

Principles & Standards

The performance standards of individual boats should aim to achieve Sri Lanka's national standards as well as others that will ensure the suitability and safety of all fishing vessels.

- All fishing vessels and engines should be registered with the local Fisheries authority and licensed annually
- The conditions of the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996 Departmental Circular No. 01 should be applied in manufacturing fishing boats
- Adhere to the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The Code sets out principles and international standards of behavior for responsible practices with a view to ensuring the effective conservation, management and development of living aquatic resources, with due respect for the ecosystem and biodiversity

Extract of Fisheries Act of 1996



The following conditions should be applied in manufacturing fishing boats in terms of the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996 Departmental Circular No. 01

- Boat yards which manufacture fishing boats should be registered with the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Department (FARD)
- Approval of the Director General of the FARD should be obtained for the design of the fishing boat prior to manufacture of the same.
- Such fishing boats should be registered with the FARD in terms of the Fishing Boat Registration Regulations (FBRR) of 1980. When forwarding an application for the registration of a fishing boat, the registration number for that particular fishing boat may be reserved by the respective Assistant Director of Fisheries in the District and such number should be mentioned in "Fisheries 49 (Amendment)" Form.
- When registration numbers are reserved for new fishing boats such numbers should be marked in the fishing boat together with the code letters of the District in terms of the FBRR 1980. In addition the boat yard number should also be indelibly marked on the hull of the boat.
- A Seaworthiness Certificate should be obtained from the Director General of the FARD or any other officer authorized by him for each fishing boat.
- A Fishing Operation License should also be obtained from any officer authorized by the Director General of the FARD for the specified fishing operation in terms of the section 06 of the Fisheries & Aquatic Resources Act No. 02 of 1996.

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FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

Summary of FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

Date of adoption: October 1995

Place of adoption: Twenty-eighth session of the FAO Conference, Rome, Italy

Principal objectives

The code seeks to lay down a comprehensive set of guideline and principle, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law, which, inter alia promote responsible fishing and fisheries activities, taking into account all their relevant biological, technological, economic, social, environmental and commercial aspects.[articles 2]

Substantive provisions of the Code

Seven Articles lay down the substantive provisions, which deal with a large number of issues. These are summarized - and anticipated - in Article 6, which sets out the general principles in 19 paragraphs. The issues dealt with are as follows:

Fisheries Management

Article 7 on fisheries management contains many important subheadings concerning management objectives, management framework and procedures, data gathering and management advice, the precautionary approach, capacity management measures, implementation and financial institutions. The need for fisheries management to be based on effective data is stressed.

Fishing Operations

Article 8 deals with fisheries operations and it has provisions on the duties of flag states and port states, as well as provisions on harbours protection of the environment and the abandonment of structures and reefs. The overall objective of this article is to promote a framework that would encourage the sustainable development, foster protection of the aquatic environment and the maintenance of biodiversity

while making a significant contribution to the safety of fishing operations. Flag states are encouraged to ensure compliance with appropriate safety requirements as well as to promote access to insurance coverage for fishing vessels. Port states are to provide safe and environmentally sound harbours and landing places.

Aquaculture

Article 9 contains provisions on aquaculture development (which includes both aquaculture and culture based fisheries). The Code urges States to establish a framework for promoting responsible aquaculture development, including initiating regular oversight and review to ensure minimal adverse impacts and ecological change. States should implement international codes of practice to ensure genetic diversity of the farm stocks and prevent introduction of non-native species.

Coastal Area Management

The Integration of Fisheries into Coastal Management, covered in Article 10, contains provisions relating to the institutional framework, policy measures, regional cooperation and implementation. The Code calls for the promotion of the precautionary approach for coastal area management and stresses the need to take into account the fragility of coastal ecosystems, the need to consult those involved in the use of resources, the need to value coastal resources, the need to promote public awareness and the need for the exchange of information.

Post-Harvest Practices and Trade

Relating to fish Article 11 deals with post-harvest practices and trade and has provisions dealing with responsible use of fish including measures to protect consumer health, responsible international trade and laws and regulations trade.

Fisheries Research

Article 12 deals with fisheries research. It stresses the importance to responsible fisheries of the availability of a sound scientific basis to decisions concerning fisheries management.

Territorial scope

Global. Article 1(2) of the Code states: "The Code is global in scope, and is directed toward members and non-members of FAO, fishing entities, sub regional, regional and global organizations, whether governmental or non-governmental, and all persons concerned with the conservation of fishery resources and management and development of fisheries, such as fishers, those engaged in processing and marketing of fish and fishery products and other users of the aquatic environment in relation to fisheries

Material scope

The Code applies to all fisheries, as well as to the capture, processing and trade of fish and fishery products, fishing operations, aquaculture, fisheries research and the integration of fisheries into coastal area management. [Article 1(3)]

Operative mechanism

The FAO is primarily responsible for overseeing the implementation and development of the Code, although it is also envisaged that the Code may be revised by FAO competent bodies as well as by states and organizations adopting parts of the Code.

Other principles to be considered

The boat building process should also comply with health and safety standards. In the case of building fibreglass boats, particular emphasis should be given to managing the health hazards of working with fibreglass, and the fire hazards of handling resins and related chemical compounds.

- **Site selection**

The site for a boat yard should ideally have easy access to the area where the demand for boats exists.

- **Access, infrastructure and services**

Boat yards should have proper road access to enable transport of raw material and finished products. Provision should be made for adequate and appropriate provision of infrastructure such as drainage; and services such as water and power.

- **Materials**

When selecting materials, consideration must be given to the environmental impact, durability and economic costs including during production, transportation, construction and use. An understanding of local culture, climate and building tradition is necessary in order to inform the use of all materials, whether local or imported.

- **Local labour**

Once the technical know-how for boat building is in place, local labour can be used exclusively.