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Chair's Consultative Draft for a Revised Tropical Tuna Measure

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Prepared by the Commission Chair



CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR BIGEYE, YELLOWFIN AND SKIPJACK TUNA IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN

Conservation and Management Measure 2023-01

Agreed

PREAMBLE

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC):

Recalling that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (the Convention) is to ensure through effective management, the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the highly migratory fish stocks of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean in accordance with the 1982 Convention and the Agreement;

Recalling further the final statement of the Chairman of the Multilateral High Level Conferences in 2000 that: “It is important to clarify, however, that the Convention applies to the waters of the Pacific Ocean. In particular, the western side of the Convention Area is not intended to include waters of South-East Asia which are not part of the Pacific Ocean, nor is it intended to include waters of the South China Sea as this would involve States which are not participants in the Conference” (Report of the Seventh and Final Session, 30th August- 5 September 2000, p.29);

Recognizing that the Scientific Committee has:

(a) advised that the interim management objective for bigeye tuna in CMM 2021-01, to maintain the spawning biomass depletion ratio at or above the average SB/SBF=0 for 2012-2015, is being achieved;

Agreed

(b) advised that the interim management objective for yellowfin tuna in CMM 2021-01, to maintain the spawning biomass depletion ratio at or above the average SB/SBF=0 for 2012-2015, is being achieved; and

(c) determined that the first run of the skipjack management procedure was successfully carried out and its output scalar of 1, indicates that catch and effort be maintained at baseline levels and recommended that the Commission take appropriate management action to ensure that the biomass depletion level fluctuates around the target reference point (TRP).

Agreed

Recognizing further the interactions that occur between the fisheries for bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tuna;

Agreed

Noting that Article 30(1) of the Convention requires the Commission to give full recognition to the special requirements of developing States that are Parties to the Convention, in particular small island developing States and Territories and possessions, in relation to the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area and development of fisheries on such stocks, including the provision of financial, scientific, and technological assistance;

Noting further that Article 30(2) of the Convention requires the Commission to take into account the special requirements of developing States, in particular Small Island developing States and Territories. This includes ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by it do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, Parties, and Territories;

Noting that Article 8(1) of the Convention which requires compatibility of conservation and management measures established for the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction;

Recalling Article 8(4) of the Convention which requires the Commission to pay special attention to the high seas in the Convention Area that are surrounded by exclusive economic zones (EEZs);

Noting that the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) have adopted and implemented “A Third Arrangement Implementing The Nauru Agreement Setting Forth Additional Terms And Conditions Of Access To The Fisheries Zones Of The Parties”;

Noting further that the Parties to the Nauru Agreement have adopted and implemented a Vessel Day Scheme for the longline fishery, a Vessel Day Scheme for the purse seine fishery and a registry for FADs in the zones of the Parties, and may establish longline effort limits, or equivalent catch limits for longline fisheries within their exclusive economic zones;

Noting furthermore that the Members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency have indicated their intention to adopt a system of zone-based longline limits to replace the current system of flag-based bigeye catch limits within their EEZs;

Acknowledging that the Commission has adopted a limit reference point (LRP) for bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna of 20% of the estimated recent average spawning biomass in the absence of fishing;

Acknowledging that the Commission has adopted CMM [2022-03](#) on Establishing a Harvest Strategy for Key Fisheries and Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and a Work Plan to guide the development of key components of a Harvest Strategy, including the recording of management objectives, adoption of reference points, and development of harvest control rules;

Agreed

[Acknowledging that the Commission has adopted CMM 2022-01 which established an interim Management Procedure for WCPO Skipjack Tuna;](#)

Agreed

Recognizing the United Nations’ Climate Change Sustainable Development Goal [number 13](#) to “take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”, and that climate change has particularly negative impacts on Small Island Developing States and Territories; and noting that Article 5 (c) of the Convention requires the application of the precautionary approach , and Article 5 (d) of the Convention requires the Commission to assess the impacts of fishing, other human activities and environmental factors on target stocks, non-target species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or depend upon or associated with the target stocks [and that WCPFC Resolution 2019-01 mandates the integration of climate change into the decision making processes of WCPFC, including into the management of fish stocks in the Convention Area;](#)

Agreed

Agreed

Noting the [SEAPODYM analyses presented to SC11, SC12 and SC13](#) on the projected impacts climate change will have on tuna distribution, larval numbers and stock biomass, the WCPFC needs

Agreed

to build resilience into the medium and long-term planning and manage WCPO fish stocks in a precautionary manner, [as mandated in WCPFC Resolution 2019-01](#) and Article 30(2)(c) of the Convention requires the Commission to ensure there is no disproportionate burden of conservation action on developing States, Parties and Territories;

Adopts in accordance with Article 10 of the Convention, the following Conservation and Management Measure with respect to the skipjack (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), yellowfin (*Thunnus albacares*) and bigeye (*Thunnus obesus*) tuna stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean:

PURPOSE

1. This measure is intended and designed to support fisheries for skipjack tuna, bigeye tuna, and yellowfin tuna in the Convention Area that benefit CCMs and their communities, and to do so in a way that is fair to all Members and addresses the special requirements of developing States and Participating Territories. The measure's provisions are based on the interim stock-specific objectives below, [the interim management procedure for WCPO skipjack tuna established in CMM 2022-01](#) as well as other relevant provisions of the Convention and decisions of the Commission. As the harvest strategies for the tropical tuna stocks and/or their associated fisheries are developed, the objectives and provisions of the Measure will be amended accordingly.

Agreed

PRINCIPLES FOR APPLICATION OF THE MEASURE

Compatibility

2. Conservation and management measures established for the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction shall be compatible in order to ensure conservation and management of bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna stocks in their entirety. Measures shall ensure, at a minimum, that stocks are maintained at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, pending agreement on target reference points as part of the harvest strategy approach, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors including the special requirements of developing States in the Convention Area as expressed by Article 5 of the Convention.

Area of Application

3. This Measure applies to all areas of high seas and all EEZs in the Convention Area except where otherwise stated in the Measure.

4. Coastal states are encouraged to take measures in archipelagic waters and territorial seas which are consistent with the objectives of this Measure and to inform the Commission Secretariat of the relevant measures that they will apply in these waters.

Agreed

Small Island Developing States

5. With the exception of paragraphs 14-24, 29, 31-36, and 47-50, nothing in this Measure shall prejudice the rights and obligations of those small island developing State Members and Participating Territories in the Convention Area seeking to develop their domestic fisheries.

Agreed

6. For the avoidance of doubt, where the term “SIDS” is used throughout this measure, the term includes Participating Territories. The term “CCM” means Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories.

7. In giving effect to this CMM, the Commission shall pay attention to:

- (a) the geographical situation of a small island developing State which is made up of non-contiguous groups of islands having a distinct economic and cultural identity of their own but which are separated by areas of high seas;
- (b) the special circumstances of a State which is surrounded by the exclusive economic zones of other States and has a limited exclusive economic zone of its own; and
- (c) the need to avoid adverse impacts on subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers.

Agreed

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Charter Arrangements

8. For the purposes of paragraphs 37-38 and 42-46, attribution of catch and effort shall be to the flag State, except that catches and effort of vessels notified as chartered under CMM 2021-04 or its replacement shall be attributed to the chartering Member, or Participating Territory. Attribution for the purpose of this Measure is without prejudice to attribution for the purposes of establishing rights and allocation.

Overlap Area

10. Where flag CCMs choose to implement IATTC measures in the overlap area, any calculation of limits for the Convention Area (excluding the overlap area) that are done on the basis of historical catch or effort levels, shall exclude historical catch or effort within the overlap area. Notwithstanding decisions on application of catch and/or effort limits, all other provisions of this measure apply to all vessels fishing in the overlap area.

HARVEST STRATEGIES AND INTERIM OBJECTIVES FOR BIGEYE, SKIPJACK, AND YELLOWFIN TUNA

Bigeve

10. Pending agreement on a target reference point the spawning biomass depletion ratio ($SB/SB_{F=0}$) is to be maintained at or above the average $SB/SB_{F=0}$ for 2012-2015.

Agreed

Skipjack

11. The spawning biomass of skipjack tuna is to be maintained on average at a level consistent with the [target reference point contained in CMM 2022-01 on an interim Management Procedure for Skipjack Tuna](#).

Agreed

Yellowfin

12. Pending agreement on a target reference point the spawning biomass depletion ratio ($SB/SB_{F=0}$) is to be maintained at or above the average $SB/SB_{F=0}$ for 2012-2015.

Agreed

PURSE SEINE FISHERY**FAD Set Management**

13. A one and a half (1 1/5) three (3) months (July to mid-August and September) prohibition of deploying, servicing or setting on FADs shall be in place between 0001 hours UTC on 1 July and 2359 hours UTC on 15 August each year for all purse seine vessels, tender vessels, and any other vessels operating in support of purse seine vessels fishing in exclusive economic zones and the high seas in the area between 20°N and 20°S.¹

Agreed

14. In addition to the one and a half three month FAD closure in paragraph 14, except for those vessels flying the Kiribati flag when fishing in the high seas adjacent to the Kiribati exclusive economic zone, and Philippines' vessels operating in HSP1 in accordance with **Attachment 2**, it shall be prohibited to deploy, service or set on FADs in the high seas for one two additional sequential months of the year. Each CCM shall decide which one two sequential months (either April, May, November or December) shall be closed to setting on FADs by their fleets in the high seas for 2024, 2025, 2026 and notify the Secretariat of that decision by March 1, each year. In case a CCM decides to change the notified period at any given year of the application of this CMM this shall be notified to the Secretariat before 1st March of that year.

Agreed

15. The provisions of paragraphs 3 to 7 of CMM 2009-02 apply to the high seas FAD closures.

Non-entangling FADs

16. To reduce the risk of entanglement of sharks, sea turtles or any other species, ~~as from 1st January 2024,~~² CCMs shall ensure that the design and construction of any new FAD to be deployed in, ~~or that drifts into,~~ the WCPFC Convention Area from 1 January 2024 shall comply with the following specifications:

Agreed

- (a) The use of mesh net shall be prohibited for any part of a FAD.
- (b) If the raft is covered, only non-entangling material and designs shall be used.
- (c) The subsurface structure shall only be made using non-entangling materials.

¹ Members of the PNA may implement the FAD set management measures consistent with the Third Arrangement Implementing the Nauru Agreement of May 2008. Members of the PNA shall provide notification to the Commission of the domestic vessels to which the FAD closure will not apply. That notification shall be provided within 15 days of the arrangement being approved. The Secretariat shall provide each year to the Scientific Services Provider and TCC the list of fishing vessels that have not applied the FAD closure in the previous year, as well as, their respective numbers of FADs sets during the FADs closure.

² ~~This timeframe may be extended where there are extraordinary circumstances which make implementation impossible. Due to legislative constraints, Indonesia will have an additional 2 years to implement subparagraph (a).~~

17. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, CCMs shall encourage vessels flying their flag to use, or transition towards using, non-plastic and biodegradable materials in the construction of FADs.

18 bis No later than 2026, the Commission shall take a decision on the implementation of biodegradable FAD requirements.

The Scientific Committee shall continue to review research results on the use of biodegradable material on FADs, and shall provide specific recommendations to the Commission no later than 2026 including on a timeline for the stepwise introduction of biodegradable FADs, potential gaps/needs and any other relevant information. The definition for biodegradable is non-synthetic materials and/or bio-based alternatives that are consistent with international standards for materials that are biodegradable in marine environments. The components resulting from the degradation of these materials should not be damaging to the marine and coastal ecosystems or include heavy metals or plastics in their composition. CCMs are encouraged to communicate and disseminate information on the development of biodegradable FADs.

Agreed

20. The Commission no later than its 2026 annual session, based on specific guidelines defined by the FAD Management Options Intersessional Working Group and advice from SC and TCC shall consider the adoption of measures on the implementation of biodegradable material on FADs.

Agreed

Instrumented Buoys

21. A flag CCM shall ensure that each of its purse seine vessels shall have deployed at sea, at any one time, no more than 350 drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) with activated instrumented buoys. An instrumented buoy is defined as a buoy with a clearly marked reference number allowing its identification and equipped with a satellite tracking system to monitor its position. The buoy shall be activated exclusively on board the vessel. A flag CCM shall ensure that its vessels operating in the waters of a coastal State comply with the laws of that coastal State relating to FAD management, including FAD tracking.

22. CCMs shall also encourage their flag vessels to:

- (a) responsibly manage the number of drifting FADs deployed each year;
- (b) carry equipment on board to facilitate the retrieval of lost drifting FADs;
- (c) make reasonable efforts to retrieve lost drifting FADs; ~~and~~
- (d) report the loss of drifting FADs to CCM fisheries authorities, and if the loss occurred in the EEZ of a coastal State, also report the loss to the coastal State concerned; and

e) initiate retrieval programs for lost, abandoned or stranded FADs through cooperative initiatives among fishing vessels or other vessels implementing programs for the recovery of such FADs.

Agreed

CCMs are encouraged to report annually to the Commission on the effort to implement each item of this paragraph 22.

The FADMO IWG shall consider any information provided by CCMs on their implementation of paragraph 22 to enable the development of recommendations to TCC and the Commission on lost, abandoned, or stranded dFADs in 2025.

Editor's note: Decision language: The Commission tasks the FADMO to consider requirements for transmission of satellite buoy data from drifting FADs in 2024 to promote effective and sustainable FAD management in the WCPFC.

23. The Commission **no later than 2026** based on consideration of the FAD Management Options Working Group shall review the effectiveness of the limit on the number of FADs deployed as set out in paragraph 21 and whether the current limit of 350, or any limit, is appropriate and provide advice on the monitoring of FADs.

Agreed

Zone-based purse seine effort control

24. 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 [29 February 2024](#).³

Agreed

High seas purse seine effort control⁴

25. CCMs that are not SIDS shall restrict the level of purse seine effort on the high seas in the area 20°N to 20°S to the limits set out in **Attachment 1, Table 2**, except that the Philippines shall take measures on the high seas in accordance with **Attachment 2**.

26. CCMs shall ensure that the effectiveness of these effort limits for the purse seine fishery are not undermined by a transfer of effort in days fished into areas within the Convention Area south of 20°S and/or north of 20°N.

Agreed

27. The limits set out in **Attachment 1, Table 2** do not confer the allocation of rights to any CCM and are without prejudice to future decisions of the Commission. The Commission commits to transitioning to a more equitable allocation framework for high seas fishing opportunities that takes into account Articles 8, 10 (3) and 30 of the Convention. The Commission will commence a process to develop that framework in [2026](#), to enable the Commission to reach agreement in [2026](#) on hard effort or catch limits in the high seas of the Convention Area and a framework for the allocation of those limits in the high seas amongst all Members and Participating Territories that adequately takes into account Articles 8, 10 (3) and 30 of the Convention. The Commission shall also consider options as to how CCMs would use their limits.

Agreed

28. Where the catch and effort limits in paragraphs 24 and 25 have been exceeded, any overage of the annual limits by a CCM or the collective annual limits of a group of CCMs shall be deducted from the limits for the following year for that CCM or group of CCMs.

28 bis: Notwithstanding paragraphs 24, 25 and 47, in each of the years 2024-2026, if any of the baseline fishing conditions specified in 1.b) of the Harvest Control Rules of the Skipjack Tuna

Agreed

³ The provision of this paragraph do not apply to those CCMs who do not have established purse seine fisheries taking skipjack, yellowfin or bigeye tuna within their EEZs and have notified the Secretariat accordingly.

⁴ Throughout this measure, in the case of small purse seine fleets, of five vessels or less, the baseline level of effort used to determine a limit shall be the maximum effort in any period and not the average.

Management Procedure are exceeded are exceeded, the CMM will be amended to make sure they are maintained.

Catch retention: Purse Seine Fishery

29. To create an incentive to reduce the non-intentional capture of juvenile fish, to discourage waste and to encourage an efficient utilization of fishery resources, CCMs shall require their purse seine vessels fishing in EEZs and on the high seas within the area bounded by 20°N and 20°S to retain on board and then land or transship at port all bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna. (Paragraphs 8 to 12 of CMM 2009-02 set out the Commission's rules for catch retention in the high seas.) The only exceptions to this paragraph shall be:

- (a) when, in the final set of a trip, there is insufficient well space to accommodate all fish caught in that set, noting that excess fish taken in the last set may be transferred to and retained on board another purse seine vessel provided this is not prohibited under applicable national law; or
- (b) when the fish are unfit for human consumption for reasons other than size; or
- (c) when serious malfunction of equipment occurs.

30. Nothing in paragraphs 14-16 and 29 shall affect the sovereign rights of coastal States to determine how these management measures will be applied in their waters, or to apply additional or more stringent measures.

Monitoring and Control: Purse Seine Fishery

31. Notwithstanding the VMS SSP, a purse seine vessel shall not operate under manual reporting during the FADs closure periods, but the vessel will not be directed to return to port until the Secretariat has exhausted all reasonable steps to re-establish normal automatic reception of VMS positions in accordance with the VMS SSPs. The flag State shall be notified when VMS data is not received by the Secretariat at the interval specified in CMM 2014-02 or its replacement, and paragraph 35.

32. CCMs shall ensure that purse seine vessels entitled to fly their flags and fishing within the area bounded by 20°N and 20°S exclusively on the high seas, on the high seas and in waters under the jurisdiction of one or more coastal States, or vessels fishing in waters under the jurisdiction of two or more coastal States, shall carry an observer from the Commission's Regional Observer Program (ROP) (CMM 2018-05).

33. Each CCM shall ensure that all purse seine vessels fishing solely within its national jurisdiction within the area bounded by 20°N and 20°S carry an observer. These CCMs are encouraged to provide the data gathered by the observers for use in the various analyses conducted by the Commission, including stock assessments, in such a manner that protects the ownership and confidentiality of the data.

34. ROP reports for trips taken during FADs closure period shall be given priority for data input and analysis by the Secretariat and the Commission's Science Provider.

35. VMS polling frequency shall be increased to every 30 minutes during the FAD closure period. The increased costs associated with the implementation of this paragraph will be borne by the Commission.

Research on Bigeye and Yellowfin

36. CCMs and the Commission are encouraged to conduct and promote research to identify ways for purse seine vessels to minimize the mortality of juvenile bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna, particularly in accordance with any research plans adopted by the Commission.

LONGLINE FISHERY

37. As an interim measure, CCMs listed in **Attachment 1, Table 3** shall restrict the level of bigeye catch to the levels specified in **Table 3**. Where the limits in **Table 3** have been exceeded, any overage of the catch limit by a CCM listed in **Table 3** shall be deducted from the catch limit for the following year for that CCM.

38. CCMs listed in **Attachment 1, Table 3** shall report monthly the amount of bigeye catch by their flagged vessels to the Commission Secretariat by the end of the following month. The Secretariat shall notify all CCMs when 90% of the catch limits for a CCM is exceeded.

39. The limits set out in **Attachment 1, Table 3** do not confer the allocation of rights to any CCM and are without prejudice to future decisions of the Commission.

40. Subject to paragraph 5, each Member that caught less than 2,000 tonnes in 2004 shall ensure that its bigeye catch does not exceed 2,000 tonnes annually.

41. The Commission commits to transitioning to a more equitable allocation framework for fishing opportunities that takes into account Articles 8, 10 (3) and 30 of the Convention. The Commission will commence a process to develop that framework in [2026](#), to enable the Commission to reach agreement in [2026](#) on hard limits for bigeye amongst all Members and Participating Territories.

Agreed

CAPACITY MANAGEMENT FOR PURSE SEINE AND LONGLINE VESSELS

Purse Seine Vessel Limits

42. CCMs, other than Small Island Developing States and Indonesia⁵, shall keep the number of purse seine vessels flying their flag larger than 24m with freezing capacity operating between 20°N and 20°S (hereinafter “LSPSVs”) to the applicable level under CMM 2013-01.

43. The concerned CCMs shall ensure that any new LSPSV constructed or purchased to replace a previous vessel or vessels, shall have a carrying capacity or well volume no larger than the vessel(s) being replaced, or shall not increase the catch or effort in the Convention Area from the level of the vessels being replaced. In such case, the authorization to fish in the Convention Area of the replaced vessel shall be immediately revoked by the flag CCM.

⁵ This paragraph shall not create a precedent with respect to application of exemptions to non-SIDS CCMs.

Limits on Longline Vessels with Freezing Capacity

44. CCMs, other than Small Island Developing States and Indonesia⁶, shall not increase the number of their longline vessels with freezing capacity targeting bigeye tuna above the applicable level under CMM 2013-01.⁷

Limits on ice-chilled longline vessels landing fresh fish

45. CCMs, other than Small Island Developing States and Indonesia⁸ shall not increase the number of their ice-chilled longline vessels targeting bigeye tuna and landing exclusively fresh fish above the applicable level under CMM 2013-01, or above the number of licenses under established limited entry programmes applying during the operation of CMM 2013-01.⁹

46. Nothing in this measure shall restrict the ability of SIDS or Participating Territories to construct or purchase vessels from other CCMs for their domestic fleets.

OTHER COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

47. CCMs shall take necessary measures to ensure that the total catch of their respective other commercial tuna fisheries for bigeye, yellowfin or skipjack tuna, but excluding those fisheries taking less than 2,000 tonnes of tropical tunas (bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack), shall not exceed either the average level for the period 2001-2004 or the level of 2004.

Agreed

DATA PROVISION REQUIREMENTS

48. Operational level catch and effort data in accordance with the *Standards for the Provision of Operational Level Catch and Effort Data* attached to the Rules for *Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission* relating to all fishing in EEZs and high seas south of 20N subject to this CMM except for artisanal small-scale vessels shall be provided to the Commission not only for the purpose of stocks management but also for the purpose of cooperation to SIDS under Article 30 of the Convention.^{10 11}

⁶ This paragraph shall not create a precedent with respect to application of exemptions to non-SIDS CCMs.

⁷ The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to those CCMs who apply domestic quotas, including individual transferable quotas, within a legislated/regulated management framework.

⁸ This paragraph shall not create a precedent with respect to application of exemptions to non-SIDS CCMs.

⁹ The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to those CCMs who apply domestic quotas, including individual transferable quotas, within a legislated/regulated management framework.

¹⁰ CCMs which had domestic legal constraints under CMM 2014-01 shall provide operational level data as of the date on which those domestic legal constraints were lifted.

¹¹ This paragraph shall not apply to Indonesia, until it changes its national laws so that it can provide such data. This exception shall expire when such changes take effect but in any event no later than 31 December 2025. Indonesia will, upon request, make best effort to cooperate in providing operational level data in case of Commission's stock assessment of those stocks under a data handling agreement to be separately made with the Scientific Provider.

49. The Commission shall ensure the confidentiality of those data provided as non-public domain data.

50. CCMs whose vessel fish in EEZs and high seas north of 20N subject to this CMM shall ensure that aggregated data by 1 x 1 in that area be provided to the Commission, and shall also, upon request, cooperate in providing operational level data in case of Commission's stock assessment of tropical tuna stocks under a data handling agreement to be separately made between each CCM and the Scientific Provider. Those CCMs shall report such agreement to the Commission.

REVIEW AND FINAL PROVISIONS

51. The Commission shall review this CMM annually to ensure that the various provisions are having the intended effect.

52. This measure replaces CMM 2021-01. This measure shall come into effect on 16 February 2024 and remain in effect until 15 February 2027 unless earlier replaced or amended by the Commission.

Agreed

Attachment 1

Table 1: EEZ purse seine effort limits [paragraph 24]*(Table updated with information provided to Secretariat)*

Coastal CCMs' EEZ/Group	Effort in Vessel days/Catch limit	Comment
PNA	44,033 days	This limit will be managed cooperatively through the PNA Vessel Day Scheme.
Tokelau	1000 days	
Cook Islands	1,250 days	
Fiji	300 days	
Niue	200 days	
Samoa	150 days	
Tonga	250 days	
Vanuatu	200 days	
Australia	30,000 mt SKJ 600 mt BET 600 mt YFT	
French Polynesia	0	
Indonesia	70,820 mt	
Japan	1500 days	
Korea	*	
New Zealand	40,000 mt SKJ	
New Caledonia	20,000 mt SKJ	
Philippines	*	
Chinese Taipei	59 days (~34 purse seine vessels)	
United States **	558 days	
Wallis and Futuna	*	

* Limits not notified to the Commission

** The United States notified the Secretariat of the combined US EEZ and high seas effort limits on 1 July 2016 (1828 fishing days on the high seas and in the U.S. EEZ (combined)). The US EEZ limit is understood to be this notified limit minus the high seas effort limit for the United States set out in **Table 2** of **Attachment 1**.

Agreed

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

CCM	EFFORT LIMIT (DAYS)
CHINA	26
ECUADOR	**
EL SALVADOR	**
EUROPEAN UNION	403
INDONESIA	(0)
JAPAN	121
NEW ZEALAND	160
PHILIPPINES	#
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	207
CHINESE TAIPEI	95
USA	1270

** subject to CNM on participatory rights
The measures that the Philippines will take are in **Attachment 2**.

Agreed

Table 3. Bigeye Longline Catch Limits [paragraphs 37-39]

Bigeye catch limits by flag	
CCMs	Catch Limits
CHINA	8,224
INDONESIA	5,889*
JAPAN	18,265
KOREA	13,942
CHINESE TAIPEI	10,481
USA	6,554

*Provisional and maybe subject to revision following data analysis and verification
****For the United States and those who maintain a 5% observer coverage level, no catch increase is allowed.**

Any increase in BET tuna catch limit, above 5% up to 10%, by a CCM in table 3 shall correspond with a proportional increase of observer coverage, (e.g. observer + Electronic Monitoring (EM) coverage increases from 5% to 10%; and for example, a 2.5 percentage point increase in observer + EM coverage corresponds with a 5% increase in the catch limit; and a 5 percentage point increase in observer + EM coverage corresponds with a 10% increase in the catch limit.) A minimum level of 5% ROP coverage shall be maintained.

Any CCM who wants such an increase shall notify the Secretariat by the end of February of the year of fishing operations. If such CCM fails to achieve the required observer coverage level assessed for the year of increase of catch limits, then it will be subject to a payback penalty of 110% of the increased portion of the

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catch limit that can be repaid in either of the next two years, and will be assigned a status of priority non-compliant through the CMR process for this obligation.
***Any observer coverage above 5% can be achieved by human observer and/or EM coverage

In accordance with the deletion of paragraph 9 of CMM 2021 01, catch and effort of U.S. flagged Hawaii based longline vessels will no longer be attributed to US Participating Territories, future attribution for the US territories shall remain separate.

Japan will make an annual one-off transfer of 500 metric tonnes of its bigeye tuna catch limit to China.

Attachment 2: Measure for Philippines

1. This Attachment shall apply to Philippine traditional **fresh/ice chilled** fishing vessels operating as a group.

AREA OF APPLICATION

2. This measure shall apply only to High Seas Pocket no. 1 (HSP-1), which is the area of high seas bounded by the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of the Federated States of Micronesia to the north and east, Republic of Palau to the west, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to the south. For the purposes of this measure, the exact coordinates for the area shall be those used by the WCPFC vessel monitoring system (VMS). A map showing the HSP-1 Special Management Area (SMA) is attached.

REPORTING

3. Philippines shall require its concerned vessels to submit reports to the Commission at least 24 hours prior to entry and no more than 6 hours prior to exiting the HSP-1 SMA. This information may, in turn, be transmitted to the adjacent coastal States/Territories.

The report shall be in the following format:

VID/Entry or Exit: Date/Time; Lat/Long

4. Philippines shall ensure that its flagged vessels operating in the HSP-1 SMA report sightings of any fishing vessel to the Commission Secretariat. Such information shall include: vessel type, date, time, position, markings, heading and speed.

OBSERVER

5. The fishing vessels covered by this measure shall employ a WCPFC Regional Observer on board during the whole duration while they operate in HSP-1 SMA in accordance with the provisions of CMM 2018-05.

6. Regional Observers from other CCMs shall be given preference/priority. For this purpose, the Philippines and the Commission Secretariat shall inform the CCMs and the Adjacent Coastal State of the deployment needs and requirements at 60 days prior expected departure. The Secretariat and the CCM that has available qualified regional observer shall inform the Philippines of the readiness and availability of the Regional Observer at least 30 days prior to the deployment date. If none is available, the Philippines is authorized to deploy regional observers from the Philippines.

VESSEL LIST

7. The Commission shall maintain an updated list of all fishing vessels operating in HSP-1 SMA based on the foregoing vessel's entry and exit reports submitted to the Commission. The list will be made available to Commission Members through the WCPFC website.

MONITORING OF PORT LANDINGS

8. The Philippines shall ensure that all port landings of its vessels covered by this decision are monitored and accounted for to make certain that reliable catch data by species are collected for processing and analysis.

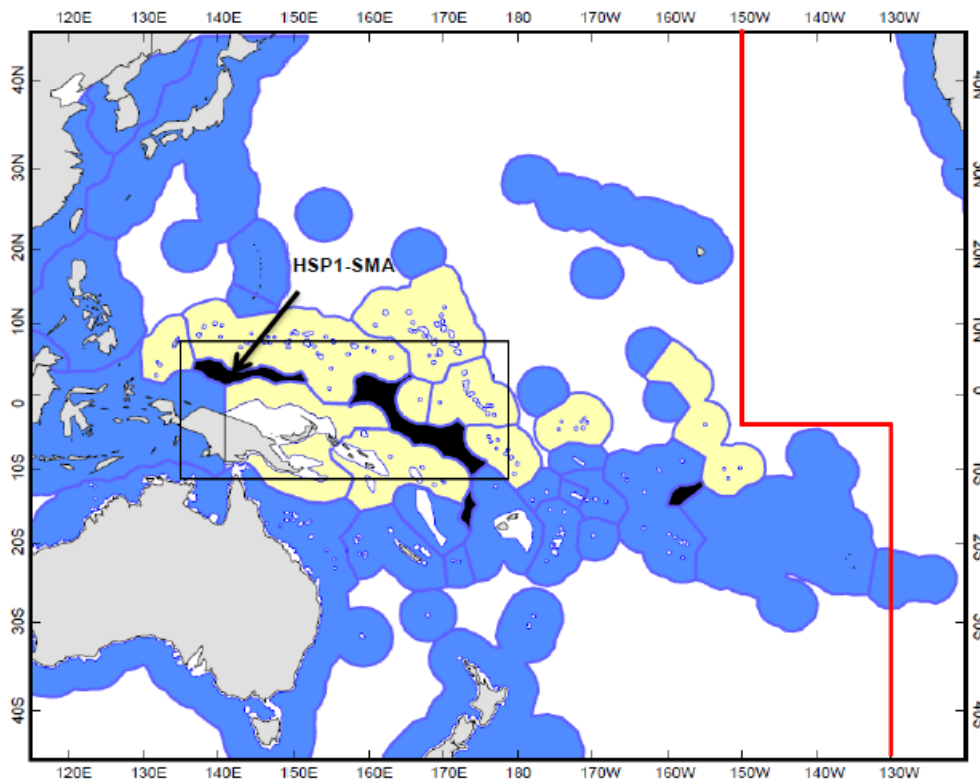
COMPLIANCE

9. All vessels conducting their fishing activities pursuant to this Attachment to CMM 2021-01 shall comply with all other relevant CMMs. Vessels found to be non-compliant with this decision shall be dealt with in accordance with CMM 2019-07 or its replacement CMM, and any other applicable measure adopted by the Commission.

EFFORT LIMIT

10. The total effort of these vessels shall not exceed 4,659¹⁴ days. The Philippines shall limit its fleet to 36 fishing vessels (described by the Philippines as catcher fishing vessels) in the HSP-1 SMA.

Map showing HSP-1 SMA where the Arrangements in Attachment 2 apply



This map displays indicative maritime boundaries only. It is presented without prejudice to any past, current or future claims by any State. It is not intended for use to support any past, current or future claims by any State or territory in the western and central Pacific or east Asian region. Individual States are responsible for maintaining the coordinates for their maritime claims. It is the responsibility of flag States to ensure their vessels are informed of the coordinates of maritime limits within the Convention Area. Coastal States are invited to register the coordinates for their negotiated and agreed maritime areas with the Commission Secretariat.

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¹⁴ Reference Table 2(b), WCPFC9-2012-IP09_rev3