

LAWS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

CAP. 158.]

FISHERIES

[Subsidiary]

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

Order 49 of 1983
Order 30 of 1986

ARRANGEMENT OF
REGULATIONS

REGULATION

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SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

To provide for the conservation and regulation of fisheries in Vanuatu waters and the issue of licences.

PART I

FOREIGN FISHING LICENCES

APPLICATIONS

1. (1) Subject to subregulation (2) every application for a foreign fishing licence shall be substantially in the form set out in Part A of Schedule 1 to these regulations.
- (2) On or following the operative date of any Order made under section 7 of the Act, it shall be sufficient for any application for a foreign fishing licence to be substantially in the form set out in Part B of Schedule 1 to these regulations.
- (3) Every application for a foreign fishing licence shall be addressed to the Minister and be in writing or in the form of a telex or cable, in English or in French.

LICENCE FORM

2. Every foreign fishing licence shall be in writing or in the form of a telex or a cable and substantially in the form set out in Schedule 2 to these regulations.

FEES

3. (1) The fee payable for the issue or renewal of a licence in respect of a foreign fishing vessel shall be set in accordance with the calculation described under Schedule 3 of these regulations.
- (2) No foreign fishing licence shall be issued unless the Minister is satisfied that any fee payable in respect of that licence has been paid and that adequate arrangements have been made for the payment of any royalties and other charges payable under section 14 of the Act.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

4. (1) Subject to regulation 5, every foreign fishing licence issued under section 4 of the Act shall be subject to the following general conditions—
 - (a) the vessel shall at all times while in Vanuatu waters—
 - (i) fly the flag of its flag state; and
 - (ii) display in a place clearly visible both from the sea and from the air, in letters and numbers at least 1 metre high on a contrasting background its international radio call sign;
 - (b) any change in the information set out in the application form shall be notified to the Director as soon as practicable and, in any case, no later than 7 days from the date of the change;
 - (c) no fishing shall be undertaken in Vanuatu waters except as authorized by the licence;
 - (d) no fish may be transhipped from or onto the vessel while in Vanuatu waters except with the permission of the Director and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify;

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- (e) the master of the vessel shall cause a logbook to be maintained on a daily basis in such form as the Director may from time to time require for the purpose of recording the fishing operations of the vessel while within Vanuatu waters;
 - (f) the logbook maintained under paragraph (e) shall be transmitted in its original and unaltered form to the Director or to any other person or organization designated by him—
 - (i) not later than 7 days after the completion of the voyage to which the log book relates; or
 - (ii) at any other time at the request of the Director or of any authorized officer;
 - (g) the master of the vessel shall cause reports to be made to the Director or to such other person or organization as the Director may designate containing the information set out in paragraph (h) at the following times—
 - (i) immediately upon entry into Vanuatu waters;
 - (ii) every Wednesday or such other day as the Director may specify while the vessel is in Vanuatu waters;
 - (iii) immediately upon departure from Vanuatu waters; and
 - (iv) such other times as the Director may specify.
 - (h) each report made under paragraph (g) shall contain details of—
 - (i) the international radio call sign or the number assigned to the vessel under any regional register referred to in an Order made under section 7 of the Act;
 - (ii) the position of the vessel at the time of reporting;
 - (iii) the total catch by species on board the vessel at the time of reporting;
 - (iv) such other matters as the Director may from time to time require.
 - (i) the master or owner of the vessel or his authorized local representative shall notify the Director or such other person or organization as the Director may designate of the estimated time of entry of the vessel into any Vanuatu port at least 24 hours prior to such entry.
 - (j) the master of the vessel shall, while in Vanuatu waters, allow any fisheries officer or other person designated in writing by the Director to board and remain on board the vessel as an observer and shall—
 - (i) proceed to such port or place as the Director may require to allow an observer to board or disembark from the vessel;
 - (ii) allow the observer full access to all equipment, including navigation and communications equipment, records and documents and to any fish on board the vessel;
 - (iii) allow the observer to make such tests, observations and records and to take and remove such samples as he may reasonably require in connection with the vessel's activities in Vanuatu waters; and
 - (iv) provide without charge food, accommodation and medical treatment at least equivalent to that provided for officers of the vessel.
 - (k) the master of the vessel shall, while in Vanuatu waters, take all reasonable measures and precautions to avoid causing damage to any local fishing operations including non-commercial operations.
- (2) Any records, logbooks or notifications required to be maintained or made under this regulation shall be maintained or made in English or in French.

EXEMPTION

5. The Director may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, exempt any locally based foreign fishing vessel or any class of locally based foreign fishing vessel from any or all of the requirements of paragraphs (g), (h), (i) and (j) of regulation 4(1).

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PART II

LOCAL FISHING LICENCES

FORM OF LICENCE AND APPLICATION

6. Every licence in respect of a local fishing vessel and every application for such a licence shall be in writing in the appropriate form set out in Schedule 4 to these regulations.

FEES

7. (1) Subject to subregulation (2), the fee payable for the issue or renewal of a licence in respect of a local fishing vessel shall be the amount set out for vessels of that kind in Schedule 5 to these regulations.
- (2) Where a licence is issued for a part of a year only, the fee payable shall be the amount payable under subregulation (1) for a complete year less one twelfth of that amount for each complete month that the licence will not have had effect.

GROUND FOR REFUSAL OF A LICENCE

8. No licence in respect of a local fishing vessel may be issued or renewed unless—
- (a) an application has been made in accordance with regulation 6 and is true and correct in every way;
 - (b) any information requested by the Minister or the Director and relevant to the proposed fishing operation has been provided in the manner requested;
 - (c) there is held in respect of the vessel a valid safety certificate issued by the Ports and Marine Department under the law from time to time dealing with shipping safety; and
 - (d) the fee prescribed in regulation 7 has been paid.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

9. Every licence in respect of a local fishing vessel shall be subject to the following general conditions—
- (a) any change in the information set out in the application form shall be notified to the Director as soon as practicable and in any case no later than 7 days from the date of the change;
 - (b) the vessel shall display such identification markings as the Director may from time to time require;
 - (c) no fishing shall be undertaken except as authorized by the licence;
 - (d) no fish may be transhipped from or onto the vessel except with the permission of the Director and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify;
 - (e) the master of the vessel shall, if so required by the Director, cause a logbook to be maintained on a daily basis in such form as the Director may from time to time require for the purpose of recording the fishing operations of the vessel;
 - (f) any logbook maintained under the preceding paragraph shall be transmitted in its original and unaltered form to the Director at such times as he may require;
 - (g) if the vessel is fishing in waters other than Vanuatu waters, the vessel shall comply with such written laws relating to fishing of any other country, if any as may be recognized by the Republic of Vanuatu as having force in those waters.

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PART III

FISH EXPORT PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCES

APPLICATIONS

10. Every licence to operate a fish export processing establishment and every application for such a licence shall be in writing in the form set out in Schedule 6 to these regulations.

FEES

11. There shall be payable for the issue or renewal of a licence to operate a fish export processing establishment a fee of VT10,000.

LICENCE CONDITIONS

12. Every licence to operate a fish export processing establishment shall be subject to the following conditions in addition to any conditions endorsed on the licence—
- (a) the establishment shall be maintained and operated in a clean and sanitary manner;
 - (b) accurate records shall be maintained relating to the operations carried out in the establishment, including records of the quantity, type and quality of fish received, processed, sold or exported, and all such records shall be open to inspection by any authorized officer;
 - (c) such returns shall be made to the Director concerning the operations of the establishment as the Director may from time to time require;
 - (d) any change in the information set out in the application form shall be notified to the Director as soon as practical and in any case not later than 7 days from the date of the change.

PART IV

FISHERY CONSERVATION MEASURES

ROCK LOBSTER

13. (1) In this regulation "rock lobster" means a crustacean of genus *Panulirus*.
- (2) No person shall harm, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase—
- (a) any rock lobster carrying eggs; or
 - (b) any rock lobster which is less than 22 centimetres in length when laid flat and measured from immediately behind the rostral horns to the rear edge of the telson or whose carapace is less than 7.5 centimetres when measured along the mid-line from immediately behind the rostral horns to the rear edge as illustrated in Schedule 7 to these regulations.
- (3) No person shall spear or attempt to spear a rock lobster.
- (4) No person shall remove the eggs from a rock lobster or have in his possession, sell or purchase a rock lobster from which the eggs have been removed.

SLIPPER LOBSTER

14. (1) In this regulation "slipper lobster" means a crustacean of species *Parribacus caledonicus*.
- (2) No person shall harm, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase—
- (a) any slipper lobster carrying eggs; or
 - (b) any slipper lobster which is less than 15 centimetres in length when laid flat and measured from the front edge of the carapace to the rear edge of the telson as illustrated in Schedule 8 to these regulations.

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- (3) No person shall spear or attempt to spear a slipper lobster.
- (4) No person shall remove the eggs from a slipper lobster or have in his possession, sell or purchase a slipper lobster from which the eggs have been removed.

COCONUT CRAB

15. (1) In this regulation "coconut crab" means a crustacean of species *Birgus latro*.
- (2) No person shall harm, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase—
 - (a) any coconut crab carrying eggs; or
 - (b) any coconut crab which is less than 9 centimetres in length when measured along the carapace from immediately behind the rostral horn to the rear edge of the carapace in the mid-line, as illustrated in Schedule 9 to these regulations.
 - (3) No person shall remove the eggs from a coconut crab or have in his possession, sell or purchase any coconut crab from which the eggs have been removed.

GREEN SNAIL

16. (1) In this regulation "green snail" means a mollusc of the species *Turbo marmoratus*.
- (2) No person shall harm, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase any green snail which is less than 15 centimetres in length when measured in its longest dimension.
 - (3) No person shall export green snails except with the written permission of the Minister and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.

TROCHUS

17. (1) In this regulation "trochus" means a mollusc of the species *Trochus niloticus*.
- (2) No person shall harm, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase any trochus which is less than 9 centimetres in diameter when measured across the base.
 - (3) No person shall export trochus except with the written permission of the Minister and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.

TRUMPET SHELL

18. (1) In this regulation "trumpet shell" means a mollusc of the species *Charonia tritonis*.
- (2) No person shall harm, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase any trumpet shell which is less than 20 centimetres in length when measured along the outside of the shell from one end to the other.

CORAL

19. (1) No person shall take more than 3 pieces of living coral in any period of 24 hours except with the permission of the Director and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.
- (2) No person shall export any coral except with the written permission of the Minister and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.

AQUARIUM FISH

20. (1) No person shall export marine aquarium fish except with the written permission of the Minister and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.
- (2) A permission granted under this regulation shall not affect any obligation to reach agreement with custom land owners regarding the use of land and waters for the catching of aquarium fish.

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TURTLES

21. (1) No person shall—
- (i) disturb, take, have in his possession, sell or purchase any turtle eggs;
 - (ii) interfere with any turtle nest; or
 - (iii) sell, purchase or export any turtle or the shell thereof of the species *Eretmochelys imbricata*, known as the hawksbill turtle.

CRUSTACEANS

22. No person shall export any crustacean except with the written permission of the Minister and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.

BÊCHE-DE-MER

23. No person shall export any bêche-de-mer except with the written permission of the Minister and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.

OFFENCES

24. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this Part shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding VT100,000.

PART V

FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES

PLACING OF DEVICES

25. (1) No person shall place a fish aggregating device in Vanuatu waters except with the permission of the Director and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify or as are otherwise specified in this Part.
- (2) The permission of the Director under this regulation may be given in the form of a telex or cable or in writing whether as a condition of the licence or otherwise.
 - (3) Permission to place a fish aggregating device shall not confer any exclusive right to fish in the vicinity of the device.
 - (4) The master of any vessel placing a fish aggregating device shall notify the Director within 24 hours of the nature and location of the device.
 - (5) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this regulation shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding VT100,000.

DESIGNATED FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE

26. (1) The Director may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, declare any fish aggregating device to be a designated fish aggregating device for the purposes of this regulation.
- (2) Subject to subregulation (3), no person shall fish within a radius of 1 nautical mile from a designated fish aggregating device except with the permission of the Director and in accordance with such conditions as he may specify.
 - (3) The Director may, by notice published in the *Gazette* declare that any class of persons who are Vanuatu citizens may fish within a radius of 1 nautical mile of a designated fish aggregating device or a class of designated fish aggregating devices.
 - (4) Any person who contravenes the provision of this regulation shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding VT1,000,000.

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MARKING OF DEVICES

27. (1) Any fish aggregating device placed in Vanuatu waters shall—
- (a) be clearly marked with the name of the owner and of the vessel from which the device was placed;
 - (b) bear a radar reflector and such lights as shall be clearly visible at night from a distance of 1 nautical mile; and
 - (c) have such other equipment or markings as the Director may from time to time require.
- (2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this regulation shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding VT50,000.

DISPOSAL OF UNAUTHORIZED DEVICE

28. Any fish aggregating device placed in Vanuatu waters otherwise than in accordance with a permission given under regulation 25 or found in Vanuatu waters without a marking or piece of equipment required by regulation 27 may be used or disposed of in such manner as the Minister may direct.

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

29. Any person contravening any of the provisions of these regulations shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction where no specific fine is provided therefor to a fine not exceeding VT100,000.

SCHEDULE 1

(Regulation 1)

APPLICATION FORMS FOR FOREIGN FISHING LICENCES

PART A—FULL APPLICATION FORM

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

Application Form for a Foreign Fishing Licence

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Underline surnames
- Address means complete mailing address
- Mark X where appropriate
- If not applicable mark NA
- Type or print clearly
- All units metric, specify units if other system used

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SCHEDULE 1 (cont'd)

To: Minister of Lands, Minerals and Fisheries

I hereby apply for a foreign fishing licence.

1. Name of vessel _____
2. Name of owner _____
3. Address of owner _____

4. Name of charterer _____
5. Address of charterer _____
6. Country of registration _____
7. Country registration number _____
8. Radio call sign _____
9. Operational base(s):
 port _____ country _____
 port _____ country _____
10. Name of vessel master _____
11. Address of vessel master _____

12. Name of fishing master _____
13. Address of fishing master _____
14. Type of vessel
 Single purse seiner Group purse seiner
 Longliner Purse seiner carrier
 Pole and liner
 Other (Specify) _____

15. Normal total number of crew _____
16. Flag state authorised fishing areas _____
17. Hull materials: Steel Wood
 FRP Other (Specify) _____
18. Year built 19____
19. Place of construction _____
20. Gross tonnage _____
21. Overall length _____ metres
22. Main engine(s) power _____ (Specify units)
23. Fuel carrying capacity _____ kilolitres

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SCHEDULE 1 (cont'd)

24. Daily freezing capacity (more than 1, if appropriate)

Method (X where appropriate)		Capacity metric tons/day	Temperature C
Brine (NaCl)	BR	_____	_____
Brine (CaCl)	CB	_____	_____
Air (Blast)	BF	_____	_____
Air (Coils)	RC	_____	_____
Other (Specify) _____		_____	_____

25. Storage capacity (more than 1, if appropriate)

Method (X where appropriate)		Capacity cubic metres	Temperature C
Ice	IC	_____	_____
Refrigerated			
Sea Water	RW	_____	_____
Brine (NaCl)	BR	_____	_____
Brine (CaCl)	CB	_____	_____
Air (Coils)	BC	_____	_____
Other (Specify) _____		_____	_____

Complete either A, B, or C below as appropriate.

A. For Purse Seiners

26. Net length _____ metres

27. Net depth _____ metres

28. Support vessels

Name _____	Type _____
Name _____	Type _____
Name _____	Type _____
Name _____	Type _____

B. For Pole and Line Vessels

29. Bait storage, (more than 1, if appropriate)

Circulation method (X where appropriate)		Capacity cubic metres
Natural	NN	_____
Circulation	CR	_____
Refrigerated	RC	_____

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SCHEDULE 1 (*cont'd*)

C. For Support Vessels

30. Activities (X more than 1, if appropriate)

Refrigerated carrier

Scouting boat

Anchor boat

Supply/Mothership

Other (Specify)

31. Fishing vessel(s) supported

I understand I am required to:

- i. report any changes in items 1 to 13 within 60 days, and
- ii. annually notify any other changes in the information contained in this application to the Director of Fisheries, Port Vila, Vanuatu.

Signature of applicant

Owner

Charterer

Duly authorised agent

Address of applicant

PART B—SHORT APPLICATION FORM

I hereby apply for a licence to fish in Vanuatu waters.

1. Name of vessel
2. Regional register number
3. Nature of fishing operations to be undertaken (including use of aggregating devices)
4. Proposed fishing areas
5. Period of validity of licence requested
6. Proposed date of commencement of fishing operation

Signed

Date

Specify whether owner, charterer or agent

Name and address of applicant

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SCHEDULE 2

(Regulation 2)

FOREIGN FISHING LICENCE

Licence
Number

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

FOREIGN FISHING LICENCE

The person named as the licence holder below is hereby licensed in accordance with section 4(2) of the Fisheries Act, Cap. 158 to use the vessel described below for fishing in Vanuatu waters and in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this licence and the conditions prescribed from time to time in the Fisheries Regulations.

Name of licence holder

Name of vessel

Radio call sign

Regional register number

Authorized fishing areas

Authorized fishing period

Authorized fishing operation

Authorized target species and quota (where applicable)

Other special conditions

.....
.....
.....
.....

Permitted transshipment operations (where applicable)

Permitted use of fish aggregating devices (where applicable)

.....
Minister of Lands, Minerals and Fisheries

.....
Date

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SCHEDULE 3

(Regulation 3)

FEES FOR FOREIGN FISHING LICENCES

A foreign fishing vessel licence fee shall be equal to the catch allocation multiplied by the landed catch value and again multiplied by a percentage of the catch value.

SCHEDULE 4

(Regulation 6)

LOCAL FISHING VESSEL LICENCE

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

Application Form for a Local Fishing Vessel Licence

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Underline surnames
- For "address" provide as much detail as possible
- Leave no question blank
- If not applicable, write N/A
- Specify units of measurement

ADDRESS TO: Director of Fisheries, Fisheries Department, Port Vila

I hereby apply for a fishing licence for the vessel described below.

1. Name of vessel
2. Name and address of charterer (if applicable)
3. International radio call sign (if applicable)
4. Name and address of master
5. Nature of fishing operation to be undertaken (attach full description)
6. Nature of vessel (attach full description, including hull construction, main engine type and power, where and when built, history of use)
7. Number of crew expected
8. Fish storage capacity, for each storage method

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SCHEDULE 4 (*cont'd*)

I declare that the vessel described above is wholly owned by: (*tick (a), (b), (c), or (d)*)—

- (a) the Government of Vanuatu
- (b) a public corporation established by or under a law of Vanuatu
- (c) one or more persons who are citizens of Vanuatu
- (d) a company, society or other association of persons incorporated or established under the laws of Vanuatu,

and that the full name and address or names and addresses of the owner or of all the owners are:

.....
.....

I understand that I am required to report any changes in the information contained in this form to the Director of Fisheries, Port Vila, within 7 days of the change.

Signature of applicant

Date

Specify whether owner or charterer

Name and address of applicant

Licence form

Licence

Number

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

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LOCAL FISHING VESSEL LICENCE

The person named as the licence holder below is hereby licensed in accordance with section 9(2) of the Fisheries Act, Cap. 158 to use the vessel described below for fishing in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this licence and the conditions prescribed from time to time in the Fisheries Regulations.

Name of licence holder

Name of vessel

Radio call sign (if applicable)

Period of licence

Special conditions

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

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SCHEDULE 4 (*cont'd*)

Permitted transshipment operations (where applicable)

Permitted use of fish aggregating devices (where applicable)

.....
Director of Fisheries

.....
Date

SCHEDULE 5

(Regulation 7)

FEEES FOR LOCAL FISHING VESSEL LICENCES

Size of vessel in gross registered tonnes	Fee payable
Less than 100 tonnes	VT5,000
100 tonnes or more, up to 1,000 tonnes	VT5,000 and, in addition, VT125 per tonne in excess of 100
1,000 tonnes or more	VT27,500

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SCHEDULE 6

(Regulation 10)

FISH EXPORT PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCES

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

Application Form for a Fish Export Processing Establishment Licence

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Underline surnames
- For "address" provide as much detail as possible
- Leave no question blank
- If not applicable, write N/A
- Specify units of measurement

ADDRESS TO: Director of Fisheries, Fisheries Department, Port Vila

I hereby apply for a licence to operate a fish export processing establishment at the place and in the manner described below.

1. Address of establishment
2. Name and address of owner of establishment
3. Name and address of lessee (if leased)
4. Products to be processed, including sources of supply (attach full description)
5. Nature of processing operation (attach full description)
6. Cleanliness and sanitation (attach full description of construction and maintenance standards)

I understand that I am required to report any changes in the information contained in this form to the Director of Fisheries, Port Vila within 7 days of the change.

Signature of applicant

Date

Specify whether owner or lessee

Name of applicant

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SCHEDULE 6 (*cont'd*)

Licence form

Licence
Number

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

FISHERIES REGULATIONS

FISH EXPORT PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE

The person named as the licence holder below is hereby licensed in accordance with section 21(1) of the Fisheries Act, Cap. 158 to use the premises described below as a fish export processing establishment in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this licence and the conditions prescribed from time to time in the Fisheries Regulations.

Name of licence holder

Address of premises

Kinds of fish authorized to be processed

Kinds of processing authorized to be carried out

Further conditions

.....
.....
.....
.....

.....
Minister of Lands, Minerals and Fisheries

.....
Date

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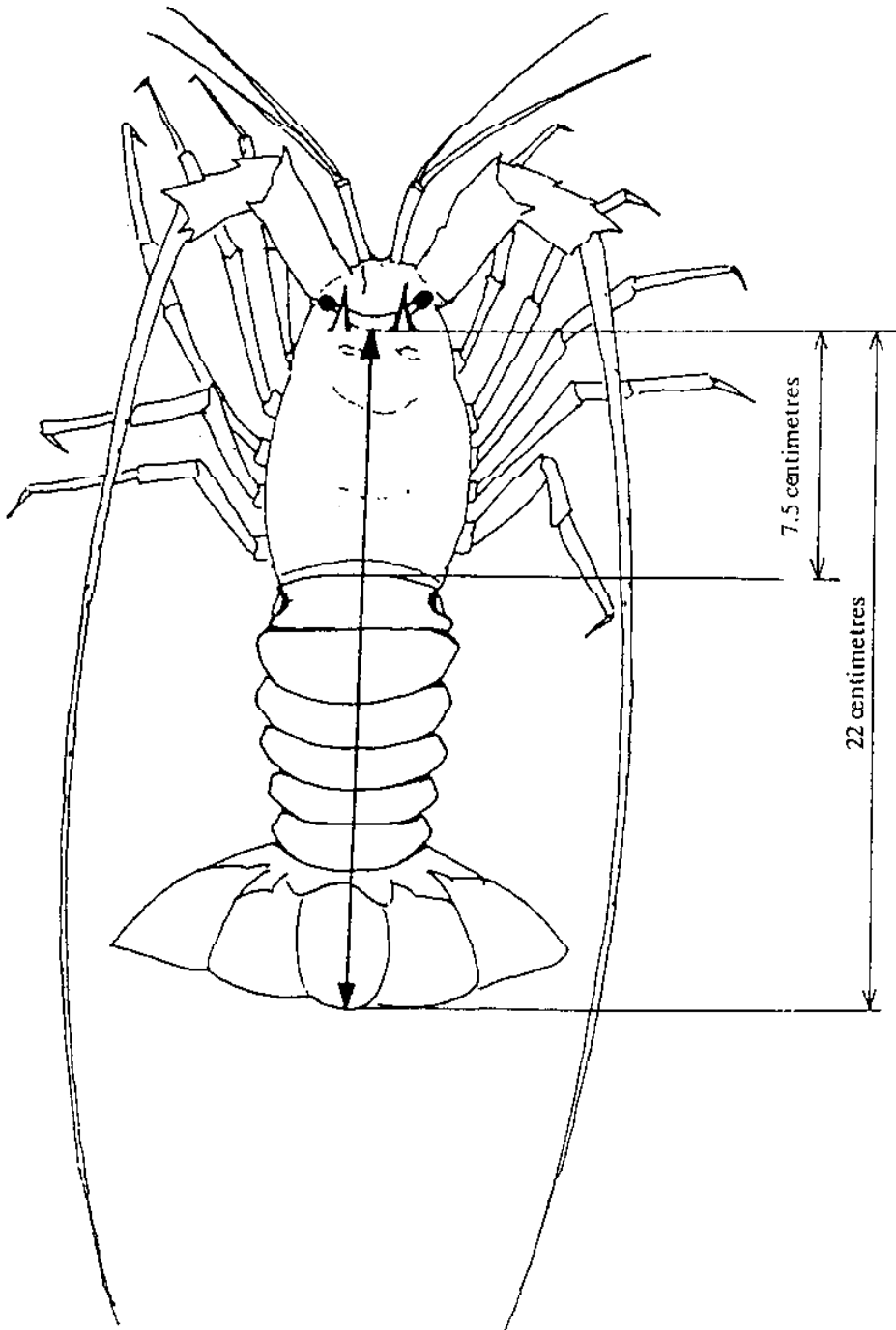
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SCHEDULE 7

(Regulation 13)

MINIMUM LEGAL SIZE FOR ROCK LOBSTER



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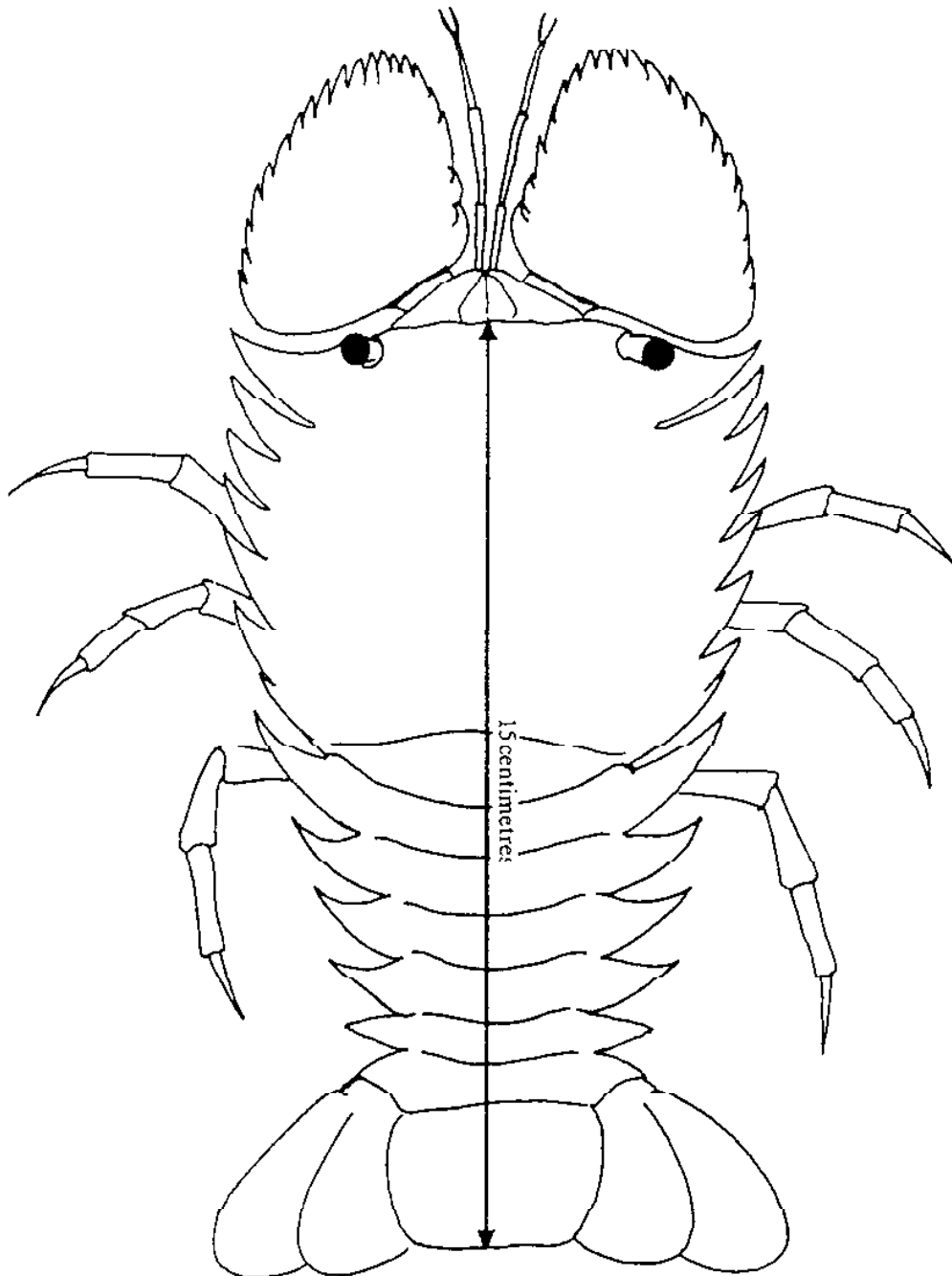
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SCHEDULE 8

(Regulation 14)

MINIMUM LEGAL SIZE FOR SLIPPER LOBSTER



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SCHEDULE 9

(Regulation 15)

MINIMUM LEGAL SIZE FOR COCONUT CRAB

