ([DOC/CC/05/2025](#)). The addition of the requested document was to be reviewed after bilateral discussions between South Africa and Japan. After the bilateral discussions Japan decided to defer the proposal to the 2026 CC meeting. The agenda was adopted as is.

The Republic of South Africa requested that in future the Executive Secretary should physically attend the hybrid meetings with those delegations that are in attendance physically.

### **4. Introduction and Admission of Observers**

The following Observer attended the meeting and was welcomed by the Chairperson and introduced itself:

- ACAP, represented by the Mr. Jonathon BARRINGTON the Executive Secretary. ACAP is attending the CC and Commission meetings.

### **5. Introduction of Parties Delegations**

Delegations introduced their members. See the delegate list in [Appendix II](#).

## 6. Executive Secretary's Report on Compliance

The Compliance Review Report was presented by the Executive Secretary (ES) (DOC/CC/03/2025). It was noted that the following fishing trips were included in the report:

Japan – 2024 Longline, 2025 Longline, 2025 Pot, EU – 2025 Longline, Namibia – 2025 Longline.

Specific Compliance Issues:

- Late submission of port inspection reports by the Republic of South Africa (explained due to capacity constraints) as per [Appendix III](#).
- Late observer report submission by Japan (due to observer agency staff illness).
- The Namibian vessel fishing outside existing fishing areas (5 sets in Division D0). The Republic of Namibia provided a detailed response about the Namibian vessel's compliance issues as per [Appendix III](#). Japan requested the Republic of Namibia to update the next CC meeting about the compliance issue of fishing outside the existing fishing areas.

CC took note of the observation by the SC concerning the high level of bycatch of macrourids during the fishing activities of the Namibian vessel and recommended that the SC investigates the matter further in order to make recommendations at the 2026 SC meeting.

## 7. Annual Review of the "SEAFO System of Observation, Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement"

The EU encouraged the Scientific Committee (SC) intersessional work during 2026 on the following tasks:

Agenda Point 7.5 of SC Report - review of CM 25-12. SC decided to work on this intersessionally. The EU encourages the SC to adopt a revised text of CM 25-12 that could be adopted in 2026.

Agenda Point 7.11 of SC Report – review of toothfish tagging protocol. EU regards it as important to increase the number of toothfish tagged and encouraged SC to review the recapture statistics at the current tagging rate with the objective to propose next year to increase the current tagging rate of 1 fish per tonne of green weight.

## 8. Consideration of the provisional SEAFO IUU Vessel list for 2026

SEAFO has a cross listing agreement with NEAFC, NAFO, SIOFA and CCAMLR and the DRAFT IUU Vessel list contains the latest updates ([DOC/CC/04/2025](#)), which the CC approved and recommends that the Commission accept the SEAFO IUU vessel list for 2026.

The Republic of South Africa provided a brief statement about the vessel "El Shaddai" that was removed from the IUU vessel list by confirming that El Shaddai was originally listed as IUU vessel by CCAMLR. The vessel was subsequently included on the SEAFO IUU vessel cross listing due to this CCAMLR listing. Following various interventions between the Republic of South Africa and CCAMLR, the vessel has been removed from the IUU vessel list. As a result of this removal, El Shaddai has been removed from all coinciding and cooperating RFMOs' IUU vessel lists, including SEAFO.

**ACTION:** The CC adopted the provisional SEAFO IUU vessel list for 2026 and recommends to the Commission to approve the SEAFO IUU vessel list for 2026 presented in DOC/CC/04/2025.

**9. Recommendations on Additional Measures of Compliance**

No recommendations on Additional Measures of Compliance were submitted or discussed during the meeting.

**10. Any Other Matters**

No Other matters were tabled for discussion.

**11. Venue and date of next meeting**

The next Compliance Committee meeting will coincide with the next Commission meeting, and the date will therefore be decided by the Commission.

**12. Adoption of the 2025 Compliance Committee Report**

The meeting reviewed and adopted the Compliance Committee report for 2025 to be presented by the Chair to the Commission.

**13. Closure of meeting**

The Chair closed the meeting at 16:40 on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2025 and adjourned the meeting in good faith.

**APPENDIX I: List of Documents, Agenda and Annotated Agenda**

DOC/CC/00/2025

|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>The Secretariat</b><br>Physical Address: 1 Strand Street, NatMirc, Swakopmund, Namibia<br>Phone: + 264 (64) 406-885 • Fax: + 264 (64) 406-884 • Email: info@seafo.org • Website: www.seafo.org |
|   | <b>South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)</b>   |

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE  
COMMITTEE (CC) – 2025**

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mr. Beau M. TJIZOO (Rep. of NAMIBIA 2025-2026)**VENUE:** Virtual & In person, Sands Hotel, Swakopmund, NAMIBIA**VICE-CHAIR:** (Rep. of SOUTH AFRICA 2025-2026)**DATE:** 24 Nov 2025

| Document Ref. Number           | Agenda Item | Document Title  | Provider    | Availability of Document |
|--------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|--------------------------|
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/00/2025</a> | All         | List of Documents   | Secretariat | Available before meeting |
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/01/2025</a> | All         | Provisional Agenda of the 18 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Compliance Committee           | Secretariat | Available before meeting |
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/02/2025</a> | All         | Provisional Annotated Agenda of the 18 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Compliance Committee | Secretariat | Available before meeting |
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/03/2025</a> | 6           | Compliance Review for 2025  | Secretariat | Available before meeting |
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/04/2025</a> | 8           | Provisional IUU Vessel List for 2026  | Secretariat | Available before meeting |

DOC/CC/01/2025



The Secretariat

Physical Address: 1 Strand Street, NatMirc, Swakopmund, Namibia

Phone: + 264 (64) 406-885 • Fax: + 264 (64) 406-884 • Email: [info@seafo.org](mailto:info@seafo.org) • Website: [www.seafo.org](http://www.seafo.org)

South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (CC) – 2025

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mr. Beau M. TJIZOO (Rep. of NAMIBIA 2025-2026)**VENUE:** Virtual & In person, Sands Hotel, Swakopmund, NAMIBIA**VICE-CHAIR:** (Rep. of SOUTH AFRICA 2025-2026)**DATE:** 24 Nov 2025

| Item | Agenda Item  | Working Document   |
|------|--|--|
| 1    | Opening of Meeting by Chairperson  |  |
| 2    | Appointment of Rapporteur  |  |
| 3    | Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements  | <a href="#">DOC/CC/01/2025</a><br><a href="#">DOC/CC/02/2025</a> |
| 4    | Introduction and Admission of Observers  |  |
| 5    | Introduction of Delegations  |  |
| 6    | Executive Secretary's report on 2025 Compliance  | <a href="#">DOC/CC/03/2025</a>                                   |
| 7    | Annual Review of the "SEAFO System of Observation, Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement" |  |
| 8    | Consideration of the Provisional SEAFO's IUU Vessel List for 2026                          | <a href="#">DOC/CC/04/2025</a>                                   |
| 9    | Recommendations on Additional Measures of Compliance                                       |  |
| 10   | Any Other Matters  |  |
| 11   | Venue & date of next meeting   |  |
| 12   | Adoption of the 2025 Compliance Committee Report   |  |
| 13   | Closure of meeting   |  |

DOC/CC/02/2025



The Secretariat

Physical Address: 1 Strand Street, NatMirc, Swakopmund, Namibia

Phone: + 264 (64) 406-885 • Fax: + 264 (64) 406-884 • Email: [info@seafo.org](mailto:info@seafo.org) • Website: [www.seafo.org](http://www.seafo.org)

South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

### PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (CC) – 2025

**CHAIRPERSON:** Mr. Beau M. TJIZOO (Rep. of NAMIBIA 2025-2026)**VENUE:** Virtual & In person, Sands Hotel, Swakopmund, NAMIBIA**VICE-CHAIR:** (Rep. of SOUTH AFRICA 2025-2026)**DATE:** 24 Nov 2025

| NR   | AGENDA ITEM  | DESCRIPTION   |
|--|--|---|
| 1  | <b>Opening of the meeting</b>  | The Chairperson will open the meeting and welcome delegates   |
| 2  | <b>Appointment of Rapporteur</b>   | The Chairperson will confirm the appointment of a rapporteur who will draft the Compliance Committee Meeting Report   |
| 3  | <b>Adoption of Agenda and Meeting arrangements</b>   | The delegations will review and adopt the agenda of the Compliance Committee meeting and will be informed of any practical arrangements for the meeting by the Executive Secretary  |
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/00/2025</a> ; <a href="#">DOC/CC/01/2025</a> ; <a href="#">DOC/CC/02/2025</a> |  |   |
| 4  | <b>Introduction and Admission of Observers</b>   | The Chairperson will announce observers present as indicated by the Executive Secretary   |
| 5  | <b>Introduction of Parties Delegations</b>   | The Chairperson will allow delegations to introduce themselves  |
| 6  | <b>Executive Secretary's Report on Compliance</b>  | The Executive Secretary will present a report on compliance for 2024. The Committee will discuss the Compliance Report and make recommendations on issues emanating from the report |
| <a href="#">DOC/CC/03/2025</a>   |  |   |
| 7  | <b>Annual Review of "SEAFO System of Observation, Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement" 2022</b> | No amendments were suggested to be discussed during this meeting  |



DOC/CC/02/2025

|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 8  | <b>Consideration of the provisional SEAFO IUU Vessel list for 2026</b> | The Committee shall review the provisional IUU Vessel list and recommend it to the Commission for adoption<br><a href="#">DOC/CC/04/2025</a>  |
| 9  | <b>Recommendations on Additional Measures of Compliance</b>            | The Committee will consider any other compliance-related measures for recommendation to the Commission if needed                              |
| 10 | <b>Any other Matters</b>   | If any other matters have been requested during the adoption of the agenda, it will be discussed  |
| 11 | <b>Venue and date of next meeting</b>                                  | The committee will discuss a venue and date for the next annual Compliance meeting, which is usually determined during the Commission meeting |
| 12 | <b>Adoption of the Compliance Committee Report</b>                     | The Committee will review and adopt the 2025 report to be presented by the Chairperson to the Commission for adoption                         |
| 13 | <b>Closure of meeting</b>  | The Chairperson will close and adjourn the meeting  |



**APPENDIX II: Attendance List****CHAIRPERSON****Beau TJIZOO (NAMIBIA)**

Deputy Director

Directorate Operation: MCS

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water & Land  
Reform

Windhoek

Namibia

Phone: +264 61 205 3013

Phone Cell: +264 81 143 0309

Email: [Beau.Tjizoo@mfmr.gov.na](mailto:Beau.Tjizoo@mfmr.gov.na)**EUROPEAN UNION****Ignacio GRANELL (Head of Delegation)**

International Relations Officer

DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

Brussels

Belgium

Phone: +32 2 296 74 06

Email: [ignacio.granell@ec.europa.eu](mailto:ignacio.granell@ec.europa.eu)**Luis Belmonte GONZÁLEZ**

National Technical Coordinator

Deputy Directorate-General for Agreements and

Regional Fisheries Organizations

Directorate-General for Sustainable Fisheries

General Secretariat for Fisheries

Location: Madrid, Spain

Phone: +34 91 347 60 79

Email: [lbelmonte@mapa.es](mailto:lbelmonte@mapa.es)**JAPAN****Taisuke IWANO (Head of Delegation)**

Fisheries Agency

Government of Japan

Tokyo

Japan

Phone: +81 3 3591 1086

Email: [taisuke\\_iwano460@maff.go.jp](mailto:taisuke_iwano460@maff.go.jp)**Kazuki TSUDA**

International Affairs Division

Resources Management Department

Fisheries Agency, Government of Japan

Phone: +81-3-3591-1086

E-mail: [kazuki\\_tsuda300@maff.go.jp](mailto:kazuki_tsuda300@maff.go.jp)**Joji MORISHITA (Commission Chairperson)**

Advisor

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Tokyo

Japan

Phone: +81-3-3504-8459

Email: [jojimorishita@gmail.com](mailto:jojimorishita@gmail.com)**Takeshi SHIBATA**

Deputy General Manager

Taiyo A&amp;F Co. Ltd.

Tokyo 104-0055

Japan

Phone: +81 3 6220 1260

Email: [t-shibata@maruha-nichiro.co.jp](mailto:t-shibata@maruha-nichiro.co.jp)**Hideki MORONUKI**

Executive Managing Director

Japan Overseas Fishing Association (JOFA)

2-6-3, Kanda-Ogawa-machi

Chiyoda-ku

Tokyo, 101-0052

Japan

Phone: +81 3 3291 8508

Email: [hideki.moronuki@jdsta.or.jp](mailto:hideki.moronuki@jdsta.or.jp)**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA****Malcolm BLOCK (Head of Delegation)**

Chief Control Fisheries Inspector

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water &amp; Land

Reform

Walvis Bay

Namibia

Phone: +264 64 2016 201

Email: [Malcolm.Block@mfmr.gov.na](mailto:Malcolm.Block@mfmr.gov.na)**Sesilia ADEIGBO**

Control Fisheries Inspector

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water &amp; Land

Reform

Walvis Bay

Namibia

Phone: +264 64 201611 ext. 203

Email: [Sesilia.Adeigbo@mfmr.gov.na](mailto:Sesilia.Adeigbo@mfmr.gov.na)

**Rosalia MUPETAMI**

Control Fisheries Inspector  
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water & Land  
Reform  
Walvis Bay  
Namibia  
Phone: +264 64 201 6250  
Email: [rosalia.mupetami@mfmr.gov.na](mailto:rosalia.mupetami@mfmr.gov.na)

**Shadrack LISWANISO**

Fisheries Observer Agency  
Walvis Bay  
Namibia  
Phone: +264 64 219 500  
Email: [sliswaniso@foa.com.na](mailto:sliswaniso@foa.com.na)

**Mediva THOMAS**

Fisheries Observer Agency  
Walvis Bay  
Namibia  
Phone: +264 813702903  
Email: [tmediva@yahoo.com](mailto:tmediva@yahoo.com)

**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA****Marisa KASHORTE (Head of Delegation)**

Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the  
Environment  
Intergovernmental & International Relations  
Cape Town  
Republic of South Africa  
Phone: +27 21 402 3481  
Email: [mkashorte@dfre.gov.za](mailto:mkashorte@dfre.gov.za)

**OBSERVERS****ACAP****Jonathon BARRINGTON**

Executive Secretary ACAP  
ACAP Secretariat  
119 Macquarie Street  
Hobart  
Tasmania 7000  
Australia  
Email: [secretariat@acap.aq](mailto:secretariat@acap.aq)

**SEAFO SECRETARIAT**

NATMIRC  
Swakopmund  
Namibia  
Phone: +264 64 406885  
Email: [info@seafo.org](mailto:info@seafo.org)

**Lizette VOGES**

Executive Secretary  
Email: [lvoges@seafo.org](mailto:lvoges@seafo.org)

**Monika HAMBINGA**

Finance and Admin Officer  
Email: [admin@seafo.org](mailto:admin@seafo.org)

**APPENDIX III: Interventions from Contracting Parties on Agenda Point 6**

forestry, fisheries  
and the environment

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Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**INTERVENTION FOR THE 2025 SEAFO COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE ON RSA LATE REPORTING (FINAL DRAFT)**

Thank you, Chair, and thank you to the Executive Secretary for the clear and concise presentation of the Compliance Review.

South Africa acknowledges the delays in submitting several Port State Inspection Reports during the review period. As a major Port State serving not only SEAFO vessels but also vessels operating under IOTC, ICCAT, CCSBT, CCAMLR and others, our inspectors handle a very high volume of cross-RFMO reporting obligations.

The delays we experienced did not relate to technical inspection capacity - our inspectors completed all SEAFO forms correctly and carried out the inspections properly, as confirmed by the Secretariat.

The difficulty has been on the administrative side, largely due to:

1. Severe capacity constraints, where the same inspector performing the physical inspection is also required to prepare and transmit multiple RFMO reports.
2. Network and system limitations, which slowed or prevented timely transmission.
3. Structural workload issues, including anti-poaching operations that require extended hours.

Chair, we wish to reassure the SEAFO Compliance Committee that the underlying issues are being addressed nationally through concrete corrective actions:

Corrective Measures Under Implementation:

1. Establishing a dedicated RFMO reporting support mechanism

South Africa is finalising the appointment of administrative support staff under the WfF/EPWP programme. Their primary function will be to ensure that all RFMO inspection reports - including SEAFO are consolidated and transmitted on time. This is expected to significantly improve reporting discipline.

2. Strengthening inspector training and harmonisation across RFMOs

We are grateful for the training received by some Contracting Parties through FAO-supported programmes. However, South Africa's inspectors have had more limited access due to funding and travel constraints.

We therefore respectfully request that SEAFO, together with FAO-DSF and the Secretariat, consider delivering future SEAFO/PSMA/Port State inspection training in South Africa, so that our larger pool of inspectors can participate. This would ensure parity and help standardise procedures across all RFMOs using South African ports.

3. Internal reporting protocol

Our MCS Chief Directorate is developing a unified internal protocol for immediate forwarding of completed reports to the SEAFO Secretariat, especially in line with the 14-day requirement under CMM-10/2023. Chair, South Africa appreciates the constructive nature of this review and confirms our full commitment to timely and transparent reporting. We value the supportive role of the Secretariat and the cooperation of all Members as we continue strengthening our systems as a Port State serving multiple RFMOs.

Thank you Chair



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA ¶

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**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, WATER AND LAND REFORM ¶**


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▪ Tel.: → +264 64 2016111/201 → → → → → Office of the Executive Director ¶  
 ▪ Enquiries: **Malcolm Block** → → → → → Government Office Park ¶  
[Malcolm.Block@mfmr.gov.na](mailto:Malcolm.Block@mfmr.gov.na) → → → → → Private Bag 13184 ¶  
 WINDHOEK → ¶

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→ → → → → → → → → → **20 November 2025 ¶**

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Ms. Lizette Voges  
 Executive Secretary  
 South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization (SEAFO)  
 1 Strand Street, Swakopmund  
 Namibia

**Copy to:** Compliance Committee

Dear Ms. Voges,

**Re: Submission on Namibian MFV Helena Ndume fishing outside an existing fishing area in the SEAFO Convention Area, Division D0 in contravention of CM 30/15 during 2025 fishing season**

The Namibian MFV Helena Ndume is currently under notice for fishing outside an existing fishing area in the SEAFO CA, Division D0 in contravention of CM 30/15 during the 2025 fishing season.

This transgression was noted by the Directorate: Fisheries Law Enforcement and confirmed by SEAFO Secretariat whereafter the Directorate initiate a comprehensive investigation in respect thereof.

The outcome of our investigation confirmed that the MFV Helena Ndume indeed set five longlines outside an existing fishing area in the SEAFO CA, Division D0. The vessel captain was interrogated and, as a mitigation factor, informed us that they are all new crew fishing the first time in SEAFO CA and may have misunderstood which area they may fish or not. He further informed that, once they realized they were still outside the existing fishing areas, they tried by all means to retrieve their lined and move to the existing fishing areas. Due to bad weather, they could not retrieve their lines on the same day and finished retrieving their lines by 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 12h00 UTC.

Due to the nature of this transgression, the Flag State deemed it necessary to initiate the highest level of enforcement action under national legislation through prosecution of the vessel. A spot fine with trial date of 21 November 2025 was issued with a recommended fine of N\$50,000.00. This fine imposed are consistent with first time offenders for this category of offence.

However, the prosecutor was of the opinion that the amount of N\$50,000.00 was too high for a spot fine and recommended that a case docket must be opened. We are now in the process of finalizing the case docket and the case will be concluded early in December 2025.

The Directorate: Fisheries Law Enforcement also decided to amend the high seas fishing conditions to clearly set out the conservation measures of the various Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO's) to which Namibia are a member. This is currently an ongoing exercise as these amended conditions will assist in avoiding misunderstandings and clearly guide the vessel operators on how to legally conduct their fishing operations in the various RFMO areas they are licensed to operate in and include, *inter alia*, the following;

- Defining authorized fishing areas/zones and close areas;
- Including maps of fishing areas/zones and close areas;
- Improve VMS monitoring of the vessel activities; and
- Incorporate RFMO's maps, fishing areas/zones and close areas into our VMS integrated system.

Namibia would like to make it categorically clear that it takes its Flag State responsibilities very seriously and don't condone any fishing practices that are not consistent with national, regional and international rules and procedures by vessels flagged to Namibia.

Namibia believes that it had taken effective action in responds to this transgression by the MFV Helena Ndume through the prosecution of the vessel and severe sanction that was imposed on them and to be endorsed by the court. Further, by strengthening the high seas conditions to ensure full compliance with RFMO's conservation measures.

In conclusion, Namibia is committed to improve collaboration with the fishing industry and vessel owners/operators to increase awareness of the RFMO's working environments, the strict compliance regimes in place, the impact of any non – compliance on the Flag State and the consequences for the vessel and its owners. Namibian further will strengthen our Monitor, Control and Surveillance actions to ensure similar incidents are avoided in the future.

Thank you.