



COMMISSION
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION
Da Nang, Vietnam
27 – 3 December 2022

**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE ON DAILY CATCH AND EFFORT
REPORTING**

WCPFC19-2022-DP05_rev1
2 December 2022

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stock in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean:

Concerned that full and accurate data from fishing vessels is required to inform stock assessment and other scientific evaluation;

Noting that operational level catch and effort data provides significant value to scientific assessment;

Noting that members of the ~~Secretariat of the~~ Pacific Community cooperate to ensure consistent reporting frameworks for vessels licensed to fishing in their EEZs through a regional log sheet (“SPC/FFA/PNAO Regional logsheet”) that is amended from time to time to ensure consistency with all current requirements of the WCPFC “Scientific data to be provided to the Commission”;

Further noting the requirements in Article 8 of the Convention for the Commission to take measures for high seas fisheries that are compatible with those that apply in EEZs;

Desiring to ensure consistent levels of reporting and usefulness of data for all vessels fishing in the Convention Area;

Adopts in accordance with Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention:

1. Each CCM shall ensure that the master of each vessel flying its flag in the Convention Area shall complete an accurate ~~written or~~ electronic log of every day that it spends at sea on the high seas of the Convention Area, including trips that include fishing in an EEZ as well as high seas in one trip, as follows:

- i. for days with fishing operations, the log must be completed by recording the effort and catch at the end of each fishing operation (i.e. end of a purse-seine set, end of a longline -haul, or at the end of the day in the case of all other fishing methods); or
 - ii. for days with no fishing operations but where any other “fishing effort¹” occurred, then the relevant activities (e.g. “SEARCHING”, “DEPLOY/RETRIEVE FAD”) must be entered in the log at the end of the day; or
 - iii. for days with no fishing operations and no other ‘fishing effort¹’, the main activity of the day must be entered in the log at the end of the day.
2. Information recorded for each day with fishing operations shall, at a minimum, include the following:
- i. The information specified in sections 1.3 to 1.6 of ANNEX 1 of the Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission;
 - ii. Catch information about other species not listed in those sections, but required to be reported by CCMs under other Commission decisions such as, inter alia, key shark species according to FAO species codes.
 - iii. Interaction information about other species not listed in those sections, but required to be reported by CCMs under other Commission decisions such as, inter alia, key cetaceans, seabirds and sea turtles.

~~3.~~ Each CCM shall require the master of each vessel flying its flag in the Convention Area ~~to provide an accurate and unaltered original or copy of~~ the required information ~~electronically in accordance with the agreed Standards, Specifications and Procedures for Electronic Reporting in the WCPFC – operational catch and effort data~~ to its national authority within 15 days:

- ~~i.~~ of the end of a trip ~~or upon exit from the Convention Area; and~~
- ~~ii.~~ where applicable, at the end of every ~~transshipment~~ ~~transshipment at sea event.~~, ~~or within the period specified by any existing national requirement for the provision of such information.~~

~~4.~~ Each CCM shall submit to the Commission the required information ~~electronically~~ (as set out in paragraph 2) ~~in accordance with the agreed Standards, Specifications and Procedures for Electronic Reporting in the WCPFC – operational catch and effort data within 30 days~~ by April 30 of the following year as required by Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission, as well as EITHER:

- ~~iv-i.~~ within 30 days ~~of the end of a trip or upon exit from the Convention Area; and where applicable, at the end of every transshipment at sea; OR event.~~
- ~~ii.~~ by 1 July or 31 December with available information for that calendar year.

~~3.5.~~ Each CCM shall require the master of each vessel flying its flag in the Convention Area to keep an accurate and unaltered original or copy of the required information pertaining to the current trip on board the vessel at all times during the course of a trip.

~~4.6.~~ Non-compliance with this measure shall be considered in accordance with CMM 2010-06 or its successor.

~~5.7.~~ This CMM is without prejudice to existing or additional reporting requirements.

¹ according to Article 1(d) of the Convention

Consideration of CMM 2013-06

1) CCMs shall develop, interpret and apply conservation and management measures in the context of and in a manner consistent with the 1982 Convention and Articles 24, 25 and 26 of the Agreement. To this end, CCMs shall cooperate, either directly or through the Commission, to enhance the ability of developing States, particularly the least developed among them and SIDS and territories in the Convention Area, to develop their own fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, including but not limited to the high seas within the Convention Area.

This proposed amendment to CMM 2013-05 would not impact the ability of developing States, including SIDS and territories in the Convention Area, to develop their fisheries. The proposed amendment seeks to put into place electronic reporting of catch and effort data from the high seas, noting that [WCPFC-TCC18-2022-RP10](#) reported that “E-reporting implementation continues to expand throughout Pacific Islands countries that will result in an increase in coverage of LONGLINE operational data submissions adhering to the WCPFC E-Reporting standards in the future”.

2) The Commission shall ensure that any conservation and management measures do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto SIDS and territories.

The proposal seeks to amend CMM 2013-05 but would not transfer a disproportionate burden of conservation action to SIDS and Territories as most of the SIDS have implemented or are moving towards implementing electronic reporting (see [WCPFC-TCC18-2022-RP10](#)).

3) In considering any new proposal the Commission shall apply the following questions to determine the nature and extent of the impact of the proposal on SIDS and territories in the Convention Area:

a) Who is required to implement the proposal?

The proposal is applicable to flag CCMs who have fishing vessels fishing in the high seas.

b) Which CCMs would this proposal impact and in what way(s) and what proportion?

This proposal would require any CCM operating in the high seas in the WCPFC Convention area to electronically report their catch and effort data to the national authority and the Commission in accordance with the relevant standards.

c) Are there linkages with other proposals or instruments in other regional fisheries management organisations or international organisations that reduce the burden of implementation?

FFA Members, at FFC112 (2020) reaffirmed a commitment to progressively adopt electronic reporting for fishing vessels operating within their exclusive economic zones and the high seas. The Commission is required under Article 10 of the Convention to adopt compatible measures in the high seas. **[are there other similar requirements in other RFMOs?]**

d) Does the proposal affect development opportunities for SIDS?

This proposed amendment would not create any loss of opportunity to fish and access resources by SIDS and Territories. The proposal only seeks to require electronically reporting of catch and effort data in the high seas. Whilst there may be a marginal administrative burden on the governments of SIDS and Territories in requiring their vessels that fish in the high seas to implement this requirement, as noted in the annual report on performance of the E-Reporting Standards (WCPFC-TCC18-2022-RP10), e-

reporting implementation continues to expand throughout CCMs, in particular, the Pacific Islands countries.

e) Does the proposal affect SIDS domestic access to resources and development aspirations?

No, this proposal would not affect access to fisheries resources in the WCPFC area and therefore would not impact the development aspirations of SIDS and Territories.

f) What resources, including financial and human capacity, are needed by SIDS to implement the proposal?

Flag CCMs would need to ensure that their flag vessels in the high seas implement the proposed amendment by having the required tools onboard their vessels for the vessel master to electronically record and report the catch and effort data and send that through to the national authority. Vessel masters would need to be trained on the use of the tool but again, as mentioned, most PICS SIDS are implementing or moving towards implementing e-reporting.

g) What mitigation measures are included in the proposal?

Whilst there are no mitigation measures included in the proposal, the proposed amendment is, as noted above, something that PIC SIDS are moving towards.

h) What assistance mechanisms and associated timeframe, including training and financial support, are included in the proposal to avoid a disproportionate burden on SIDS?

This proposed amendment puts into practice what the majority of SIDS and many CCMs are implementing so it would not impose a high administrative, monitoring and enforcement burden on SIDS.