



COMMISSION
Twentieth Regular Session
4-8 December 2023
Rarotonga, Cook Islands (Hybrid)

**An update on the options for a baseline of the “large-fish” Handline fishery fishing in
Indonesia’s EEZ (IEEZ) with vessels >30GT for the WCPFC Tropical Tuna Measure**

WCPFC20-2023-IP24
24 November 2023

Indonesia and SPC-OFP



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Online Meeting
10 –18 August 2022

**An update on
the options for a baseline of the “large-fish” Handline fishery fishing
in Indonesia’s EEZ (IEEZ)¹ with vessels >30GT
for the WCPFC Tropical Tuna Measure**

WCPFC-SC18-2022/ST-WP-02

Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF)
Republic of Indonesia

and

Oceanic Fisheries Programme
Pacific Community (SPC-OFP)

¹ In this document Indonesia’s EEZ (IEEZ) refers to areas excluding archipelagic waters and territorial seas

ABSTRACT

Indonesia's Handline fishery has two main components, one which targets large yellowfin tuna and the other component which generally catch small tuna (yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna). The Indonesia small-scale hook-and-line fisheries are restricted to territorial seas and archipelagic waters but a certain component of the catch of the Indonesia "large-fish" handline fishery taken from the EEZ of Indonesia (IEEZ) and may relevant to paragraph 51. Available data to breakdown the baseline only available from the annual catch estimates since year of 2014 to date. In addition, there were some documents relevant to HL Fishery have been provided collaboratively between MMAF and SPC. Given the lack of data available for the baseline period of 2001-2004, Indonesia is proposing a baseline of 12,682 t.

SC18 RECOMMENDATION

SC18 is invited to review and consider the information presented in this paper. Given the lack of data available for the baseline period of 2001-2004, Indonesia is proposing a baseline of 12,682 t. (as the maximum annual catch in the period 2013-2016) listed in Table 1 as the limit to be applied to the Indonesia "large-fish" handline fishery for vessels >30GT in the Indonesia's EEZ under paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01.

INTRODUCTION

1. The 17th Meeting of the WCPFC Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC17) considered the work conducted on the application of paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01 to Indonesia's "Other Commercial" domestic fisheries, noting the following papers presented to the 17th Meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee (SC17) and TCC17:
 - [MMAF & SPC \(2021a\)](#) Availability of Catch Estimates from the Other Commercial Fisheries in Indonesia (TCC17-2021-SC17 ST-IP-09)
 - [SPC \(2021\)](#) An assessment of available information to address the WCPFC17 recommendation on the Tropical Tuna CMM para 51 (other commercial fisheries) (SC17-2021-ST-WP02).
2. TCC17 (and SC17) agreed on the recommendations provided in these papers but noted the difficulties in determining a baseline for the Indonesia large-fish Handline fishery (relevant to the CMM TT para 51) and provided the following recommendation as a directive to Indonesia and the WCPFC Scientific Services Provider (SSP) for the provision of advice to WCPFC18.

Agenda Item 7.2 Application of CMM 2018-01 (Indonesia and Philippines)

32. TCC17 requested Indonesia and the Scientific Services Provider to provide and present to the Commission, the annual catch estimates for the "large-fish" Handline fishery in Indonesia fishing outside archipelagic waters and territorial sea for vessels >30GT, for this period and the options for the baseline, that is, the average 2013-2016 or the maximum years, due to the absence of data for 2001-2004, for WCPFC18 consideration. This could help advise an appropriate revision of paragraph 51.

3. WCPFC18 considered the SC17 and TCC17 papers and recommendations, and the WCPFC18 paper requested by TCC17 ([MMAF & SPC, 2021b](#)). CCMs agreed to refer the issue to SC18 and TCC18 for consideration prior to making any determinations regarding this issue in the context of the tropical tuna measure, other commercial fisheries.

WCPFC 18 SUMMARY REPORT – Tropical Tuna Measure Deliberations, Other Commercial Fisheries

144. Noting potential issues with data availability, the Commission agreed that, at its regular session in 2022, it would agree a baseline period or limit for the Indonesia Large Fish Handline Fishery, based on the Indonesia proposal and advice from SC18 and TCC18.

BACKGROUND

4. The handline fishery accounts for a considerable tuna catch in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. This fishery has two main components, one which targets large yellowfin tuna and the other component which generally catch small tuna (yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tuna). The reasons for the need to have distinct catch estimates and data for these two fisheries (the “large-fish” handline fishery and the “small-fish” hook-and-line fishery) are described in ANNEX 1 of [SPC \(2021\)](#). The characteristics that distinguish targeting in the Indonesian large-fish HANDLINE and small-fish HOOK-and-LINE domestic fisheries are provided in Table 1 of [MMAF & SPC \(2021a\)](#).
5. The data collection systems for the small-scale fisheries in Indonesia were not established during the years relevant to the baseline period of the tropical tuna measure (2001-2004). The annual catch estimates for the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery (comprising large yellowfin tuna >70cm FL , [MMAF & SPC \(2021a\)](#)), distinct to catches of the “small-fish” hook-and-line fisheries, were only compiled for the first time for the 2013 calendar year at the Fifth Indonesia Tuna Fisheries Annual Catch Estimates (ITFACE-5) workshop held in Bogor, Indonesia in June 2014. The process for generating 2013 estimates for these two distinct components of the handline fishery was a first attempt, and so were acknowledged to be provisional with some uncertainty.
6. Annual catch estimates distinguishing between these two components of the Indonesia handline fishery were compiled for years 2014, 2015 and 2016 at respective ITFACE workshops in subsequent years and submitted to the WCPFC to meet their member reporting obligations.
7. However, in 2017 Indonesia changed their system (to *One Data*) for recording national fisheries statistics, including landings of oceanic tuna in the WCPFC statistical area. This new system included contemporary data collection and management tools such as E-Reporting and web-based database systems, although the considerable work in implementing the changeover of systems meant that it has not been possible to compile information to produce estimates distinguishing between the “large-fish” handline and “small-fish” hook-and-line catch since 2017.
8. TCC17’s view was that paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01 does not affect, *inter alia*, the Indonesia small-scale hook-and-line fisheries which are restricted to territorial seas and archipelagic waters. However, TCC17 acknowledged that a certain component of the catch of the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery in the EEZ of Indonesia (IEEZ) and so is relevant to paragraph 51.
9. The issue in the evaluating compliance of the catch of the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery occurs in Indonesia’s EEZ under the para 51, is that viable catch estimates are only available for years 2013-2016, and there are no estimates for this distinct fishery for the baseline years of the tropical tuna measure (2001-2004).
10. As recommended by TCC17, WCPFC18 considered Table 1 which provides a breakdown of annual catch estimates for the domestic “large-fish” Handline fishery in Indonesian waters² for the period 2013-2016, distinguishing between the catches taken in Indonesia’s EEZ, and the catches taken inside archipelagic waters (which are outside the scope of the tropical tuna measure). WCPFC18 acknowledged the need for both SC18 and TCC18 to review this proposal before accepting a decision on the baseline limit for this fishery.

² Indonesia reserves its rights to have an opportunity to fish tropical tuna in the High Seas for “large-fish” handline tuna fishery

SC18 RECOMMENDATION

11. SC18 is invited to review and consider the information presented in this paper. Given the lack of data available for the baseline period of 2001-2004, Indonesia is proposing a baseline of 12,682 t. (as the maximum annual catch in the period 2013-2016) listed in Table 1 as the limit to be applied to the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery for vessels >30GT in the Indonesia’s EEZ under paragraph 51 of CMM 2020-01.

Table 1. Annual tropical tuna (skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna) catch estimates for the Indonesia “large-fish” handline fishery, in the archipelagic waters/territorial seas (AWs/TS) and Indonesia’s EEZ, for years 2013–2016, with options for a baseline catch.

Year	Tropical tuna catch estimates			
	EEZ		AWs/TS	Total
	MT	%	MT	MT
2013	2,642	22%	9,138	11,780
2014	9,379	37%	15,957	25,336
2015	12,682	39%	19,821	32,503
2016	8,377	37%	14,159	22,536
Average 2013-2016	8,270			
Average 2014-2016	10,146			
Max. 2013-2016	12,682			

Note

The column ‘%’ represents the percentage of tuna catch in the Indonesia EEZ to the total combined Indonesia EEZ+AWs/TS tuna catch

REFERENCES

- Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia (MOMAF) and SPC-OFP. 2021a. Availability of catch estimates from the other commercial fisheries in Indonesia. Statistics and Data Theme Information Paper ST-IP-09. Seventeenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (SC17). Online Meeting. 11–19 August 2021.
- Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, Indonesia (MOMAF) and SPC-OFP. 2021b. Options for a baseline of the “large-fish” Handline fishery fishing in Indonesia’s EEZ (IEEZ) with vessels >30GT for the WCPFC Tropical Tuna Measure. Working Paper WCPFC18-2021-24. Eighteenth Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC18). Online Meeting. 1–7 December 2021.
- SPC-OFP. 2021. An assessment of available information to address the WCPFC17 recommendation on the Tropical Tuna CMM para 51 (other commercial fisheries). Statistics and Data Theme Information Paper ST-WP-02. Seventeenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (SC17). Online Meeting. 11–19 August 2021.