

Background to Standardised Multi-language Questionnaire: Key points from Commission discussions and outcomes

HSBI Intersessional Process

4 March 2025

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Background

- TCC3 and WCPFC4 (2007) discussed HSBI Procedures including the Standardised Multi-language Questionnaire
- Prepared with reference to similar existing questionnaires and interviews with vessel master
- Discussion point:
 - content of the current questionnaire is not entirely consistent with how some inspections are conducted, and thus excessive reliance on the questionnaire to structure the inspection may be inefficient

STANDARDIZED MULTI-LANGUAGE QUESTIONNAIRE (6 Feb. 2009)

BOARDING QUESTIONS

1. (a) VESSEL (b) THIS IS THE (c)
CALLING YOU ON CHANNEL 16 VHF-FM/2182 khz (HF)---OVER.

(a) FISHING, CARRIER, or BUNKER
(b) FISHING, CARRIER, or BUNKER VESSEL'S NAME
(c) PATROL VESSEL (United States Coast Guard Cutter, Her Majesty's
Australian Ship, etc.)
2. REQUEST YOU SWITCH YOUR COMMUNICATIONS TO CHANNEL ____.
3. FISHING VESSEL (NAME), THIS IS PATROL VESSEL (NAME) --- WE ARE
HERE ON BEHALF OF THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES
COMMISSION AND ARE AUTHORIZED TO ENSURE YOU ARE
COMPLYING WITH ALL APPLICABLE CONSERVATION AND
MANAGEMENT MEASURES. WE INTEND TO BOARD AND INSPECT YOUR
VESSEL. PRIOR TO OUR BOARDING OF YOUR VESSEL, WE NEED TO ASK
YOU A FEW QUESTIONS.
4. IS YOUR VESSEL REGISTERED WITH THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL
PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION?
5. UNDER WHICH COUNTRY'S FLAG ARE YOU REGISTERED?
6. WHAT IS YOUR INTERNATIONAL RADIO CALL SIGN?
7. WHAT IS YOUR HOMEPORT?
8. HOW MUCH (a-c) DO YOU HAVE ONBOARD? IF FISH, WHAT
TYPE?

a. FISH (Fishing Vessel)
b. FISH and/or SUPPLIES (Carrier Vessel)
c. FUEL (Bunker Vessel)
9. WHAT WAS YOUR LAST PORT OF CALL?
10. WHAT IS YOUR NEXT PORT OF CALL?
11. WHAT IS THE NAME AND NATIONALITY OF YOUR MASTER?

TCC3 and WCPFC4 Outcomes (2007)



- i. use of the questionnaire need not limit the scope of inspections;
- ii. inspection procedures currently in use in the region need not be modified to be consistent with the questionnaire;
- iii. it is unnecessary to further revise the content of the questionnaire at this time, but that future refinements can be considered as necessary.

CCMs would be responsible for translating the questionnaire into the language(s) used in their fisheries and providing them to the Secretariat to distribute them to all CCMs



TCC4 and WCPFC5 Outcomes (2008)



- Paper on Implementation of HSBI Procedures presented
- CCMs spoke favourably of the new procedures: Tested and ready for use
- English version posted March 2009 and 6 translations followed:

6. Standardized Multi-Language Questionnaire (in languages used in CCMs' respective fisheries)

Paragraph 21 of the Procedures provides that: "In carrying out boarding and inspection pursuant to these procedures, the authorized inspection vessel and authorized inspectors shall make their best efforts to communicate with the master of the fishing vessels in a language that the master can understand. If necessary to facilitate communications between the inspectors and the master of the vessel, the inspectors shall use the relevant part of the standardized multilanguage questionnaire to be prepared by the Secretariat and circulated to all Contracting Parties with authorized inspection vessels." CCMs have responsibility for translating the questionnaire into their language(s) used by their vessels so that it is accessible by Members conducting inspections.

Symbol	Title	Files	Date of Issue
CN	Chinese Questionnaire (provided by the PRC)		
EU-Spain	Spanish Questionnaire		
FR	French Questionnaire		
JP	Japanese Questionnaire		
KR	Korean Questionnaire		
TW	Chinese Questionnaire (provided by Chinese Taipei)		
	English Questionnaire		6 Mar 2009

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Recent events



- HSBI Annual Report to TCC19 and TCC20 references feedback from CCMs on the Standardised Multi-language Questionnaire:
 - Out of date e.g. inspection procedures
 - Not kept pace with CMMs – new and revised
- In 2024, TCC20 requested a paper for WCPFC21 on an intersessional process to develop regional guidelines and to update the Questionnaire