

## Understanding how the IOTC PSMR works:

The PSMR requires that the master of a vessel seeking to enter port provides the port authorities with information about the identity of the vessel, the catch onboard, fishing, and transshipment authorizations, and details of any transshipment that have taken place. This must be done well in advance of port entry to allow for a preliminary investigation of the vessel and its activities. Based on this information provided in advance, an assessment is made as to whether the vessel might have been involved in IUU fishing. If no suspicion is raised, the decision is made to allow the vessel to enter the port. The vessel is then subject to whatever inspection regime that might be in operation (e.g. random selection of 25 percent of vessels). If a vessel is inspected and there are no “reasonable grounds” for believing that the vessel has been involved in IUU fishing, then the vessel is permitted to land its catch and use the port’s services. However, if there are reasonable grounds for believing that the vessel has been involved in IUU fishing, then the vessel must be refused permission to land the catch or make use of port services, except when the health or safety of the crew and/or the safety of the vessel is at risk. In addition, other enforcement action might be taken in consultation or cooperation with the flag State and, if appropriate, other coastal States and RFMOs. If it is subsequently established that there is insufficient proof that the vessel has been involved in IUU fishing, then the port State withdraws the denial to land the catch and use port services. At virtually every stage of the process, the port State must inform the flag State of actions it has taken and, as appropriate, other coastal States, RFMOs, and other organizations, and in some instances the State of which the master is a national. The flag State must also act on requests by the port State for certain information. The PSMR can afford the cost of 1MN \$ only on the development of an efficient software product.