



**COMMISSION
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION
Da Nang Vietnam
28 November - 3 December 2022**

**OPTIONS FOR A BASELINE OF THE “LARGE-FISH” HANDLINE FISHERY FISHING IN
INDONESIA’S EEZ (IEEZ) WITH VESSELS >30GT FOR THE WCPFC TROPICAL TUNA
MEASURE**

**WCPFC19-2022-DP11
16 November 2022**

Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) Republic of Indonesia

and

Oceanic Fisheries Programme (SPC-OFP)

Introduction

1. The 17th Meeting of the WCPFC Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC17) considered the work conducted on the application of paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01 to Indonesia's "Other Commercial" domestic fisheries, noting the following papers presented to the 17th Meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee (SC17) and TCC17
 - – [MMAF & SPC \(2021\)](#) Availability of Catch Estimates from the Other Commercial Fisheries in Indonesia (TCC17-2021-SC17 ST-IP-09)
 - – [SPC \(2021\)](#) An assessment of available information to address the WCPFC17 recommendation on the Tropical Tuna CMM para 51 (other commercial fisheries) (SC17-2021-ST-WP02).
2. TCC17 (and SC17) agreed on the recommendations provided in these papers but noted the difficulties in determining a baseline for the Indonesia large-fish Handline fishery (relevant to the CMM TT para 51) and provided the following recommendation as a directive to Indonesia and the WCPFC Scientific Services Provider (SSP) for the provision of advice to WCPFC18.
3. WCPFC 18 Noted potential issues with data availability, the Commission agreed that, at its regular session in 2022, it would agree a baseline period or limit for the Indonesia Large Fish Handline Fishery, based on the Indonesia proposal and advice from SC18 and TCC18 (Para 144).
4. SC 18 noted the information provided by Indonesia related to options for a baseline of the "large- fish" handline fishery fishing in Indonesia's EEZ. SC18 observed the decision on this fishery's baseline is a policy decision, and that it did not believe it appropriate to provide any recommendations on a baseline, but recommended the Commission consider the information provided in the relevant SC18 papers and the comments in the SC18 Online Discussion Forum (ODF)¹ on the topic in its decisions making.
5. TCC 18 directed as below:

33. TCC18 noted the information provided by Indonesia in WCPFC-TCC18-2022-16 and observed that the decision on the baseline period for the Indonesian large fish handline fishery is a decision for the Commission.

34. TCC18 invited Indonesia to submit a comprehensive paper to WCPFC19 to provide any additional information on their fisheries and the trends, particularly in relation to the large fish handline fishery.

6. The following sections provide the information requested from this TCC18 recommendation.

Background for suggested baseline

7. Annual catch estimates for the Indonesia "large-fish" handline fishery (comprising large yellowfin tuna >70cm FL, MMAF & SPC (2021)), distinct to catches of the "small-fish" hook-and-line fisheries, were compiled for the first time for the 2013 calendar year at the Fifth Indonesia Tuna Fisheries Annual Catch Estimates (ITFACE-5) workshop held in Bogor, Indonesia in June 2014. Annual catch estimates distinguishing between these fisheries were compiled for years 2014, 2015 and 2016 at respective ITFACE workshops in subsequent years and submitted to the WCPFC to meet their reporting obligations.

8. However, in 2017 Indonesia changed their system (to OneData) for recording national fisheries statistics, including landings of oceanic tuna in the WCPFC statistical area. This new system included contemporary data collection and management tools such as E-Reporting and web-based database systems, although the considerable work in implementing the changeover of systems meant that it has not been possible to compile information to produce estimates distinguishing between the “large-fish” handline and “small-fish” hook-and-line catch since 2017.
9. TCC17’s view was that paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01 does not affect, inter alia, the Indonesia small- scale hook-and-line fisheries which are restricted to territorial seas and archipelagic waters. However, TCC17 acknowledged that a certain component of the catch of the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery in the EEZ of Indonesia (IEEZ) and so is relevant to paragraph 51.
10. The issue in the evaluating compliance of the catch of the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery occurs in Indonesia’s EEZ under the para 51, is that catch estimates are only available for years 2013-2016, and there are no estimates for this distinct fishery for the baseline years of the tropical tuna measure (2001- 2004).
11. Despite there being no catch data or estimates for this fishery in the baseline period 2001-2004, several tuna companies and fishers have operated tuna hand line targeting large yellowfin tuna prior 2004, as this gear was commonly used by small scale tuna fisheries.
12. It is important to note that the data collection systems in Indonesia did not cover small-scale fisheries in the period prior to the establishment of the WCPFC (in 2004), which is a similar situation for most small-scale fisheries of other countries in the WCPFC area. This is in contrast to the monitoring of the larger industrial fisheries for which data collection systems existed prior to the establishment of the WCPFC, and therefore provided a good basis for establishing baseline limits.
13. As recommended by TCC17, Table 1 provides a breakdown of annual catch estimates for the domestic “large-fish” Handline fishery in Indonesian waters for the period 2013-2016, distinguishing between the catches taken in Indonesia’s EEZ, and the catches taken inside archipelagic waters (which are outside the scope of the tropical tuna measure).

Table 1. Annual tropical tuna (skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna) catch estimates for the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery, in the archipelagic waters/territorial seas (AWs/TS) and Indonesia’s EEZ, for years 2013–2016, with options for a baseline catch.

Year	Tropical tuna catch estimates			
	EEZ		AWs/TS	Total
	MT	%	MT	MT
2013	2.642	22%	9.138	11.780
2014	9.379	37%	15.857	25.236
2015	12.682	39%	19.821	32.503
2016	8.377	37%	14.159	22.536
Average 2013-2016	8.270			
Average 2014-2016	10.146			
Max 2013-2016	12.682			

Note

The column ‘%’ represents the percentage of tuna catch in the Indonesia EEZ to the total combined Indonesia EEZ+AWs/TS tuna catch

14. As requested by TCC 18 additional data for subsequent information (TCC17-2021-SC17 ST-IP-09 and SC17-2021-ST-WP02), related to Indonesia’s “large-fish” handline fishery as follows, number of HL operated in the IEEZ 716 and 717 shows an increasing trend from 162 boats in 2019 to 195 boats in 2021 (Table 2). It is predicted that the number of HL will increase in the future, therefore catch limit to accommodate this small scale fishery may be required to be established.

Table 2. Number of handliners for tropical tuna (skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna), in the archipelagic waters/territorial seas (AWs/TS) and Indonesia’s EEZ, for years 2015–2021, with options for a baseline catch.

Year	Number of Handliners		
	Operated in EEZ 716 and 717 Indonesia	Operated in AWs/TS	Total
2015			202
2016			252
2017			343
2018			459
2019	162	536	698
2020	193	485	678
2021	195	478	673

WCPFC19 Recommendation

15. WCPFC19 is invited to review and consider the baseline of 12,682 t. (as the maximum annual catch in the period 2013-2016) listed in Table 1 as the limit to be applied to the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery for vessels >30GT in the Indonesia’s EEZ under paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01.

Reference:

- [MMAF & SPC \(2021\)](#) Availability of Catch Estimates from the Other Commercial Fisheries in Indonesia (TCC17-2021-SC17 ST-IP-09)
- [SPC \(2021\)](#) An assessment of available information to address the WCPFC17 recommendation on the Tropical Tuna CMM para 51 (other commercial fisheries) (SC17-2021-ST-WP02).