



FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

Tumon, Guam, USA

3-7 December 2007

DECISION IN RELATION TO THE DEVELOPMENT ASPIRATIONS OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

WCPFC4-2007/30

7 December 2007

Text proposed by the Chairman for insertion into the Summary Report of WCPFC4

1. The Commission discussed a proposal (WCPFC4-2007/DP07) in relation to the development aspirations of small island developing State members of the Commission tabled by the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI). Recalling discussion at the Third Regular Session of the Commission at Apia in December 2006, reflected in paragraph 88 of the WCPFC3 Summary Report, WCPFC4 agreed that:

- in relation to paragraph 2 of Resolution-2005-02 and paragraph 6 of CMM-2005-01 the Commission confirmed the understanding of SIDS members that these provisions had been accepted by SIDS on the basis that the legitimate rights of SIDS to develop their domestic fisheries was not constrained by these provisions;
- the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) was now operational and that the VDS is the measure adopted by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) members of the Commission for managing capacity and fishing effort in the EEZs of PNA members. It was agreed that the PNA would provide a report to the Commission on the implementation of the VDS at each annual session of the Commission;
- in relation to the request by the RMI and Tuvalu to acquire new boats for their domestic development, the overcapacity resolution, as it relates to purse seine fishing effort in the waters of PNA members has to be interpreted and applied by reference to CMM-2005-01, in particular the implementation of the VDS as provided for in CMM-2005-01 and not the 1999, 2002 and 2005 capacity Resolutions;
- the Executive Director will commence a process in early 2008 to support the implementation of similar measures to limit purse seine effort on the high seas consistent with paragraph 9 of CMM-2005-01 and in waters under the national jurisdiction of non-PNA members of the Commission consistent with paragraph 10(ii) of CMM-2005-01; and
- a consultation for CCMs to further discuss strategies for promoting the development aspirations of SIDS members of the Commission be organized for mid 2008 with the Chair to develop a suitable agenda inter-sessionally with CCMs.