Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMISSION
to discuss the COVID-19 Decisions Relating to Purse Seine Observer Coverage and At-Sea Transhipment Observers

Electronic Meeting
9 June 2022 from 10.00am to 2.00pm Pohnpei time

WCPFC SS4 - CHAIR'S MESSAGE

WCPFC-SS4-2022-01A
7 June 2022

June 7, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you are keeping well and safe.

I would like to take this opportunity to set out the objectives and the approach to managing the discussion at the 4th Special Session of the WCPFC to discuss the COVID-19 Decisions Relating to Purse Seine Observer Coverage and At-Sea Transshipment Observers.

The meeting will address only two substantive agenda items, which are consideration of the implementation of the two COVID-19 decisions in agenda 3; and the way forward for those decisions in agenda 4. As these two agenda items are quite intertwined, I expect the meeting will discuss both agenda items together. The expected outcome will be the Commission's decision on the subject matter that will be applied beyond June 15, when the current decision expires.

The main working paper that the meeting will refer to is *WCPFC-SS4-2022-02* by the Secretariat dated 18th May 2022. The legal advisor will be providing a short presentation on the paper, after which delegation papers from Members will be invited to be presented. The SPC will also join us to provide information sought from the floor.

Given the differences of views amongst Members on the implementation and the way forward, Members are expected to work on various combinations of options to reach a decision that everyone can agree on.

I am excited to have our first Commission-level meeting of the year, and l look forward to our constructive engagement and cooperation as always.

My communication channel is always open, so please reach me at riley1126@korea.kr and rileykim1126@gmail.com whenever you have anything you would like to discuss with me.

Best Regards,

Jung-re Riley Kim

Chair

cc: Feleti.P.Teo, OBE, WCPFC Executive Director

        Josie Tamate, WCPFC Vice Chair