



EMBASSY OF GRENADA

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development

Cc: Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Export Development

From: Ambassador of Grenada to the United States of America

DATE: August 17, 2026 **Ref.: GD/EMB/M076/26**

**SUBJECT: Grenada – NOAA Negative Certification and 2026 IUU Fishing
Identification: Immediate Remedial Action Required**

The Embassy respectfully seeks the Ministry's immediate coordinating intervention to ensure that the remedial actions required following NOAA Fisheries' negative certification of Grenada are undertaken and appropriately documented without further delay.

Grenada's July 31 response appropriately maintains engagement with NOAA, provides for preparation of a comprehensive substantive dossier, requests relevant source material and proposes an early technical consultation. This provides a useful basis for continued engagement. The immediate priority, however, must now be remedial action supported by documentary evidence.

NOAA's June 29 notification is explicit that Grenada was negatively certified because it had not yet provided satisfactory evidence that the matters underlying its 2023 identification had been addressed. NOAA further specifies that, to obtain positive certification, Grenada must provide documentary evidence that it has:

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1. submitted the required reports to ICCAT;
2. addressed the overharvests of Atlantic marlins and North Atlantic swordfish; and
3. taken appropriate and effective steps to control its fisheries through domestic implementation of relevant ICCAT conservation and management measures.

The new 2026 identification reflects substantially the same continuing concerns.

Against this background, the Embassy respectfully recommends that the Ministry urges and assists to ensure that the responsible authorities urgently establish and document:

- which outstanding ICCAT reports have now been submitted, with dates and confirmation of submission;
- what measures have been taken to address the identified marlin and North Atlantic swordfish overharvests, including any relevant arrangements with ICCAT; and
- what legislative, regulatory, administrative, monitoring and enforcement measures are presently in place to ensure effective fleet control and implementation of the relevant ICCAT requirements.

Where corrective actions remain outstanding, it would be important to establish immediately **what remains to be done, the authority responsible, and the earliest timeframe for completion.**

The Embassy wishes particularly to caution against allowing continued engagement or the proposed technical consultation to become a substitute for the remedial action NOAA has identified as necessary. Consultation remains important, including for clarifying NOAA's concerns and any residual requirements. However, a substantive consultation undertaken without the corrective measures having been completed to the fullest extent possible, and without documentary evidence in hand, would have limited capacity to move Grenada towards positive certification.

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This assumes particular urgency because NOAA has advised that negative certification subjects a country to denial of U.S. port privileges for its fishing vessels and could lead to prohibitions on the importation of certain fish or fish products into the United States. NOAA further advised that the United States is presently evaluating what actions would be appropriate.

The Embassy does not understand additional import prohibitions to have been imposed at this time. There is therefore an important opportunity to act while the United States is considering its next steps.

Accordingly, the Embassy recommends that the necessary corrective measures be **completed and documented as a matter of urgency**, incorporated into the comprehensive dossier promised in Grenada's July 31 response, and used as the substantive basis for the proposed technical consultation with NOAA. The objective should be to demonstrate remediation, address any residual requirements and establish a clear pathway towards positive certification.

The Embassy stands ready to support the resulting engagement from Washington and would appreciate an early update on the status of the three areas identified above so that Grenada's technical and diplomatic efforts can be appropriately coordinated.



Tarlie Francis