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IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHING GEAR MARKING SYSTEMS

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its eighty-fourth session (27 April to 1 May 2026), agreed to disseminate the information on implementation of fishing gear marking systems, as set out in the annex.

2 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed information to the attention of Administrations, industry, relevant shipping organizations, shipping companies and other stakeholders concerned.

ANNEX

IMPLEMENTATION OF FISHING GEAR MARKING SYSTEMS

1 The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its seventy-eighth session (6 to 10 June 2022), agreed to promote the implementation of fishing gear marking systems and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) *Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear* (VGMFG), taking into account additional work by FAO.

2 FAO has developed the VGMFG, which were endorsed by the thirty-third session of the Committee on Fisheries in July 2018 and were reaffirmed by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2018.

3 Additionally, two supplements to the VGMFG have been developed, namely:

.1 a framework for conducting a risk assessment for a system on the marking of fishing gear (Supplement 1); and

.2 manual for the marking of fishing gear (Supplement 2).

4 The VGMFG and supplementary documents are available at:
<https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/1652dd68-6ae1-488d-81c1-dbef581c54ff>

5 Member Governments and international organizations are invited to bring the VGMFG and supplementary documents to the attention of all parties concerned.
