



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
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TS-IWG CHAIRS' DISCUSSION PAPER FOR TCC18

WCPFC-TCC18-2022-20
23 August 2022

Paper by the TS-IWG Co-Chairs



TRANSHIPMENT INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP (TS-IWG)

CHAIRS' DISCUSSION PAPER FOR TCC18

Background

Acquiring and analysing transshipment data has been quite a challenge for the WCPFC over the past three years. This pandemic-related data gap, stemming from the Commission's obligation to protect transshipment observer health created an opening IUU fishing activities related to transshipment at-sea. As the western and central Pacific emerges from the pandemic, there is an increasing gap between CCMs who can afford to have observers onboard with robust protocols ensuring observer data are still obtained in a timely manner and CCMs who cannot afford such mechanisms in place.

As the Commission resumes deployment of transshipment observers, members are increasingly concerned about the submission of transshipment observer data to the Secretariat. Most recently, these concerns were collectively expressed by members at the July 2022 ER and EM Working Group which recommended in paragraph 22 of the [Chair's Summary Report](#), "The ERandEM WG recommends that the TCC advise the Commission on how to resolve the issue of the submission of transshipment observer data to the Secretariat."

The "issue of the submission of transshipment observer data to the Secretariat" is multi fold, not the least of which include:

1. There are no transshipment ROP minimum standard data fields to be collected by ROP observers.
2. There are no required forms or standards for the submission of transshipment observer data to the Secretariat.
3. There is no requirement to submit transshipment observer data to the Secretariat.

However, these concerns are not new and were reviewed by the TS-IWG after TCC17 recommended that the TS-IWG be asked to consider specific recommendations from the United States' proposal on ROP Minimum Standard Data Fields for Transshipment at Sea ([WCPFC-TCC17-2021-DP01](#)). In particular, one of the TCC17 recommendations sought the same

objectives as the ERandEM WG's more recent recommendation to TCC18. Copying paragraph 40 from the [TCC17 Outcomes Document](#):

40. TCC17 recommended that the TS-IWG be asked to consider the following recommendations from TCC17-2021-DP01:

a. that TCC17 should recommend WCPFC18 adopt specific data fields from the Forms FC1, FC2, and FC3 as ROP minimum standard data fields to be collected by ROP observers during transshipments at sea.

b. that TCC17 should remind its members and WCPFC18 of the ROP Minimum Standard specifying that that ROP data should be submitted to the Secretariat where possible within 120 days of the observer disembarking the receiving vessel.

As we've noted to the TS-IWG before, per paragraph 11(a) of the [TS-IWG Terms of Reference](#), the TS IWG will identify recommended actions for the Commission to improve the management, monitoring, and regulation of transshipment, including modifying the ROP minimum data standards and reporting obligations. Additionally, members expressed general support for the concept of this proposal during TCC17.

However, your co-chairs failed to facilitate much progress between TCC17 and WCPFC18, towards a clear recommendation to WCPFC18 on the minimum data standards or the submission of data. As a result, WCPFC18 recommended (WCPFC18 Summary Report)

309. The Commission supported the TS-IWG continuing its review of CMM 2009-06 in 2022.

310. The Commission reminds members that ROP transshipment data should be submitted to the Secretariat where possible within 120 days of the observer disembarking the receiving vessel.

In light of the above recommendations (TCC17, WCPFC18, and the ERandEM WG) your co-chairs seek members' advice on how the TS-IWG can be responsive to the clear desire for progress on transshipment observer data. As a continuation of last year's discussion, the TS-IWG is well-positioned to facilitate and support TCC18's consideration of this issue with an eye towards developing recommendations for decision by WCPFC19 on transshipment observer minimum data standards and the provision of transshipment observer data to the Secretariat.

Discussion Questions and Points to Guide Next Steps

- 1. Should existing ROP data fields in FC-1, FC-2, and FC-3 (all three forms are available on the [WCPFC ROP page](#)) be adopted in their entirety as required forms of reporting for transshipment observers?**
 - Many of the data field in FC-1, FC-2, and FC-3 are already ROP minimum standard data fields (see annotated forms FC-1, FC-2, and FC-3 attached). Last year, your co-chairs reviewed and annotated carrier forms FC-1, FC-2, and FC-3 to help members identify which fields are already required by the ROP - [current WCPFC ROP table is here](#).

- 2. Should transshipment observer data be submitted to the Secretariat (inclusive of the SSP?) within 30 days of the transshipment observer disembarking their vessel?**
 - TS observer data are not required to be submitted to the Secretariat or the SSP. The most recent guidance is in the form a reminder from WCPFC18 for members that transshipment data should be submitted to the Secretariat within 120 days. Some members have repeatedly sought to shorten this voluntary timeline to 30 days because the longer timeframe is a legacy of submitting data by post, which is increasingly obsolete among members.

- 3. Should the TS-IWG consider drafting and making specific recommendations to WCPFC19 with specific revisions to CMM 2009-06 to ensure transshipment observer minimum standard data fields are submitted to the Secretariat in a timely manner?**
 - At WCPFC18, some members wanted to consider the work of the TS-IWG with a view to adopting a revised transshipment measure in 2022. Focusing on the specific needs of the Commission in 2022, the TS-IWG could review the FC forms and consider member input with a focus on only revising the CMM to address transshipment observer reporting requirements.

REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME FISH CARRIER GENERAL VESSEL DESCRIPTION

**FORM
FC-1**

WCPFC DEC 2011 FOR USE ON CARRIER VESSELS

OBSERVER INFORMATION & TRIP DETAILS

OBSERVER NAME WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	OBSERVER TRIP STARTED AT: OBSERVER TRIP START (SHIP'S DATE AND TIME) DD MM YY hh mm WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field
OBSERVER TRIP ID NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	OBSERVER TRIP ENDED AT: OBSERVER TRIP END (SHIP'S DATE AND TIME) DD MM YY hh mm WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field
OBSERVER NATIONALITY WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	VESSEL TRIP DEPARTURE PORT: VESSEL TRIP START (SHIPS DATE AND TIME) DD MM YY hh mm WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field
OBSERVER PROVIDER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	VESSEL TRIP PORT of RETURN: VESSEL TRIP END (SHIPS DATE AND TIME) DD MM YY hh mm WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field

VESSEL IDENTIFICATION, ATTRIBUTES, & CREW INFORMATION

CARRIER NAME "Name of Vessel" used in ROP	VESSEL REGISTRATION NUMBER "Flag State Registration Number" used in ROP	VESSEL FLAG	VESSEL OWNER OR COMPANY & ADDRESS WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field
INTERNATIONAL RADIO CALLSIGN: (IRCS) WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	VESSEL AUTHORIZATION NUMBER "WCPFC Authorisation" in the ROP	WIN No IF APPLICABLE (if no IRCS) WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	
NAME OF CAPTAIN WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	NATIONALITY OF CAPTAIN WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	TOTAL NUMBER OF CREW INCLUDING CAPTAIN / MASTER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	
VESSEL TONNAGE - Circle GRT Unit WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	VESSEL LENGTH (LOA) Circle Unit Used WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	DID VESSEL OPERATE IN IATCC YES NO IOTC ON THIS TRIP (Circle)	FOR WHAT PERIOD/S to Recommend adding if the data field to the left is adopted
No of Wells	Carriers have "holds" that may not be divided abeam. Rather they have fore/aft "wells". Consider adopting after further discussion or at a later date?	PORT STARBOARD OTHER TYPE	CARRIER TOTAL FISH HOLD (Well) CAPACITY "Vessel Fish Hold Capacity" used in ROP

VESSEL COMMUNICATIONS

COMMUNICATION SERVICES	PHONES OTHER	SATELLITE: Y / N FACSIMILE: Y / N	Phone No.: Fax No.:	MOBILE: Y / N EMAIL:	Phone No. Email:	
VMS	TYPE WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	VMS OPERATIONAL do not recommend?	Difficult for observers to determine YES NO SOMETIMES - DON'T KNOW	TRANSHIP TIMES Recommend? 24 HR - DAY ONLY - NIGHT ONLY		

COMMENT ON HOW FISH ARE WEIGHED OR WEIGHT IS ESTIMATED WHEN TRANSHIPPING

Recommend adding

OTHER COMMENTS

Recommend adding



WCPFC Observer Transshipment Report Jan 2012

Regional Observer Programme Observer "At Sea" Transshipment Report

Form FC-2

OBSERVER NAME WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	TRIP NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	OBSERVER PROVIDER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	PAGE	OF
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OFF LOADING FISHING VESSEL				
NAME OF VESSEL WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	CALL SIGN WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	WIN NUMBER	FLAG	VESSEL REGISTRATION NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field

OFFLOADING VESSEL GEAR TYPE	Longline, Pole & Line, Purse Seine, Other <i>Recommend Adding, or already in RFV based on other info?</i>	VESSEL MASTER NAME WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	VESSEL COMPANY OR OWNER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field
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RECEIVING VESSEL				
NAME OF VESSEL WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	CALL SIGN WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	WIN NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	FLAG	VESSEL REGISTRATION NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field

TRANSHIPMENT DETAILS				
DATES OF TRANSHIPMENT DD / MM / YY <i>Recommend Adding</i>	TIMES TRANSHIPMENT COMMENCED & FINISHED (24 hr time clock) FROM <i>Recommend Adding</i> TO <i>Recommend Adding</i>	TRANSHIPMENT POSITION LATITUDE N S <i>Recommend Adding</i>	TRANSHIPMENT POSITION LONGITUDE E W <i>Recommend Adding</i>	
		TOTAL WEIGHT TRANSFERRED KILOGRAMS <i>Recommend Adding</i>	AVERAGE TRANSHIPMENT PER HOUR NUMBERS <i>Recommend Adding</i> KILOGRAMS	
DOES OFFLOADING VESSEL HAVE AN OBSERVER ON BOARD? YES <i>Recommend Adding</i> NO	IF "YES" NAME OF OBSERVER & PROVIDER	OBSERVER NAME (OFFLOADING VESSEL) WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Fields	OBSERVER PROVIDER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Fields	

Catch and Weight of Product Transshipped (kg)											Weight already on board Receiving Vessel			
Species	Type of Product Processing <i>Recommend Adding</i>										Convention Area where fish on board were caught			
	Area ¹ Caught	Fresh ² Frozen	Whole Weight	Gilled & Gutted	Gutted Headed	Gill/Gut Tailed	Gut/Head & Tailed	Fillet	Other	Total Weight	WCPFC	IATTC <i>Recommend Adding</i>	IOTC	ICCAT
<i>Recommend Adding</i>														
Big Eye (BET)														
Yellowfin (YFT)														
Swordfish (SWO)														
Stripe Marlin (MLS)														
Black Marlin (BLZ)														
Blue Marlin (BUM)														
Wahoo (WAH)														
Sharks (SHK)														
Shark Fins - (SHF)														
Opah (LAG)														
Pomfrets (BRZ)														
Other Tuna (TUN)														
Other Billfish														
Other Species(UNS)														
Totals														

1 Area in which fish being transhipped were caught. WCPFC IATTC IOTC ICCAT

2 Fresh - FR Frozen - FZ



Regional Observer Programme Catch Destination Form

**Form
FC3**

WCPFC OBSERVER CATCH DESTINATION REPORT - JAN 2012

OBSERVER NAME WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	TRIP NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	OBSERVER PROVIDER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	PAGE OF
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RECEIVING VESSEL				OFF LOADING FISHING VESSEL			
NAME OF VESSEL WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	FLAG	CALL SIGN / IRCS WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field		NAME OF VESSEL WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	FLAG	CALLSIGN / IRCS WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field	
VESSEL CAPTAIN'S NAME WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field		VESSEL REGISTRATION NUMBER WCPFC ROP Minimum Standard Data Field		DATES ON VESSEL DAILY LOG SHEET FROM Recommend Adding TO		UNLOADING (Circle) FULL PARTIAL Recommend Adding	
				COPY OF VESSEL LOG SHEET ATTACHED YES Recommend Adding NO			

TRANSSHIPMENT DETAILS					
TOTAL WEIGHT TRANSSHIPPED _____ Kilograms	DATES OF UNLOADING FROM _____ TO _____	TRANSSHIPMENT POSITION LATITUDE _____ N _____ S	TRANSSHIPMENT POSITION LONGITUDE _____ E _____ W		

MARKET DESTINATION OF UNLOADINGS																			
Species	Fresh (FR) or Frozen (FZ)	JAPAN		KOREA		CHINESE TAIPEI		THAILAND		CHINA		European Union		USA		OTHER		LOCATION or CANNERY	
		NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb	NUMBER	Kg Lb
Albacore (ALB)																			
Big Eye (BET)																			
YellowFin (YFT)																			
Swordfish (SWO)																			
Strp Marlin (MLS)																			
Black Marlin(BLZ)																			
Blue Marlin (BUM)																			
Wahoo (WAH)																			
Opah (LAG)																			
Sharks (SHK)																			
Shark Fins (SHF)																			
Pomfrets (BRZ)																			
Other Tuna (TUN)																			
Other Bill fish																			
Other Species(UNS)																			
Totals																			

Recommend Further Discussion of FC-3, including above fields.

