



Status of accession and implementation of the PSMA in ATLAFCO region

COUNTRY PRESENTATION: **LIBERIA**

23rd – 24th JUNE 2025



Presentation outline

1. PSMA Implementation Status

- Legal basis and National Policy
- Objective
- Integration and Coordination (National level)
- Coordination and information exchange (Bilateral, regional, and International)
- Designated Port and Use
- Capacity building

2. Recent Development

3. Challenges



PSMA Implementation Status

Legal basis and National Policy

i. National Laws

- National Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Management Law 2019
- Revised Fisheries Regulations of 2020
- Liberia Maritime Authority Act of 2010
- The New National Defense Act of 2008
- The Act Creating the National Port Authority of Liberia

ii. National Policies

- Republic of Liberia National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated Fisheries of 2018
- The Revised Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy and Strategy (2021)
- The National Security Strategy 2014.

iii. International Agreements

- Annex 1 of The United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
- Paragraph 27 of the International Plan of Action on IUU Fishing
- Article 5 of the FAO Port State Measures Agreement
- Paragraph 16(e) of the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance
- Minimum terms and conditions (MTCs) for fisheries access for the FCWC region
- FCWC Regional Plan Of Action Against IUU Fishing (RPOA-IUU).





PSMA Implementation Status

Objective

- To effectively implement PSMA and international obligations that address illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and fishing related activities, with a view to ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources and marine ecosystems





PSMA Implementation Status

Integration and Coordination (National level)

- Inter-agency collaboration and National Working Group
 - National Fisheries And Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA)
 - Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA)
 - Ministry Of National Defense (MoD)
 - Ministry Of Justice (MoJ)
 - National Port Authority (NPA)
 - Ministry Of Commerce And Industry (MoCI)
 - Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA)
 - APM Terminal





PSMA Implementation Status

Coordination and information exchange (Bilateral, regional, and International)

- Liberia has bilateral MoUs with Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana, and Senegal to fight IUU fishing
- Liberia is an active Participant of the FCWC-WATF basecamp platform
- Regional Monitoring Center
- TMT
- Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)



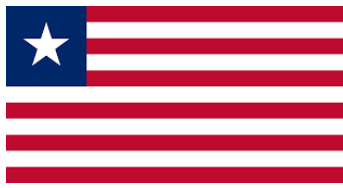


PSMA Implementation Status

Designated Port and Use

- The Designated port is the Freeport of Monrovia
- All foreign-flagged fishing and fisheries related vessels berthed at the Bong mines pier
- 37 fishing and Fisheries related vessel made port call at the Freeport of Monrovia in 2023.
- Limited IUU risk





PSMA Implementation Status

Advance Request for Entry to Port (AREP)

- AREP is **mandatory** for all Fishing and reefer vessels making port call to the Freeport of Monrovia
- The AREP is sent to NaFAA by email or hard copy.
- The AREP is submitted **3 days** before the vessel berth
- The AREP is analyzed by the import license committee and the FMC (through AIS, Combine IUU list, RFMO database, FCWC WATF basecamp)
- In 2023, NaFAA received and processed **28 AREPs**
- NaFAA disseminates AREP information to other agencies through Whatsapp messages
- Vessel is either denied or permit entry after AREP analysis





PSMA Implementation Status

Vessel Inspection

- NaFAA has 7 dockside inspectors
- Inspections done in the port include: Pre-licensing inspection, Pre-fishing inspection, post-fishing inspection and PSMA inspection
- About 95 inspections were done in 2023 (including inspections for local Chinese trawlers)
- About 22,886.42 tons of fish was landed at the port in 2023 (Reefers landed 17,905.79 tons and local Chinese trawlers landed 4,980.63)
- Inspection reports are in line with PSMA and are shared with Flag State and RFMOs upon request
- Follow-ups on cases are done by NaFAA and MoJ.

EIGHTH SCHEDULE
REPORT OF THE RESULTS OF THE INSPECTION AT PORT
Section 11.30.3 of the Law
Regulation 24
Republic of Liberia

1. Inspection report no	2. Port State		
3. Inspecting Supervisor			
4. Name of Principal Authorised Officer or Inspector	ID		
5. Port of inspection			
6. Commencement of inspection	YYYY	MM	DD HH
7. Completion of inspection	YYYY	MM	DD HH
8. Advanced notification received	Yes		No
9. Purpose(s)	LAN	TRX	PRO OTH (specify)

10. Port and State and date of last port call	YYYY	MM	DD
11. Vessel name			
12. Flag State			
13. Type of vessel			
14. International Radio Call Sign			
15. Certificate of registry ID			
16. IMO ship ID, if available			
17. External ID, if available			
18. Port of registry			
19. Vessel owner(s)			
20. Vessel beneficial owner(s), if known and different from vessel owner			
21. Vessel operator(s), if different from vessel owner			
22. Vessel master name and nationality			
23. Fishing master name and nationality			
24. Vessel agent			
25. VMS	No	Yes: National	Yes: RFMOs Type:

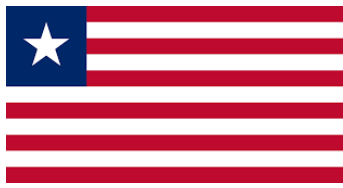


PSMA Implementation Status

Capacity Building

- There has been capacity building for Liberia MCS staff on PSMA Implementation, AREP, AIS, and VMS Analysis, port inspections, etc.





PSMA Implementation Status

New Development

- With the aid of the FAO, TMT, and FCWC, there is a finalized version of Inter-agencies MoU awaiting the signatures of principles of the agencies.

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
MONTSERRADO COUNTY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

NATIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE AUTHORITY

and

**LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY, MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE,
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY, MINISTRY OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, LIBERIA REVENUE AUTHORITY and APM
Terminal**

**ON INTERAGENCY COOPERATION AND COORDINATION FOR THE
EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAO PORT STATES MEASURES
AGREEMENT IN LIBERIA**



PSMA Implementation Status

Challenges for Implementing PSMA

- Despite being designated, the Freeport of Monrovia is not currently on the GIES designated PSMA ports
- The need for revision of the general monitoring SOPs.
- The development of risk matrix for AREP analysis
- Absence of synchronize inspection report database
- Inadequate port facility for landing of larger fishing and reefer vessels
- Absence of secure national information sharing platform



Thank you
for your attention