



Second Intersessional Working Group Regional Observer Programme

Nadi, Fiji

7th -10th July 2008

INTEGRATION WITH CURRENT NATIONAL AND SUB REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMMES

WCPFC/IWG-ROP2/2008-06

March 17, 2008

Integration with current programmes is outlined in para 4 of Annex C of CMM- 2007-01.

No later than 31 December 2008:

- *Existing sub-regional programs and National Programs shall be regarded as a part of the ROP, and shall continue unless otherwise determined by the Commission.*
- *Data obtained through these observer programs shall be submitted to the Commission and shall be considered Commission data*

The full Annex C “Implementation Programme for the ROP Observer Programme” is attached at the end of this Paper for your reference.

The commencement date of integration as required by WCPFC is the 15th February 2008.

The ROP will need to address the following issues listed below, with active national, sub-regional observer programmes (NSOP’s) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) while some of the issues listed below may require direction from IWG-ROP, most could be worked out by coordinating with current active observer programmes

Placement of Observers

- Who decides when a ROP trip is to take place,
- Identification of fleets and vessels that will be covered
- What observer will be used,
- Allocation priorities
- Process to identify ROP trips, so as flag states are able to maintain their expected observer coverage rate by their fleets
- Identification of observer (badge / uniform/ identification, etc) and limits of use
- Observer equipment distribution
- Placement and disembarkation procedures of observer personnel
- Procedures and responsibilities to transient observers

Data Issues

- What data formats will be used,
- The process to separate ROP observer data from authorised data collected by ROP observers for vessels fishing in the jurisdiction of the vessels flag states.
- How will data be handled after the observer trip,
- Determining data quality
- Data ownership,
- Who has partial or full access to data (raw and or database content)
- Data security
- How will collected data be conveyed to the ROP?
- Compatibility of ROP and Sub-regional and National Observer Programmes databases
- Database & data quality feedback to observers:
- Transfer of eligible data from sub regional multilateral observer programmes operating under the “Treaty on Fisheries between the Governments of certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America” (USMT) and the Federated States of Micronesia Arrangement (FSMA)

General

- Observer Codes of Conduct
- How will the ROP deal with national fisheries legislation which may differ from WCPFC CMMs, etc
- How will briefings and debriefings be handled for ROP trips,
- Reporting – what will be reported on, to whom and when
- Process of ensuring that data and reports from ROP trips are sent or are available in a timely manner to the Commission,
- Encouraging national observer programmes (NOP’s) to carry out observer coverage on vessels which are safe and practical to carry an observer, and who are fishing in their national waters plus on the high seas or other jurisdictions,
- Human and administrative support for small island developing states i.e. staff, equipment, infrastructure and possible funding requirements
- Language of ROP collected information and reports.
- Conflicts and resolution of disputes between NOP’s and vessels
- Conflicts and resolution of disputes between NOP’s and ROP
- Scientific and any other sampling regimes as authorised by the Commission
- ROP requirements of the Conservation and Management Measures of the Commission
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Attached is the Table IWG-ROP1 agreed to be filled out by CCM’s. The table is to assist in the development of the ROP. All CCM’s were encouraged to provide the information required in the table and submit it to the Secretariat. An analysis of the information collected will be presented at IWG-ROP2. Please note that codes with explanation to assist in the filling out of the WCPFC “Table” to assist in reporting observer vessel monitoring undertaken under the ROP” have been added and are attached to assist in the filling out of this table.

Table to assist in reporting observer vessel monitoring undertaken under the ROP

Codes with explanation to assist in the filling out of the WCPFC ROP

"Table to assist in reporting observer Vessel Monitoring undertaken under the ROP

#Sector Fished Codes	Sector Areas	Fleet type	Main Target Species	Gear Type codes
LL1	North of 15°N	Offshore/domestic	BET/YFT	Longline
LL2	South of 15°S	Offshore/domestic	BET/YFT	Longline
LL3	15°N - 15°S	Offshore/domestic	BET/YFT	Longline
LL4	North of 15°N	Distant-water	BET/YFT	Longline
LL5	South of 15°S	Distant-water	BET/YFT	Longline
LL6	15°N - 15°S	Distant-water	BET/YFT	Longline
LL7	South of 10°S	Offshore/domestic	ALB	Longline
LL8	North of 10°N	Offshore/domestic	ALB	Longline
LL9	South of 10°S	Distant -water	ALB	Longline
LL10	North of 10°N	Distant -water	ALB	Longline
LL11	10°N - 10°S	All Fleets	ALB	Longline
LL12	North of 15°N	All Fleets	SHARK	Longline
LL13	South of 15°S	All Fleets	SHARK	Longline
LL14	15°N - 15°S	All Fleets	SHARK	Longline
LL15	North of 15°N	All Fleets	SWORDFISH	Longline
LL16	South of 15°S	All Fleets	SWORDFISH	Longline
LL17	15°N - 15°S	All Fleets	SWORDFISH	Longline
PS18	North of 15°N	Distant-water	SKJ/YFT	Purse Seine
PS19	South of 15°S	Distant-water	SKJ/YFT	Purse Seine
PS20	15°N - 15°S	Distant-water	SKJ/YFT	Purse Seine
PS21	North of 15°N	Offshore/domestic	SKJ/YFT	Purse Seine
PS22	South of 15°S	Offshore/domestic	SKJ/YFT	Purse Seine
PS23	15°N - 15°S	Offshore/domestic	SKJ/YFT	Purse Seine
PL24	North of 15°N	Distant-water	SKJ/YFT	Pole & line
PL25	South of 15°S	Distant-water	SKJ/YFT	Pole & line
PL26	15°N - 15°S	Distant-water	SKJ/YFT	Pole & line
TR27	North of 15°N	Offshore/domestic	SKJ/YFT	Pole & line
PL28	South of 15°S	Offshore/domestic	SKJ/YFT	Pole & line
TR29	15°N - 15°S	Offshore/domestic	SKJ/YFT	Pole & line
TR30	15°N - 15°S	All Fleets	ALB	Troll
TR31	South of 30°S	All Fleets	ALB	Troll
OT32	WCPO Area	Offshore/domestic		Other
OT33	WCPO Area	Distant-water		Other

Please note the Codes for "Sector Area Fished" have been compiled for the purposes of filling out the " Table to Assist in Reporting of observer Vessel Monitoring undertaken under the ROP"

If a code does not suit your fleets situation please use code for 'Other'

ISO 3166 CODES FOR WCPFC COUNTRIES	CODES
Members	
Australia	AUS
Canada	CAN
China	CHN
Cook Islands	COK
European Community	*EUR
Federated States of Micronesia	FSM
Fiji	FJI
France	FRA
Japan	JPN
Kiribati	KIR
Korea	KOR
Republic of Marshall Islands	MHL
Nauru	NRU
New Zealand	NZL
Niue	NIU
Palau	PLW
Papua New Guinea	PNG
Philippines	PHL
Samoa	WSM
Solomon Islands	SLB
Chinese Taipei	TWN
Tonga	TON
Tuvalu	TUV
United States of America	USA
Vanuatu	VUT
Participating Territories	
American Samoa	SMA
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	MRA
French Polynesia	PYF
Guam	GUM
New Caledonia	NCL
Tokelau	TKL
Wallis and Futuna	WAL
Cooperating Non-member(s)	
Belize	BLZ
Indonesia	IDN

*Reference ISO 4217

WCPFC CMM ROP 2007-01 Annex C

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME FOR THE ROP OBSERVER PROGRAMME

1. When the measure enters into force, CCMs shall commence implementation of the ROP, in accordance with the measure adopted at WCPFC 4, by using the sub-regional and national programmes already operational in the region. CCMs are encouraged to submit data from such programmes as soon as possible.
2. At the direction of the Commission, the IWG-ROP shall continue to develop the framework and important elements of the ROP (e.g., determination of minimum vessel size for observer coverage, training and accreditation of observers, roles and responsibilities of observers, data requirements, cost issues, and appropriate effort units for expressing coverage levels).
3. Arrangements in 2008 do not preclude future development of the ROP by the Commission.
4. No later than 31 December 2008:
 - Existing sub-regional programs and National Programs shall be regarded as a part of the ROP, and shall continue unless otherwise determined by the Commission.
 - Data obtained through these observer programs shall be submitted to the Commission and shall be considered Commission data.
5. During the period 1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010:

The Commission shall review the recommendations from the IWG-ROP, SC, and TCC and further develop, and refine as necessary, the ROP, including application of the ROP.
6. No later than 30 June 2012, CCMs shall achieve 5% coverage of the effort in each fishery under the jurisdiction of the Commission (except for vessels provided for in paragraphs 9 and 10). In order to facilitate the placement of observers the logistics may dictate that this be done on the basis of trips.
7. At the 2012 annual sessions of the SC and TCC the data generated by the ROP shall be reviewed and those subsidiary bodies shall make appropriate recommendations to the Commission. Based on the advice and recommendations of the SC and TCC, the Commission shall annually review the ROP and make adjustments as necessary. Among the elements of the ROP to be reviewed are the provisions of paragraph 10 on vessels initially deferred from application of the ROP.
8. CCMs shall also be expected to meet any additional ROP observer obligations that may be included in any measure adopted by WCPFC, such as provisions of a catch retention measure, a FAD management measure or a transshipment measure. Such measures may include observer requirements for freezer longliners, purse seiners and/or carriers

Special Circumstances

9. Fishing vessels used exclusively to fish for fresh fish¹ in the area north of 20 degrees North shall be accorded the following considerations:
- i) At its 2008 annual session, the Northern Committee shall consider the implementation of the ROP adopted by the Commission by vessels fishing for fresh fish in the area north of 20 degrees North.
 - ii) At its 2010 annual session, the Northern Committee shall make recommendations to the Commission on the implementation of the ROP by fishing vessels fishing for fresh fish in the area north of 20 degrees North.
 - iii) The recommendations of the Northern Committee shall provide a date for implementation of the ROP by vessels fishing for fresh fish in the area north of 20 degrees North no later than 31 December 2014.
10. The implementation schedule for the following vessels shall be deferred:
- i) small vessels, the minimum size of which shall be considered by the IWG-ROP for recommendation to the Commission in 2008.
 - ii) troll and pole-and-line vessels used for fishing for skipjack tuna or albacore (to be scheduled for review by the IWG-ROP).

¹ For the purpose of this measure, “fresh fish” means highly migratory fish stocks that are live, whole or dressed/gutted, but not further processed or frozen.

