



**COMMISSION**  
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**Proposed changes to CMM 2021-01**

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**WCPFC20-2023-DP06**  
**3 November 2023**

Republic of Korea

## **1. Explanatory Note**

It has been 10 years since the high seas purse seine effort limit in the tropical tuna measure was first adopted and came into force. As Korea mentioned multiple times in the past, we believe that the current limit is outdated and unfair in that i) it does not properly reflect the level of historical effort of certain CCMs, ii) is not commensurate with fishing capacity of each CCM, i.e. number of vessels and iii) allows certain CCMs to fish without limit while other CCMs suffer from the lack of fishing opportunities.

Although we note the Commission Chair's proposed process to develop an allocation framework outlined in the working paper WCPFC20-2023-17, we believe that the current situation needs to be urgently addressed and would like to propose an interim allocation arrangement for high seas purse seine effort limit as presented in this paper, for a temporary application until such a time the Commission adopts an allocation framework.

In developing the proposed interim allocation arrangement, we relied heavily on the catch and effort data summaries in the paper WCPFC-TTMW4-2023-IP05 so would like to thank the Secretariat and the SPC for the very useful data. According to Figure 10 in the paper, approximately 80% of the total high seas purse seine days fished by the CCMs with limits during the period of 2001 to 2009 while the fishing effort of the CCMs with no limits and the Philippines has taken approximately 80% of the total since 2013 to date. We did not take CCMs' fishing efforts in 2010, 2011 and 2012 into consideration as the high sea pockets were closed at that time.

Based on this observation, we propose that 50% of the total high seas purse seine days is allocated to the CCMs with limits and the other 50% to the CCMs with no limits and the Philippines, for appropriate balance and fairness.

The temporary allocation arrangement provided in this paper shows an outcome of example allocation for 10,000 days. The way we calculated the limit for each CCM is self-explanatory but we would like to emphasize that the example only serves as a starting point for discussion and negotiation, and is subject to changes/adjustments depending on other factors to consider, such as small purse seine fleets of five vessels or less and special circumstances that certain CCMs are in. We are also open to taking alternative values such as "average" fishing effort during the suggested period instead of "highest" value.

In addition, we propose to include a new paragraph 28 in the measure so that transfer of in-zone catch and/or effort limit and high seas effort limit among CCMs is explicitly allowed for optimum utilization of fishing opportunities.

Finally, as discussed in TCC19 and TTMW4 meetings, a new footnote to paragraph 23 is proposed in order to clarify some part of the reporting requirements in that paragraph.

## 2. Consideration of CMM 2013-06

- a. Who is required to implement the proposal?  
*All CCMs having purse seine fisheries in the Convention Area.*
- b. Which CCMs would this proposal impact and in what ways and what proportion?  
*This proposal may impact CCMs having purse seine fisheries in the Convention Area. This proposal may lead to changes in the level of CCMs' purse seine fishing opportunities in their EEZs and high seas. As for the high seas, specific proportions are suggested. As for the EEZs (transfer arrangements), the proportion can not be specified as it will be decided on a case-by-case basis.*
- c. Are there linkages with other proposals or instruments in other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations or international organizations that reduce the burden of implementation?  
*No.*
- d. Does the proposal affect development opportunities of SIDS?  
*No, this proposal does not affect development opportunities of SIDS.*
- e. Does the proposal affect SIDS domestic access to resources and development aspirations?  
*No, this proposal does not affect SIDS domestic access to resources or development aspirations.*
- f. What sources, including financial and human capacity, are needed by SIDS to implement the proposal?  
*No additional resources are required for SIDS to implement this proposal.*
- g. What mitigation measures are included in the proposal?  
*No mitigation measures are included.*
- h. What assistant mechanisms and associated timeframe, including training and financial support, are included in the proposal to avoid a disproportionate burden on SIDS?  
*This proposal does not place a disproportionate burden on SIDS.*

### 3. Proposed Changes to CMM 2021-01

23. Coastal CCMs within the Convention Area shall restrict purse seine effort and/or catch of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna within their EEZs in accordance with the effort limits established and notified to the Commission and set out in **Table 1** of **Attachment 1**. Those coastal CCMs that have yet to notify limits to the Commission shall do so by ~~31 December~~29 February 2022~~4~~.

A new footnote to paragraph 23 : The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to those CCMs who do not have known or established purse seine fisheries taking skipjack, yellowfin or bigeye tuna within their EEZs and have notified the Secretariat accordingly.

New paragraph 28 : With regards to the catch and effort limits in paragraph 24 and 25, a CCM may make a single transfer of a portion of its catch and/or effort limit to other CCM without prejudice to future agreements on the allocation of fishing opportunities. Both CCMs involved in such a transfer shall notify the Executive Director at least 10 days in advance of the intended transfer and the Executive Director shall promptly notify all CCMs of the transfer. The transfers can not be made to retroactively cover an overage.

Table 2. High seas purse seine effort control [paragraphs 25-27]

Example allocation for [10,000] days

#### a. CCMs with limits under CMM 2021-01

CCM	Highest in `01-`09	Proportion	Suggested limit total	CCM limit	
China	871	0.090814305	4750	431	
Ecuador	26	0.002710875		13	
El Salvador	205	0.021374205		102	
European Union	429	0.044729434		212	
Indonesia	500	0.052132207		248	
Japan	1854	0.193306225		918	
New Zealand	334	0.034824314		165	
Republic of Korea	1677	0.174851423		831	
Chinese Taipei	1961	0.204462517		971	
USA	1734	0.180794495		859	
Total	9591				4750

\* Ecuador and El Salvador : subject to participatory rights

\* 500 days reserve (10000 - 4750 - 4750) for U.S. flagged vessels noticed as operating as an integral part of the American Samoa economy.

b. CCMs currently with no limits and the Philippines

CCM	Historically (01-22) highest	Proportion	Suggested limit total	CCM limit	
Cook Islands	308	0.048004988	4750	228	
FSM	1053	0.164120948		780	
Kiribati	950	0.148067332		703	
Marshall Islands	955	0.148846633		707	
Nauru	397	0.061876559		294	
Papua New Guinea	1313	0.204644638		972	
Philippines	731	0.113933915		541	
Solomon Islands	102	0.015897756		76	
Tuvalu	209	0.032574813		155	
Vanuatu	398	0.062032419		295	
Total	6416				4750

\* In practice, the Philippines may fish up to 3,029 days (541 x 5.6) as per the analysis by SPC.

c. CCMs having no historical data (fishing activities in the high seas)

CCMs under this category wishing to operate purse seine fishing vessels in the high seas shall submit a fishing plan for the following year by [31 July] of the current year, for consideration of the Technical Compliance Committee and the Commission. Such a fishing plan shall include, at least, the number of purse seine vessels that will be fishing in the high seas and the fish hold capacity of each vessel. An average level of purse seine high seas fishing effort per vessel for the recent [3] years (total high seas purse seine days fished in a given year divided by the number of purse seine vessels fished in the high seas in that year) will be the limit for the purse seine vessels in the fishing plan, unless decided otherwise by the Commission.

#### 4. Audit Points Checklist

1. To whom does the obligation apply? Set out any proposed exceptions or exclusions.

All CCMs       Flag CCMs       Some CCMs - if so, which CCMs? *CCMs having purse seine fisheries in the Convention Area*

*Proposed exception in relation to the reporting requirement in para. 23 : The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to those CCMs who do not have known or established purse seine fisheries taking skipjack, yellowfin or bigeye tuna within their EEZs and have notified the Secretariat accordingly.*

2. What is the scope of the new obligations (i.e., does it apply to a particular geographical area, fishery, stock, species of special interest?)

*New footnote to paragraph 23 applies to CCMs who do not have known or established purse seine fisheries taking skipjack, yellowfin or bigeye tuna within their EEZs and have notified the Secretariat accordingly.*

*New paragraph 28 applies to CCMs having purse seine fisheries who intend to make transfer of catch and/or effort limits.*

*Proposed changes for Table 2 apply to CCMs having purse seine fisheries in the Convention Area.*

3. Are there existing obligations that should be assessed in combination with any of the proposed new obligations? If so, name the CMM and paragraph(s), or other Commission obligation.

*Paragraphs 24 and 25 shall be assessed in combination of the proposed new paragraph 28.*

4. Which proposed new obligations will require submission of Reports (R) or Implementation Statements (I), impose Limits (L), or have Deadlines (D)? Please fill out the relevant section(s) for each of the proposed new obligations.

##### I. Deadline

Specify what is required and by what deadline.

*New footnote to paragraph 23 : relevant CCMs shall notify the Secretariat by 29 February 2024 that they do not have known or established purse seine fisheries taking skipjack, yellowfin or bigeye tuna within their EEZs.*

*New paragraph 28 : relevant CCMs shall notify the Executive Director at least 10 days in advance of*

*the intended transfer.*

## II. Report

Specify the type of information that is required, including any specific formats or templates to be used, and whether the information must be complete (100%) or a sub-set of information is sufficient to meet the proposed objective.

*Written notification to the Secretariat is required. No specific formats or templates to be used. The information must be complete.*

Is this information already provided wholly or in part through any other data submission requirement, i.e. operational level catch and effort data?

*No*

If no, specify the proposed reporting mechanism to be used for submission of new required information (i.e., Annual Report Part 1, Annual Report Part 2, direct to WCPFC Secretariat, other)

*The new required information should be notified direct to WCPFC Secretariat.*

Can the information provided be verified through another source? If yes, specify what other data or information source should be used.

*New footnote to paragraph 23 : SPC/Secretariat may verify the information against Annual Report Part 1.*

## III. Implementation

In addition to the required Implementation Statements, list any additional information required to demonstrate CCM's implementation with the proposed new requirement.

Describe any data or other information that can be reviewed by the WCPFC Secretariat to confirm or verify implementation.

## IV. Quantitative Limit

Specify the proposed CCM-level or Collective limit.

*Proposed changes for Table 2 : As specified in the proposal*

Specify what verifiable data shall be provided by CCM to confirm its adherence to the limit.

*Relevant logbook data*

Specify what data sources are available to the WCPFC Secretariat to review and confirm CCM's reported limit.

*SPC's advice based on the relevant logbook data submitted by CCM*

V. Other

If none of the other categories are appropriate:

Specify the nature of the obligation.

Specify how compliance is to be assessed.