



FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

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Tumon, Guam, USA

WTPO MEMBERS FISHING IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN REQUEST TO WCPFC

WCPFC4-2007/OP12



**WTPO 7th Annual Meeting
Tokyo, Japan
10-11 July, 2007**

WTPO Members fishing in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean request to WCPFC

In light of the recommendations of the Scientific Committee to reduce the fishing mortality of bigeye tuna by 25% and of yellowfin tuna by 10%; in order to achieve the proportional fishing mortality reduction for the purse seine fishery, WTPO propose that WCPFC could establish a time and area closure on FADs fishing by all purse seine vessels, in areas, and during the time where more juvenile bigeye and yellowfin concentrate as best way of reducing juvenile tuna mortality;

Having in mind the application of Conservation and Management Measure 2006-06 on VMS, control of this time-area closure on FAD fishing will be carried out through VMS control for all the vessels to avoid entering the identified areas. Any vessel that wants to get inside the closed area shall be regulated through an observer scheme to insure that fishing other than FADs fishing is conducted in the closed area;

That necessary measure is undertaken so that the affected coastal country or countries will not be disproportionately burdened by such time and area closure.