

Recommendation 110 of 25-03-2021

on the use of the Location codes in the Vessel Port list of the Fleet system

The Fisheries Control Experts Group – ERS (Electronic Recording and reporting System) and Data Management Working group,

Taking into account that:

- (1) the Fleet system is using the Vessel_Port code list available on MDR¹. The list contains still national codes for identifying locations where a fishing vessel is officially registered.
- (2) other systems like Fishing Activities and Sales notes are using the Location code list available on MDR for identifying locations but codes in that list are mainly based on an international codification.
- (3) fleet data is communicated to international parties like the FAO but national codes used in Fleet system are not recognised by them.
- (4) MARE has repetitively requested to Member states in weekly emails² to provide guidance on mapping national codes to codes from the Location list and to give their agreement on the proposal to use the Location codes for the Fleet system.
- (5) the Vessel port list should be modified to register the Location codes.
- (6) eleven member states have accepted the proposal in 2020. DNK, ESP, NLD, POL and PRT agreed on the proposal but they were awaiting new Location codes for a complete match with their national codes. Those new codes have been registered.
- (7) a revision of the Vessel port list showed that the validity end date of some national codes was wrong and must be updated. This is the case for CYP, DEU, EST, LTU and SWE.
- (8) FRA asked to modify the validity start date of their Location codes to the default value '01/01/1989' and to change a wrong Location code from GFGAY to GFCAY.
- (9) to simplify the declaration of vessel updates, in particular for historical data, the validity start date of all Location codes will be set to the default value of '01/01/1989'. This will allow member states to use also the Location codes for past events.

¹ MDR Europa: https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/control/codes_en

² Weekly emails of 23/08/2019, 04/07/2019, 24/01/2020

- (10) an improved implementation of the exchange of vessel data with third parties and the goal of using common codifications in MARE systems cannot be achieved without an agreement on the changes proposed above.

Recommends:

1. to include in the Vessel_Port list the existing Location codes corresponding to places used for registering fishing vessels in DNK, ESP, NLD, POL and PRT only and to accept the changes.
2. to set the validity end date of the national codes of those countries to the 31 May 2021.
3. to use the new Vessel_Port from **29 March 2021** onwards.