**Virtual Meeting 3 of HSBI WG**

7 August 2025 10:00 – 13:00 (Pohnpei time)

# HSBI Measuring Tool Calibration Guide

**Voluntary HSBI Regional Guides**

**TOOLS FOR HIGH SEAS BOARDING AND INSPECTIONS**

**WCPFC-HSBIWG03-2025-04_rev1**[1]

**8 August 2025**

**Prepared by Australia**

[1] This is revision 1 of WCPFC-HSBIWG03-2025-04 *HSBI Measuring Tool Calibration Guide* issued on 5th August 2025. This revision takes into account the discussions during HSBI WG3 meeting.

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

# Voluntary HSBI Regional Guides

TOOLS FOR HIGH SEAS BOARDING AND INSPECTIONS

## Tool Calibration Guide

Document History

| Version | Effective Date | Description of Revision | Prepared by | Reviewed by |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

## Contents



## PURPOSE STATEMENT

1. This document provides guidance to Authorised inspectors conducting WCPFC Hish Seas Boarding and Inspections (HSBI[1]) on the minimum standards for the use of measuring tools during a HSBI, which includes:
   - tape measures, and
   - weighing scales.

2. The application of this Guide will be voluntary and apply to authorised HSBI activities within the WCPFC Convention Area.

3. This guide should be modified in response to new information, technical innovations, and perspectives. It is expected that this guide will continue to evolve as the field develops.

## Application of measuring tools in WCPFC HSBI activities.

4. The aim of HSBIs is to check a vessel is operating in compliance with the WCPFC Convention and all applicable WCPFC CMM obligations.

[1] HSBI, refers to boarding, inspection, and related activities on the high seas within the Convention Area conducted pursuant to CMM 2006-08 Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Boarding and Inspection Procedures or any successor CMM.

5. Inspectors conducting HSBI activities can use tools to take measurements of the:
   - length and weight of fishing gear
   - the fishing holds
   - catch, and
   - vessel markings

6. Taking measurements during HSBI activities can assist with assessing compliance with:
   - by-catch mitigation methods
   - logbook reporting and catch estimations
   - vessel marking and identification

7. The calibration and independent certification of measuring tools can be an important factor in successful compliance investigations and to ensure consistency between inspections.

## Measuring tool calibration minimum standards

8. Table 1. Types of commonly used measuring tools:

| Tape measures | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| steel, retractable | fabric, retractable | Infrared and laser | Magnetic |
| Weighing scales | | | |
| Hook | | pocket | |

9. The general principles and procedures for measuring tool use and calibration in fisheries investigations:

### *a) Documentation and records*

10. Authorised inspectors should:
    - document the taking of measurements using a recording device, including photographs and videos.
    - take measurements with witnesses' present (Authorised inspectors, master, crew, boarding party) and prioritise that witnesses from the fishing vessel are present.
    - ideally work in pairs.
    - record any measurements taken in the HSBI report.

11. The master of the vessel must be provided with an interim copy of the report which includes details of any tissue sampling. The master must also be given to opportunity to include any objection or comment to be included in the final report.

### *b) Certification guidelines and details of the measuring tools*

12. Measuring tools should be certified by an independent nationally accredited body at the point of manufacturing in accordance with ISO or international recognised standards.

13. Certification details should be available and provided to the flag CCM upon request, and on reasonable grounds such as to support flag state investigation. Certification details could include:
    - type of measuring tool

- technical data sheet
- certified calibration certificates
- independently verified by a national body
- manufacturing information on ISO or international standards
- EC Class2 (I, II, III)

### *c) Guidelines for calibration of measuring tools*

14. Measuring tools should be periodically tested for accuracy, such as:
    - comparing the measurements on a tape to a known standard, typically a certified reference or master tape
    - the recalibration of weighing scales
15. Pre-boarding condition checks should be conducted on measuring tools to ensure they are undamaged and in working order.



[2] Tape accuracy is guided by harmonised standards set out by the European Committee which divide the category into three classes according to their level of accuracy.