



**DRAFT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR THE COMMISSION
VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM**

[Draft] Conservation and Management Measure-2006-0X

WCPFC3-2006-28

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Draft prepared by the Secretariat consistent with paragraph 50, TCC2 Summary Report

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC),

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular Articles 24(8), (9) and (10);

Noting the importance of the vessel monitoring system as a tool to effectively support the principles and measures for the conservation and management of highly migratory species within the Convention Area;

Mindful of the rights and obligations of Commission Members, Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) in promoting the effective implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission;

Further mindful of the key principles that underpin the vessel monitoring system, including the confidentiality and security of information handled by the system, and its efficiency, cost-effectiveness and flexibility.

Adopts, in accordance with Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention the following provisions relating to the implementation of the WCPFC Vessel Monitoring System (Commission VMS):

1. The Commission hereby establishes a Commission VMS, implementation of which will commence by [xxxxxx].

Definitions:

“Automatic Location Communicator” (ALC) means a near real-time satellite position fixing transmitter;

“FFA Secretariat” means the secretariat of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency based at Honiara, Solomon Islands;

“FFA VMS” means the vessel monitoring system developed, managed and operated by the FFA Secretariat and members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency;

2. The Commission VMS shall apply to all fishing vessels on the high seas in the Convention Area and to fishing vessels in waters under national jurisdiction of a Member when that Member so requests.

3. CCMs shall cooperate to ensure compatibility between national and high seas VMS.

4. Each flag State CCM shall require its fishing vessels that fish in the Convention Area in areas under national jurisdiction of another CCM to operate an ALC in accordance with the standards, specifications and procedures determined by the coastal State.
5. The Commission VMS shall be a stand-alone system with the added capability that it can accept VMS data forwarded from the FFA VMS. Fishing vessels operating on the high seas in the Convention Area that are required to report VMS data to the Commission will have the option to report those data via the FFA VMS.
6. The Commission shall develop rules and procedures governing the operation of the Commission VMS, including, *inter alia*, vessel reporting, ALC failure, cost recovery, and obligations and roles of fishing vessels, CCMs, the FFA Secretariat and the Commission Secretariat.
7. In establishing such rules and procedures, the Commission shall take into account the characteristics of traditional fishing vessels from developing States.
8. All CCM fishing vessels required to report to the Commission VMS shall use an ALC that complies with the Commission's minimum standards for ALCs.
9. The minimum standards for ALCs used in the Commission VMS are appended at Annex 1.
10. Each flag State CCM shall ensure that fishing vessels on the high seas in the Convention Area are equipped with ALCs that shall communicate such data as determined by the Commission.
11. Security standards of Commission VMS data shall conform to the WCPFC Information Security Policy.
12. The Commission shall develop a schedule detailing the phased implementation of the Commission VMS with a view to achieving complete implementation after three (3) years, taking account of special circumstances that may apply in particular areas of the Convention Area.

**MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR AUTOMATIC LOCATION COMMUNICATORS (ALCs)
USED IN THE COMMISSION VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM**

Pursuant to Article 24 (8) of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (Convention), the Commission hereby establishes the following minimum standards for ALCs:

1. The ALC shall automatically and independently of any intervention on the vessel communicate the following data:
 - (i) ALC static unique identifier;
 - (ii) the current geographical position (latitude and longitude) of the vessel; and
 - (iii) the date and time (expressed in Universal Time Constant [UTC]) of the fixing of the position of the vessel in paragraph 1 (ii) above.
2. The data referred to in paragraphs 1 (ii) and 1 (iii) shall be obtained from a satellite-based positioning system.
3. ALCs fitted to fishing vessels must be capable of transmitting data referred to in paragraph 1, hourly.
4. The data referred to paragraph 1 shall be received by the Commission within 90 minutes of being generated by the ALC, under normal operating conditions.
5. ALCs fitted to fishing vessels must be protected so as to preserve the security and integrity of data referred to in paragraph 1.
6. Storage of information within the ALC must be safe, secure and integrated under normal operating conditions.
7. It must not be reasonably possible for anyone other than the monitoring authority to alter any of that authority's data stored in the ALC, including the frequency of position reporting to that authority.
8. Any features built into the ALC or terminal software to assist with servicing shall not allow unauthorized access to any areas of the ALC that could potentially compromise the operation of the VMS.
9. ALCs shall be installed on vessels in accordance with their manufacturer's specifications and applicable standards.
10. Under normal satellite navigation operating conditions, positions derived from the data forwarded must be accurate to within 100 metre² Distance Root Mean Squared (DRMS), i.e. 98 per cent of the positions must be within this range.
11. The ALC and/or forwarding service provider must be able to support the ability for data to be sent to multiple independent destinations.
12. The satellite navigation decoder and transmitter shall be fully integrated and housed in the same physical enclosure.
13. In the case that the antenna is mounted separately from the physical enclosure, a single common antenna shall be used for both satellite navigation decoder and transmitter, and the physical enclosure shall be connected using a single length of unbroken cable to the antenna.