

THE PRIME MINISTER THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Independence– Freedom – Happiness

No: 78/QĐ-TTg

Hanoi, dated 16 Jan 2018

DECISION

National plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing up to 2025

THE PRIME MINISTER

Pursuant to the Law on Government Organization on 19 June 2015;

Pursuant to the Fisheries Act on November 26, 2003;

At the proposal of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development,

DECIDE:

Article 1. Promulgate with this Decision the National plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing until 2025.

Article 2. This Decision will be taken into effect from the signed date

Article 3. The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, ministers, heads of ministerial-level agencies, heads of governmental agencies, chairpersons of provincial People's Committees, centrally-controlled cities and organizations, individuals concerned shall be responsible for implementing this Decision.

Recipients:

- Secretariat of the Party Central Committee;
- Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers;
- Ministries, Ministry-level agencies and Government agencies ;
- People's Councils, People's Committees of coastal provinces, cities under central authority;
- Central Office and the Party committees;
- Office of the President;
- Ethnic Council and committees of Congress;
- Congress office;
- The Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front;
- Central agencies of the unions;
- Government Office, BTCN, các PCN, Assistants of the Prime Minister, Departments, NC, QHQT, QHĐP;
- Storage: VT, NN (2b).KN 198.

PRIME MINISTER

Nguyen Xuan Phuc

THE PRIME MINISTER THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Independence– Freedom – Happiness

**NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO PREVENT, DETER AND
ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING
UP TO 2025**

(Issued in conjunction with Decision No.78/QĐ-TTg dated 16 January 2018 of
Prime Minister)

I. VIEWPOINTS

1. IUU fishing activities cause the decrease of fisheries resources, have negative impacts on external relations and export activities of Vietnam's seafood in the international arena. The Vietnamese Government does not tolerate and encourage IUU fishing activities in domestic or international waters. However, IUU fishing is a socio-economic and historical issue due to objective and subjective causes and is associated with small-scale fishery characteristics. Therefore, a suitable, responsible and humanitarian approach is needed, especially with regard to time spent for mobilization and education combined with strict administrative sanctions in accordance with international law and legal provisions of each nation.

2. Effective control of IUU fishing will help maintain fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystem; Ensure effective, safe and sustainable fisheries; Contribute to the improvement of the people's lives and social equity; Maintain national security and defense at sea.

3. This action plan is in line with Viet Nam's fisheries policy, guidelines and legislation, including comprehensive and integrated actions to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing effectively, practically associated with sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources; International integration, enhancing the prestige and affirming the position of Vietnam on the international arena.

II. OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

1. Objectives

To prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing activities of Vietnamese and foreign organizations and individuals in Vietnam's sea areas; To promote responsible and sustainable fisheries development and contribute to national and regional security, and international integration; to eliminate the illegal fishing of Vietnamese vessels and fishermen in foreign waters.

2. Tasks

a) Main tasks by April 2018

- Review and amend the existing legal documents relating to IUU fishing: Decree No. 53/2012/ND-CP; Decree No. 41/2017/ND-CP; Circular No. 50/2015/TT-BNNPTNT; Circular No. 25/2013/TT-BNNPTNT; Circular No. 26/2016/TT-BNNPTNT; Circular No. 02/2006 /TT-BTS) are amended and promulgated in December 2017 towards enhancing the effectiveness of IUU control, in line with some recommendations of the European Commission and the management practices of Vietnam; Review and supplement fishing gears, sea areas and species which are totally banned from fishing or banned from fishing in a certain period of time.

- Approve the The Ocean Fishing Program.

- Approve the Plan for offshore fishing to 2020, vision to 2030;

- Based on the actual situation, establish multi-sector Working Group for combatting IUU fishing led by Leader of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development;

- Establish and operate the control system of fishing materials imported into Vietnam; Adjust and implement an efficient Catch Certificate Program for domestic fishing products.

- Upgrade the technical systems of the shore stations at the Directorate of Fisheries and 28 coastal provinces to monitor and effectively use information monitored from 10,000 fishing vessels which are heads of fleets (approximately 30,000 fishing vessels respectively) and effectively utilize 3,000 VMS devices under the Fishing Vessel Management Information Project (MOVIMAR); Use the information collected to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing activities;

- Establish fisheries Database (Project submitted to the Prime Minister) in order to: (1) Strengthen the verification, certification and traceability of domestic fishing products; (2) Establish an effective control system to prevent IUU fishing materials by foreign fishing vessels imported into Vietnam;

- Implement communication programs and raise public awareness on the negative effects of IUU fishing on the sustainable development of fisheries resources, social justice and prestige of Vietnam in the international arena;

- Carry out education, and training programs to enhance the capacity of complying with Vietnamese and international law for vessel owners, captains, fishermen and logistic service providers;

- Investigate, verify, detect and strictly handle cases of organizing fishing vessels and fishermen to fish in foreign waters or conducting brokerage activities to redeem fishing vessels and fishermen detained by foreign countries and taking them back to Vietnam illegally.

- Guide organizations and individuals engaged in legal fishing in the overlapping areas with other countries in the region;

- Develop detailed plans, programs and projects of ministries, sectors and 28 coastal provinces in order to implement this action plan in an effective and practical manner.

b) Main tasks for the period of May 2018-2020

- Enhance comprehensive measures to end illegal fishing of Vietnamese vessels and fishermen in foreign waters and in international waters.

- Develop guiding legal documents to implement Fisheries Law 2017;

- Approve the entry of Vietnam into international and regional fisheries management agreements related to the prevention and control of IUU fishing activities: the United Nations Fishing Stock Agreement (UNFSA), the FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) and cooperate or join (if possible) with regional fisheries management organizations: CCAMLR, WCPFC, IWC, IOTC, ICCAT, ...;

- Develop and implement the policy of occupation conversion, sustainable livelihoods for fishermen;

- Establish the mechanism on responsibility of heads of localities where fishing vessels undertaking illegal overseas fishing.

- Create a strict sanction regime for vessel owners, captains, fishers and persons who assist in the activities of the fishing, trading and transportation of products from IUU fishing vessels;

- Investigate, verify, detect and strictly handle cases of organizing fishing vessels and fishermen to fish in foreign waters or conducting brokerage activities to redeem fishing vessels and fishermen detained by foreign countries and taking them back to Vietnam illegally.

- Strengthen the Fisheries surveillance force at all levels in order to enhance the capacity of patrolling, controlling and dealing with law violations at sea;

- Strengthen law enforcement capacity of functional forces (border guard, Coast Guard, Fisheries surveillance force, specialized inspectorates) at sea, fishing ports, fish-landing sites and fish markets;

- Strengthen the capacity of controlling and inspecting fishing vessels, certifying the landing catch at fishing ports and fish-landing sites; Ensure the landing catch is controlled and certified at fishing ports;

- Strictly control the quantity, type and origin of imported seafood consignments;

- Complete the establishment of fisheries database in which information on vessels, fishing activities, labors, landing catch and traceability are integrated.

- Continue upgrading the vessel monitoring system at sea and develop a compulsory road map for installation of route monitoring devices for all offshore fishing vessels;

- Invest in 02 large fisheries complex centers, fishing ports and logistics service system to provide landing facilities for foreign vessels;

- Continue carrying out stock assessment and determining the capability of allowable catch of marine resources to support planning and managing fishing effort in various waters.

- Plan fishing capacity and fleet structure consistent with marine resources condition;

- Adjust and add to the prohibited list some destructive fishing gears: bottom, trawl, ... and some exploited species such as sea cucumber, giant clams, etc .;

- Negotiate to send Vietnamese fishing vessels to operate legally in international and regional waters under the Ocean Fishing Program;

- Negotiate and sign fisheries cooperation agreements with other countries in the region, set up hotlines for settlement of maritime incidents in the adjacent sea areas;

- Guide organizations and individuals engaged in legally fishing in the overlapping areas with other countries in the region.

- Implement communication programs on combatting IUU fishing in coastal education establishments in some key provinces;

- Implement communication programs and raise public awareness on the harmful effects of IUU fishing on the sustainable development of fisheries resources, social justice and prestige of Vietnam in the international arena;

- Carry out education, and training programs to enhance the capacity of complying with Vietnamese and international law for vessel owners, captains, fishermen and logistic service providers.

c) Main tasks for the period of 2021-2025

- Continue to complete the legal documents system and institutions for fisheries management.

- Continue to implement the policy of occupation conversion, sustainable livelihoods for fishermen.

- Continue to enhance law enforcement capacity of functional forces (border guards, Coast Guard, Fisheries resources surveillance, specialized inspectorates) at sea, fishing ports, fish-landing sites and fish markets.

- Strictly control the quantity, type and origin of imported seafood consignments;

- Continue to strengthen the capacity of controlling and inspecting fishing vessels, certifying the landing catch at fishing ports and landing sites; Ensure 100% of the landing catch to be controlled and certified at fishing ports.

- Investigate, verify, detect and strictly handle cases where organizations or individuals participating in or abetting IUU fishing activities.

- Continue to upgrade the vessel monitoring system at sea and expand the installation of route monitoring equipment; with the objective of 100% of inshore and offshore fishing vessels to be monitored;

- Invest in 03 large fisheries complex centers, fishing ports and logistics service system to provide landing facilities for foreign vessels;

- Continue carrying out stock assessment and determining the capability of allowable catch of marine resources to support planning and managing fishing effort in marine areas.

- Implement programs and plans to manage the fishing capacity and marine resources protection in marine areas.

- Implement communication programs on combatting IUU fishing in coastal training centers.

- Implement communication programs and raise public awareness on the harmful effects of IUU fishing on the sustainable development of fisheries resources, social justice and prestige of Vietnam in the international arena;

- Carry out education, and training programs to enhance the capacity of complying with Vietnamese and international law for vessel owners, captains, fishermen and logistic service providers;

- Participate in multilateral cooperation forums, international fisheries management organizations and bilateral fishery cooperation with other countries.

d) Assign responsibilities and map out the timeline to implement the major tasks listed in the Appendix under this Decision.

III. Implementation measures

1. Information, communication

- Diversify propaganda methods on the public media and local communication systems in order to disseminate policies and laws; Raise awareness of complying law to all people, with priority given to fishing vessel owners, captains, fishermen and owners of fishing logistic services in the coastal provinces;

- Strengthen the education to raise awareness and sense of law compliance for fishing vessel owners, captains, owners of fishing logistic services, laborers through vocational training programs;

- Provide periodical professional training for local law enforcement forces, ship owners, captains and owners of fishing logistic services in the coastal provinces;

- Develop communication programs, disseminate fisheries legislation to all people, focusing on young generation, fishing laborers in coastal areas; Pilot the implementation of communication programs on combatting IUU fishing at schools, colleges and universities in coastal provinces.

2. Science technology and international cooperation

- Apply remote sensing and information & communication technologies in developing and managing fishery data systems and information on monitoring fishing vessel which connected between management agencies, ports, border guard stations and fishing vessel;

- Periodically investigate stock assessment, which will be used as the basis for sustainable fishing; Apply advanced fisheries resource assessment methods and regularly collect fishery data in order to have the up-to-date scientific data and practical basis for planning and managing fishing capacity and fleet structure in marine areas;

- Conduct multilateral negotiation to accede to international and regional fisheries organizations, including accession to international fisheries agreements and becoming members of international and regional fisheries management organizations;

- Dialogue with the EU Delegation in Vietnam and the European Commission on issues related to implementing 09 actions recommended by DG-MARE and other international and national organizations on improving the effectiveness of fisheries management systems in Vietnam;

- Bilaterally negotiate with other countries in the region in order to send fishing vessel to operate legally in foreign waters; Set up hotlines for settlement of maritime incidents at sea;

- Attract international resources to enhance capacity and improve the effectiveness of combatting IUU fishing in Vietnam.

3. Mechanism, policies

- Strengthen the coordination mechanism between functional forces with local authorities and communities to conduct propagation, dissemination and education of the law; Detect and handle acts of violation of fisheries legislation in general and regulations on combatting IUU fishing;

- Conduct decentralization to localities, decentralization of management, supervision and control of IUU fishing in localities and communities; specify the responsibilities of the head of local government at all levels for uncontrolled local IUU fishing vessels;

- Define the responsibilities of the heads of local governments in coastal provinces; particularly localities that do not effectively prevent and control the the illegal fishing activities of their vessels in foreign waters;

- Make the list of vessels and fishermen for management purpose; Vessel owners and captains conducting IUU fishing and detained by foreign countries must be publicly criticized.

- Mobilize the whole political system, ministries, sectors, localities, agencies, business community, social organizations and coastal communities to participate in combatting IUU fishing activities and sustainable development of fisheries resources;

- Focus on surveying, data collection and fishery database development to provide a scientific and practical basis for the management of fishing capacity, as well as fishing fleet structure in sea waters;

- Upgrade the fishing vessel management information system to provide timely and up-to-date information for patrolling, monitoring, controlling and supervising fishing activities at sea, fishing ports, landing sites;

- Enhance the law enforcement capacity of functional forces in sea waters, at fishing ports and landing sites; Strengthen the law-abiding ability of fishing vessel's owners, fishers and logistic operators to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing;

- Upgrade the fishing port infrastructure and capacity to verify catch certification and statement and control the operation of fishing vessels at ports;

- Support and guide fishermen in legal and responsible fishing in foreign waters.

- Create mechanisms to encourage and support fishermen to convert to selective and environmentally friendly fishing gears and change their livelihoods to other sectors in order to reduce pressure on aquatic resources and environment.

4. Finance

- Finance for the implementation of the Action Plan includes: state budget, investment from enterprises, private sector, community and foreign sources and other sources;

- Finance from the state budget for implementing this Action Plan shall be allocated in the annual budget expenditure estimates of ministries, agencies, organizations and localities according to state budget Law and guiding documents, be integrated into the annual budget for implementation of the five-year socio-economic development plan and the annual socio-economic development plan according to Public Investment Law and guiding documents, be integrated into the national target programs and other related programs and projects;

- The State creates a legal basis, promulgates mechanisms and policies to mobilize social resources, especially from private sector to implement the National Action Plan and action plan of Ministries, sectors and local governments to enhance the capacity and improve the effectiveness of law enforcement to combat IUU fishing.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation, assignment of responsibilities and the timeline for major tasks in Appendix I attached to this Plan.

List of priority tasks up to 2025 in Appendix II attached to this Plan.

APPENDIX I: IMPLEMENTATION, AND TIMELINE OF MAIN TASKS

(Promulgated with the Action Plan under Decision 78/QĐ-TTg dated 16 Jan 2018 by the Prime Minister)

1. Implementation

a) Establishment of an inter-agency working group chaired by MARD leaders with the participation of departmental leaders of the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Information and Communications, Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Government Office, Central Committee for Propaganda and Training, National Committee for Search and Rescue, Vietnam Fisheries Association, Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers;

b) The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development is responsible for organizing and guiding the implementation of the Plan; leading and coordinating with the relevant ministries, sectors and localities in monitoring, supervising and evaluating the results of the implementation of the tasks of the action plan; synthesizing and making reports on the implementation of activities, annually report to the Prime Minister;

Ministries, sectors, localities and related agencies are based on their assigned tasks to prepare a report on implementation results. The responsibilities of the ministries, sectors and people's committees of provinces/cities are as follows:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development:

+ Be the focal point to guide the concerned organizations and individuals to effectively implement the contents and tasks approved in this Plan;

+ Lead and coordinate with other ministries and sectors in formulating medium-term and annual plans (contents and funds) for implementation of the contents and tasks approved in this Plan;

+ Take the lead in reviewing and amending current legal regulations and policies to ensure compatibility with international treaties which Vietnam has acceded to tighten the management. In particular, clearly define the mechanism of responsibility of central and local agencies for the issue of Vietnamese vessels conducting illegal fishing in foreign waters; Add sanctions to strictly handle violations committed by vessel owners, captains and organizations or individuals who engage in brokerage activities of sending vessel and fishermen to operate illegally in foreign waters; Strengthen law enforcement in fisheries management to prevent, minimize violation of fishing vessels and fishermen.

+ Lead and coordinate with concerned ministries, sectors, localities and foreign and international agencies and organizations in disseminating and training for organizations and individuals related on Vietnamese, international and other countries' fisheries legislation in localities where there are frequent violations.

+ Direct the fisheries surveillance force to intensify law enforcement and handle violations of the fisheries legislation in the sea areas, together with related forces to detect and prevent vessels and fishermen from illegal fishing in foreign waters.

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to intensify the negotiation and signing of fisheries cooperation agreements and organize legal fishing activities in some foreign waters for fishermen; Set up hotlines to combat IUU fishing and conduct joint patrols with countries sharing the maritime boundaries with Vietnam.

+ Participate fully in multilateral cooperation forums, international fisheries management organizations and bilateral fisheries cooperation with other countries.

+ Submit to the Prime Minister for approval and implementation of the Ocean Fishing Program; the project to build large fisheries complex centers, fishing ports and logistics system to provide landing facilities for foreign vessels;

- Ministry of Defense

+ Direct the functional forces to strictly control fishing vessel upon export or import; Resolutely not allow vessels to go fishing when there are not enough procedures, documents, equipment as prescribed; In case of violation, the agency's commander is responsible to the Ministry of Defense and the law;

+ Lead and coordinate with concerned forces in intensifying patrols, control and handle of foreign fishing vessels violating in Vietnam's waters, focusing on adjacent and overlapping maritime areas, high traffic and high frequency violation areas; Prevent Vietnamese fishing vessels from violating foreign waters, pay special attention to detecting and proposing the strict measures for handling cases of brokerage and investment in fishing ships and fishermen who violate foreign waters; cases of redeeming fishing vessel and fishermen illegally;

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and related ministries and sectors to review and amend legal documents on fisheries activities to meet the actual requirements. Organize timely rescue forces and coordinate with domestic and foreign forces to ensure the safety of lives and property for people engaged in legally fishing in sea areas.

- Ministry of Public Security

+ Direct local police departments to comprehensively grasp the practical situation, promptly detect, investigate and strictly handle cases of organizing illegal fishing vessels and fishermen in foreign waters or illegally redeeming of fishing vessels and fishermen who are detained by foreign countries;

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other ministries and sectors to quickly verify the personal identities of fishermen arrested by foreign countries for citizen protection and taking them back home promptly to avoid potential security problems.

+ Closely control the number of fishermen who are returned by foreign countries; Detect and handle cases influenced, bought off or manipulated by foreigners or hostile forces in order to perform activities of infringing upon national security and social order and safety.

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Continue the implementation of fishermen protection, request the countries concerned to deal with humanitarianism, in accordance with international law, not to use force or threaten the use of force against Vietnamese fishing vessels and fishermen violating in foreign waters;

+ Resolutely fight diplomatically with countries illegally arresting Vietnamese fishing vessels and fishermen in Vietnamese waters and overlapping waters that not yet delimited between Vietnam and other countries;

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to intensify the negotiation and signing of fishery cooperation agreements and organize fishermen to legally fishing in a number of countries, set up multilateral and bilateral management mechanisms to deal with maritime incidents and problems together with international organizations and countries in the region.

- Ministry of Information and Communication

+ Direct the news agencies, the press and the local information systems to promote law propagation, dissemination and education among the people on the legal provisions related to identify the waters between Vietnam and some neighboring countries; Take into account undocumented and overlapping waters; Propagandize Vietnamese and international fisheries legal provisions, especially the legal provisions of the countries where there are frequent violations of Vietnamese vessels and fishermen; Train journalists, editors and staff of press agencies to publish accurate, correct factual information and avoid errors;

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to inform the results of investigating and handling some typical cases of brokerage and investment in violating fishing vessels in foreign water for the purpose of deterrence, education, vigilance;

+ Closely and effectively manage satellite information and data, radio frequency and satellite networks to ensure accurate, reliable and confidential information;

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in implementing communication programs on IUU fishing;

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Defense for approval of the information organization project used for disaster prevention at sea; Build the second phase of vessel tracking information system.

- Ministry of Justice

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in advising and proposing to accede to international treaties on fisheries for application in Vietnam;

+ Coordinate with related Ministries to develop and appraise legal documents and IUU fishing management mechanism.

- Ministry of Education and Training

Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in implementing communication programs to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing at universitarian education establishments in coastal provinces and cities.

- Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning and Investment

+ Balance and allocate annual budget according to the regulations of the State Budget Law to ensure financial resources for the effective implementation of the tasks of this Action Plan;

+ Formulate a circular guiding organizations and individuals to elaborate plans and use budget for effective implementation in accordance with the current law provisions.

- The People's Committees of Coastal Provinces/Cities

+ Closely coordinate forces to monitor, investigate and strictly handle acts of brokerage and investment in fishing vessels and fishermen who violate in foreign waters; redeeming fishing vessels, fishermen illegally;

+ On the basis of this National Action Plan, develop and implement effectively an provincial action plan to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in line with local conditions;

+ Chairpersons of Provincial People's Committees and heads of local government at all levels shall organize the review and clarification of responsibilities and apply administrative measures for local government at all levels and relevant departments whose vessels conducting IUU fishing activities. In the coming time, if the situation cannot be prevented, the Chairman of the Provincial People's Committee and heads of government at all levels are responsible to Prime Minister;

+ Intensify the patrol, control and inspection activities and strictly handle violations of IUU fishing according to the provisions of the Decree on sanctioning of administrative violations in the field of fisheries and the Penal Code. Apply the the highest level of sanction to the owners and captains of vessels conducting IUU fishing activities in foreign waters, including revoking their fishing liscence permanently; Apply penal measures against vessel owners and captains in case of recidivism, organizations and individuals performing brokerage activities for vessels and fishermen to operate illegally in foreign waters.

+ Owners of violating vessels are required to pay for fishermen to return home.

+ Require the owners of the offshore fishing vessels to install the Route control devices in accordance with the law of Vietnam and open devices for 24/24 hours to be managed, supervised by the competent authority and complied with full legal provisions on the prevention, deterrence and elimination of IUU fishing;

+ Strictly implement the verification, certification and traceability of fishing products; Inspect, control, strictly handle the illegal fishing, consumption and processing of sea cucumber, giant clams and rare seafood;

+ Make the list of vessels and fishermen for management purpose; Vessel owners and captains conducting IUU fishing and detained by foreign countries must be publicly criticized.

+ Coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in implementing communication programs to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing at general education establishments.

- Other relevant ministries, sectors and associations, based on their respective functions and tasks assigned, coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in implementing the related tasks specified in the Appendix to this Decision.

c) During the process of the Action Plan implementation, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development shall regularly monitor and supervise the implementation, resolve arising issues in a timely manner and report to the Government, Prime Minister on issues beyond authorization.

2. Assignment of responsibility and progress of implementing major tasks

No.	Activities	The host institution	Coordination Unit	Execution time		
				By 4/2018	5/2018-2020	2021-2025
I. INSTITUTION AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES						
1.	Promulgating documents amending some relevant decrees and circulars	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Justice, Office of the Government	x		
2.	Approving the Plan for offshore fishing to 2020, vision to 2030;	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Planning and Investment, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	x		
3.	Submitting to the Prime Minister for approval The Ocean Fishing Program	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Government Office and concerned ministries and Sectors	x		
4.	Promulgating a detailed plan for implementation of the Fisheries Law 2017	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Government, and the relevant ministries and Sectors	x		
5.	Developing detailed plans, programs and projects of ministries, sectors and 28 coastal provinces in order to implement this action plan in an effective	Ministries and People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and concerned ministries and sectors	x	x	

	and practical manner					
6.	Establishing a responsible mechanism of the head of the local government where the vessels are being illegally fishing in foreign waters;	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Government, the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors	x		
7.	Buiding strict sanctions for vessel owners, captains, fishers and persons who assist in the fishing, trading and transportation of products from IUU fishing vessel;	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Government, the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors		x	
8.	Developing the guiding legal documents to implement Fisheries Law 2017;	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Government, and the relevant ministries and sectors		X	X
9.	Strengthening the Fisheries	The Ministry of	The Government Office,		X	X

	surveillance Force at all levels	Agriculture and Rural Development	the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and concerned ministries and sectors			
10.	Planning fishing capacity and fleet structure consistent with marine resources available;	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	People's committees of provinces, cities and relevant ministries and sectors		X	X
11.	Completing the legal documents system and institution for fisheries management	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Justice, the Government Office and concerned ministries and sectors	X	X	X
12.	Developing a policy of occupation conversion, sustainable livelihoods for fishermen	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Finance, State Bank and other relevant ministries and sectors		X	X
II. STRENGTHENING EFFECTIVENESS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT						
13.	Upgrading technical systems of Land-based Station at D-FISH and 28 coastal provinces to a nd upgrade HF devices under the Fishing Vessel Management	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities and concerned ministries and sectors	x		

	Information Project (MOVIMAR)					
14.	Adjusting and adding to the prohibited list some destructive fishing gears: bottom trawl, ... and some exploited species such as sea cucumber, giant clams, etc.	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Justice, the People's Committees of provinces and cities and the related ministries and sectors		X	
15.	Strengthening law enforcement capacity of functional forces	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Defense.	The Government Office, the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors.	X	X	X
16.	Strengthening the capacity of fishing vessel control and inspection, certifying the landing catch at fishing ports and landing sites	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors.	X	X	X

17.	Upgrading the vessel monitoring system at sea	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of provinces and cities and the related ministries and sectors		X	X
18.	Establishing a fisheries database	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of provinces and cities and the related ministries and sectors	x	X	X
19.	Carrying out stock assessment and determining the capability of allowable catch of marine resources.	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	People's committees of provinces, cities and relevant ministries and Sectors	X	X	X
20.	Investigating, verifying, detecting and strictly handling cases of organizing illegal fishing vessels and fishermen in foreign waters or illegally redeeming of fishing vessels and fishermen detained by foreign countries.	Ministry of Public Security	Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, VASEP, People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	X	X	X

21.	Implementing programs and plan to manage the fishing capacity and marine resources protection in marine areas	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	People's committees of provinces, cities and relevant ministries and sectors			X
22.	Making the list of vessels and fishermen for management purpose; Vessel owners and captains conducting IUU fishing and detained by foreign countries must be publicly criticized.	People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Defense	X	X	X
23.	Completing the establishment of a fisheries database in the direction of integrating information on vessels, fishing operations and landing catch	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities; Ministry of Information and Communications		X	X
24.	Investing in 03 large fisheries complex centers, fishing ports and logistics service system to provide landing facilities for foreign vessels;	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Planning and Investment, relevant line ministries, People's Committees of provinces and cities.		X	X

25.	Controlling strictly quantity, type, origin of imported seafood consignments;	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Finance and other relevant ministries and sectors	X	X	X
26.	Strengthening the capacity of fishing vessel control and inspection, certifying the landing catch at fishing ports and landing sites	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Finance and other relevant ministries and sectors	X	X	X
III. ENHANCING THE PEOPLE'S LAW- ABIDING CAPACITY						
27.	Guiding organizations and individuals engaged in legal fishing in the overlapping areas bordering with other countries in the region	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, People's Committee of provinces, cities, Fisheries Association and other related ministries and sectors	X	X	X
28.	Implementing communication programs and raising public awareness on the harmful effects of IUU fishing on the sustainable development of fisheries	Ministry of Information and Communications	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Education and Training; Central Committee for Propaganda and	X	X	X

	resources, social justice and prestige of Vietnam in the international arena;		Training, Vietnam Fisheries Association, VASEP and other relevant ministries and sectors			
29.	Carrying out communication, education, and training programs to enhance the capacity of complying with Vietnamese and international law for vessel owners, captains, fishermen and logistic service providers.	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Information and Communications, Ministry of Defense; Central Committee for Propaganda and Training, Vietnam Fisheries Association and related ministries and sectors	X	X	X
30.	Implementing communication programs on combatting IUU fishing at universitarian education establishments in coastal provinces and cities	Ministry of Education and Training	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities		X	X
31.	Implementing communication programs on combatting IUU fishing at education establishments in coastal provinces and cities	People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development			
IV. OTHER TASKS						

32.	Getting approval for accession to international and regional fisheries management agreements related to combat IUU fishing activities	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and concerned ministries and Sectors		2018-2019	
33.	Negotiating and signing fisheries agreements to enable Vietnamese fishing vessels to operate legally in international waters and in regional countries under the Ocean Fishing Program	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and concerned ministries and Sectors	X	X	X
34.	Negotiating and signing fisheries cooperation agreements with other countries in the region, setting up hotlines to handle situations and incidents in the adjacent sea areas	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and concerned ministries and Sectors	X	X	X
35.	Participating in multilateral cooperation forums, international fisheries management organizations and bilateral fishery cooperation with other countries	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and relevant ministries and Sectors		X	X

APPENDIX II

(Issued in conjunction with the Action Plan at the Decision No.78 /QD-TTg dated 16 January 2018)

No.	Activities	The host institution	Coordination Unit	Execution time		
				By 4/2018	5/2018- 2020	2021-2025
I. INSTITUTION AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES						
1.	Project on management of fishing capacity in Vietnam	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors		X	X
2.	Project on occupation conversion and sustainable livelihoods for coastal fishermen communities	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Finance, State Bank and People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities		X	X
3.	Project on the implementation of transferring the rights to develop co-management of the protection and development of fisheries resources	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities and concerned ministries and sectors		X	X
4.	Project on participation in international and regional fisheries management agreements related to the	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and related ministries and sectors		X	X

	preventing and combatting IUU fishing					
II. STRENGTHENING EFFECTIVENESS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT						
5.	Capacity building program of functional forces for law enforcement at sea	Ministry of Defense	The Government Office, the Ministry of Planning and Investment, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors.	x	x	x
6.	Program on strengthening the capacity of fishing vessel control and inspection; certifying the landing catch at fishing ports and landing sites	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of the provinces and cities and the relevant ministries and sectors.	x	x	x
7.	Project on upgrading the vessel monitoring system at sea	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Finance, the People's Committees of provinces and cities and the related ministries and sectors		x	x
8.	Project on developing fisheries	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural	The Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of		x	x

	database in the direction of integrating information on vessels, fishing operations and landing catch	Development	Finance, the People's Committees of provinces and cities and relevant ministries and sectors			
9.	Project on collecting commercial fishery data, developing an input database to determine the allowable catch of marine resources in Vietnamese waters.	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The People's committees of provinces, cities and relevant ministries and sectors	x	x	x
10.	Program on marine fisheries monitoring at the sea	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	The People's committees of provinces, cities and relevant ministries and sectors			x
11.	Investing in large fisheries complex centers, fishing ports and logistics service system to provide landing facilities for foreign vessels;	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Planning and Investment, relevant line ministries, People's Committees of provinces and cities.		x	x
III. ENHANCING THE PEOPLE'S LAW-ABIDING CAPACITY						
12.	Communication programs to raise public awareness on the harmful effects of IUU fishing on the sustainable development of fisheries resources, social	Ministry of Information and Communications	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ministry of Education and Training; Central Committee for Propaganda and Training,	x	x	x

	justice and prestige of Vietnam in the international arena;		Vietnam Fisheries Association, VASEP and other relevant ministries and sectors			
13.	Communication programs, education, and training to enhance the capacity of complying with Vietnamese and international law for vessel owners, captains, fishermen and logistic service providers.	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	Ministry of Information and Communications, Ministry of Defense; Central Committee for Propaganda and Training, Vietnam Fisheries Association and related ministries and sectors	x	x	x
14.	Communication programs on combatting IUU fishing at universitarian education establishments in coastal provinces and cities	Ministry of Education and Training	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities		x	x
15.	Communication programs on combatting IUU fishing at coastal general education establishments	People's Committees of coastal provinces and cities	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development		x	x