

# Mediterranean Swordfish: state of play

MEDAC-WG2 Athens, October 6, 2015





# Legal Framework

- COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fishery Policy
- RECOMMENDATION 13-04 by ICCAT for management measures for Mediterranean swordfish in the framework of ICCAT
- Italian Decree of June 3, 2015



# Requirements for swordfish fishing

## Special fishing authorization

*Vessels included in the list of authorized vessels and which use harpoons, or participate in pelagic longline fisheries for highly-migratory pelagic stocks shall have a special fishing permit for each authorised fishery*



# Special fishing authorization

- Submit an application to the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry;
- Demonstrate to fish actively for swordfish in the past;
- Harpoons (HAR) and/or longline (LLD) license;

*The special fishing authorization is valid for three years and is renewable*



## List of authorized vessels

*From 1° January 2015 is set up the list of the units authorized to fish for swordfish. Traders may ask to the Directorate-General of fisheries from the definitive cancellation or replacement, duly substantiated and proven, ship originally entered in the same list*



# Rules and technical measures for swordfish fishing

- Catch registration even below 50 kg;
- Catch report also for units not subject to catch registration;
- Landing pre-notification;
- Vessels not introduced on the list are not authorized to catch, retain on board, tranship, transport, process or land swordfish exceeding more than 5% of the total catch on board by weight or/and number of pieces;



# Rules and technical measures for swordfish fishing

- Closed fishing season:  
*1<sup>^</sup> October – 30 November;*  
*1<sup>^</sup> March – 31 March;*
- Minimum size;
- Technical characteristics of the fishing gear;



*Thanks for your attention*