



**TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

**Nineteenth Regular Session**

20 – 26 September 2023

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

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**TRANSHIPMENT INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP (TS-IWG)**

**CO-CHAIR'S REPORT TO TCC19**

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**WCPFC-TCC19-2023-12**

**22 September 2023**

TS-IWG Co-Chairs



## 19<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (TCC19)

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

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### TRANSHIPMENT INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP (TS-IWG) CO-CHAIR'S REPORT TO TCC19

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Issued: 22 September 2023

The TS-IWG co-chairs are pleased to report to TCC19 that the Transshipment Information Analysis (TIA) was completed earlier this year and discussed among members at the most recent TS-IWG in May 2023 (TSIWG01). TSIWG01 took note of the discussion paper focused on the initial points of Phase 3 of the TIA but was unable to discuss it during the meeting. No additional feedback on the initial points of Phase 3 have been received and the co-Chairs would welcome further discussion if desired by members. All papers related to the work of the group, including all meeting reports and Secretariat annual reports are available on the [TS-IWG page of the WCPFC website](#).

The TIA, TS-IWG May 2023 meeting (and supporting documents) provided the data and discussion needed for the TS-IWG to chip away at, and potentially achieve, the first of its two objectives identified in TS-IWG Terms of Reference (TOR, paragraph 4):

- **Assess CMM 2009-06's scope and effectiveness in regulating and monitoring transshipment activity in a manner consistent with the Convention, and**

With the first TOR objective as the benchmark of understanding among members, the TS-IWG has not yet initiated or embarked on the TOR second objective (TOR, paragraph 4):

- **Recommend amendments or other actions, if any, related to CMM 2009-06 to improve the regulation and monitoring of transshipment activities.**

The TS-IWG Co-Chairs would like to work with TS-IWG members to achieve both objectives before WCPFC20, such that any TS-IWG recommendations can be considered by the Commission and CMM 2009-06 potentially revised in Rarotonga, Cook Islands in December 2023.

TO that end, the TS-IWG co-Chairs have developed a simple table based on the recommendations from the TIA and the May 2023 virtual working group meeting (Attachment A). This table will provide the prioritization framework for developing potential draft CMM text and recommendations from the TS-IWG. The initial input in the table is a starting point for confirming members' priorities. The co-chairs seek additional input during TCC19 for development of specific text before WCPFC20. All discussion and revision of text will be by email correspondence between TCC19 and WCPFC20.

Sincerely,  
Felix and Alex

**CMM 2009-06 on Transshipment:**  
**TS-IWG Discussion and Potential Changes**

Proposed Path Forward	Potential Text	TS-IWG Comments/Discussion
		<p><i>Source</i></p> <p>Key transshipment issues</p> <p>Discussion questions from co-chairs.</p> <p>TS-IWG anonymous discussion points at TCC19</p>
<p>New Paragraph in CMM 2009-06</p> <p>And Secretariat Workplan</p>	<p>[insert draft CMM text]</p>	<p><i>Recommendation from WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023-TIA_LL, section 2.2.</i></p> <p>Secretariat-managed automated VMS detection of vessel encounters to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) validate transshipment notifications and declarations, and</li> <li>b) identify potential unreported transshipment events.</li> </ul> <p>Could this include automated verification of the presence of ROP observer?</p> <p>[To be collected]</p>
<p>New Paragraph in CMM 2009-06</p>	<p>[insert draft CMM text]</p>	<p><i>Recommendation from WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023-TIA_LL, section 2.2</i></p>

		<p>CCM reporting requirement of a carrier daily activity log to be reported electronically.</p> <p>Can this be integrated into TSER, or separate?</p> <p>[To be collected]</p>
<p>New provision in CMM 2009-06</p>	<p>[insert draft CMM text]</p>	<p><i>Co-Chairs recommendation based on and WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023-TIA_update</i></p> <p>Require electronic reporting of transshipment declarations, reduce timelines for submission, and require key data such as time and position of transshipment, catch and species related information, and intended destination/port of unloading.</p> <p>Should transshipment declarations be reported electronically? Submitted to the Executive Director sooner than 15 days? Require specific data fields?</p> <p>[To be collected]</p>
<p>New Paragraph in CMM 2009-06</p>	<p>[insert draft CMM text]</p>	<p><i>Co-Chairs recommendation to address incomplete data per WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023, paragraph 11</i></p> <p>Define Electronic Monitoring for transshipment to include any digital instrumentation that can report data and establish initial list of priority data fields.</p> <p>Can the CMM ensure the Commission considers EM for transshipment in a broad technology context?</p> <p>[To be collected]</p>

<p>TS-IWG to ER &amp; EM IWG</p>	<p>[insert draft list of EM technologies applicable to monitoring transshipment]</p>	<p><i>Co-Chairs recommendation to address incomplete data per WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023, paragraph 11</i></p> <p>Establish acceptable electronic monitoring technologies (such as crane scales) to address biases associated with visual weight estimates currently used for logbook reporting.</p> <p><b>Are there specific or priority technologies the TS-IWG wishes to identify as key for strengthening transshipment regulation?</b></p> <p>[To be collected]</p>
<p>Forward to IWG ROP</p>	<p>[insert draft requirements for observers to collect against]</p>	<p><i>Co-Chairs recommendation to address incomplete data per WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023, paragraph 11</i></p> <p>Investigate the feasibility of requiring transshipment observers to record/estimate species catch in number (as per IATTC observers) to validate against the logbook reports, noting that catch in number is a more precise measurement and is the unit of catch used in the WCPFC stock assessment for the longline gear.</p> <p><b>Are there better ways to estimate than number or fish?</b></p> <p>[To be collected]</p>
<p>TS-IWG Recommendation to WCPFC20</p>	<p>[insert draft TS-IWG recommendation for WCPFC20]</p>	<p><i>Co-Chairs recommendation to address incomplete data per WCPFC-TS-IWG01-2023, paragraph 27</i></p> <p>To address gaps in VMS reporting from vessels operating outside the WCPFC Convention Area, the WCPFC Secretariat needs to receive additional VMS data, including from vessels on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessel which are transshipping WCPFC caught fish outside the Convention Area.</p>

		<p>Securing VMS from outside the Convention Area is no longer cost-prohibitive for the Secretariat. Should such information now be required to monitor transshipment of WCPFC catch outside the WCPFC Area?</p> <p>[To be collected]</p>
		<p><i>Other changes recommended by members or overlooked by co-Chairs?</i></p>