

## **COMMISSION**

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# Draft Reporting Template for CMM 2013-06 (CRITERIA FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS) and CMM 2013-07 (SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES AND TERRITORIES)

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## **Submitted by the Secretariat**

## **Purpose**

- 1. This paper responds to two taskings from TCC21, as follows (**emphasis** added):
  - a. TCC21 recommended that WCPFC22 task the WCPFC Secretariat to develop a template, that includes associated reporting guidelines, to strengthen and streamline CCM reporting on paragraph 1 of CMM 2013-06, as proposed by the WCPFC Secretariat in TCC20-2024-WP30, while ensuring that there is no duplication with other reporting requirements (e.g obligations under CMM-2013-07) (para 26 of TCC21 Outcomes Document)
  - b. TCC21 acknowledged the importance that WCPFC attaches to CMM 2013-07 and the special requirements of small island developing States and Territories. TCC21 noted the inconsistency in reporting under CMM 2013-07 and tasked the Secretariat with developing a structured reporting template for Annual Report Part 2 to align assistance with CMM 2013-07. This would assist in identifying gaps and prioritizing the needs of SIDS (para 46 of <u>TCC21</u> Outcomes Document)
- 2. The draft template in Attachment A of this paper is focused on reporting by individual CCMs that supports the <u>identification of gaps and needs of SIDS and Territory CCMs</u><sup>1</sup>, and the corresponding efforts by non-SIDS to address those gaps and needs. The template's value is in providing a uniform, structured approach to informing how CCMs are implementing Article 30 and identifying the key areas where greater attention and resources are required to support SIDS and Territories in their participation in the fisheries managed by the WCPFC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Article 30 refers to developing States, particularly the least developed among them and SIDS and territories. For convenience, this template refers to "SIDS and Territories", which for these purposes is inclusive of Philippines and Indonesia.

3. Matters relating to reporting against and responding to instances of <u>disproportionate burden</u> placed on SIDS and Territories are addressed separately in ongoing discussions in TCC regarding assessment of compliance with CMM 2013-06. As such, the reporting process proposed in the draft template in Attachment A of this paper excludes paragraphs 1, 3, and 4 of CMM 2013-06 and paragraph 3 of CMM 2013-07 relating to disproportionate burden and focuses on reporting to identify gaps and prioritise needs in order to recognize the special requirements of SIDS and Territories.

## Background

4. Article 30 of the WCPFC Convention requires that the Commission give full recognition to the special requirements of developing States, in particular SIDS and Territories, in relation to the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks, by (1) avoiding a transfer of disproportionate burden, and (2) providing for cooperation in delivery of assistance. In relation to the latter point in (2) and for the purposes set out in Article 30, cooperation may include the provision of financial assistance, assistance relating to human resources development, technical assistance, transfer of technology, including through joint venture arrangements, and advisory and consultative services.

"Such assistance shall, inter alia, be directed towards: (a)improved conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks through collection, reporting, verification, exchange and analysis of fisheries data and related information; (b)stock assessment and scientific research; and (c)monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement, including training and capacity-building at the local level, development and funding of national and regional observer programmes and access to technology and equipment." (Art 30.4(a-c))

- 5. CMM 2013-06 operationalizes primarily the principles of Article 30 relating to disproportionate burden by setting out a process for the consideration of new conservation and management proposals. In the first instance, the CMM obligates CCMs (paragraph 1) to cooperate to enhance the ability of developing States, particularly SIDS, to develop their own fisheries, which is consistent with Article 30. The CMM then seeks to ensure (paragraph 2) that no disproportionate burden of conservation action is transferred to SIDS and Territories by conservation and management measures. In giving effect to this, the CMM requires the Commission to consider through a structured set of questions (paragraph 3), the potential nature and extent of impacts on SIDS and Territories before adopting new measures. Where disproportionate burden is identified by a SIDS or Territory in the implementation of an obligation (paragraph 4), CMM 2013-06 requires CCMs to mitigate that burden through a series of actions.
- 6. CMM 2013-07 operationalizes primarily the principles of Article 30 relating to cooperation in the delivery of assistance. It sets out practical areas of support including capacity development, technology transfer, fisheries science and management, monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS), and assistance to develop domestic fisheries industries, processing, employment and market access to ensure that SIDS can participate effectively in and benefit equitably from the fisheries managed by the WCPFC.
- 7. CMM 2013-06 and CMM 2013-07 share two common paragraphs:
  - a. **Paragraph 1** of CMM 2013-06/**Paragraph 2** of CMM 2013-07:

"CCMs shall develop, interpret and apply conservation and management measures in the context of and in a manner consistent with the 1982 Convention and Articles 24, 25 and 26 of the Agreement. To this end, CCMs shall cooperate, either directly or through the Commission, to enhance the ability of developing States, particularly the least developed among them and

SIDS and territories in the Convention Area, to develop their own fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, including but not limited to the high seas within the Convention Area."

b. **Paragraph 2** of CMM 2013-06/**Paragraph 3** of CMM 2013-07:

"The Commission shall ensure that any conservation and management measures do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto SIDS and territories."

# Relevant outcomes from TCC21

8. TCC21 continued discussions that began at TCC20 (2024) on how to adequately assess compliance with CMM 2013-06. An Audit Point for purposes of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme is currently in place for reporting against paragraph 1 of the CMM (see paragraph 7(a), above). To strengthen and streamline reporting against this obligation, TCC21 recommended that the Commission agree to an amended audit point of paragraph 1 of CMM 2013-06 to require reporting against an agreed template, and that the Secretariat be tasked to develop that template. The amended audit point would read as follows:

"Secretariat confirms receipt of a report <u>consistent with the agreed template</u> outlining efforts by the reporting CCM to cooperate, either directly or through the Commission, to enhance the ability of developing States, particularly the least developed among them and SIDS and territories in the Convention Area, to develop their own fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, including but not limited to the high seas within the Convention Area."

- 9. In developing the template, TCC21 further guided that the template should include associated reporting guidelines and ensure no duplication with other reporting requirements, including those contained in CMM-2013-07.
- 10. In its consideration of the draft Compliance Monitoring Report and the provisions relating to compliance assessments that reflect the need for capacity assistance as expressed by a SIDS or Territory CCM, TCC21 acknowledged that greater consistency of reporting by CCMs against CMM 2013-07 would assist with understanding of where assistance has been delivered in support of improving the capacity for SIDS and Territories to implement Commission obligations. Therefore, TCC21 tasked the Secretariat with developing a structured reporting template for Annual Report Part 2 to align assistance with CMM 2013-07. This was also seen as useful for identifying gaps and prioritising the needs of SIDS (see paragraphs 44-46 of TCC21 Summary Report).

## **Proposed Reporting Approach**

- 11. To support the template's purpose of streamlining and strengthening reporting on the delivery of services and assistance to SIDS and Territories as intended by **paragraph 1** of CMM 2013-06 and **Paragraph 2** of CMM 2013-07, a three-step process through a single, integrated template based on CMM 2013-07 is proposed. Based on the rationale outlined above, paragraph 3 of CMM 2013-07 relating to disproportionate burden is **excluded** from the template.
- 12. It is suggested that reporting against CMM 2013-07 (except paragraph 3) and using the structured reporting template in Attachment A, would satisfy the reporting requirement in paragraph 1 of CMM 2013-06. Taken together, the integrated template ensures that paragraph 1 of CMM 2013-06 and the reporting requirements of CMM 2013-07 are addressed in one place, thereby avoiding duplication and meeting TCC21's guidance for streamlined and consistent reporting.

13. The proposed approach to completing the reporting requirements through the template is elaborated below.

## Step 1: SIDS and Territories articulate their needs and priorities

- 14. Reporting on the delivery of assistance to support capacity building and related needs of SIDS and Territories first requires a clear understanding of what those needs are. In other words, articulation of needs by SIDS and Territories is an essential **first step** in the reporting process to realize the intended effects of the provisions of CMM 2013-07. CMM 2013-07 identifies broad themes and examples within each theme of where assistance by CCMs should be targeted. However, it is recognized that each SIDS and Territory may have different priorities and needs, which will require individual SIDS and Territory CCMs to guide and direct potential assistance from non-SIDS CCMs.
- 15. Notwithstanding current Commission mechanisms for SIDS and Territories to communicate their requirements, i.e. the Strategic Investment Plan, Annual Report Part 2, and the Capacity Assistance Needs through the Compliance Monitoring Scheme, the provisions of CMM 2013-06, paragraph 1 and CMM 2013-07 envision a broader, more sustained effort by the Commission to build the capacity of SIDS and Territory CCMs so they benefit more meaningfully from participating in WCPFC.
- 16. Therefore, Section 1 of the draft template invites SIDS and Territories to provide the following information to begin the three-step reporting process:
  - Key development needs to enhance domestic fisheries, including in the areas of capacity development, technology transfer, fisheries management, monitoring, control and surveillance, and domestic industry support.

## Step 2: Report on actions taken in response to identified needs and priorities of SIDS and Territories

- 17. The **second step** in the reporting process is for non-SIDS and Territory CCMs to provide detailed responses against each of the individual aspects outlined in CMM 2013-07. This deeper level of reporting is expected to assist SIDS and Territory CCMs to more clearly identify where gaps in assistance remain, or where more effort is needed, consistent with the intent of the CMM and the relevant provisions of Article 30. Detailed reporting can also assist SIDS and Territory CCMs more broadly at the individual national level, to support evaluation and incorporation of larger bilateral or subregional relationships that target social and economic development in SIDS and Territory CCMs.
- 18. Section 2 of the draft template aligns with the thematic areas of CMM 2013-07 (capacity development, technology transfer, fisheries management, MCS participation, and economic and market access support). Detailed reporting by non-SIDS in this Section should take into account the needs and priorities identified by SIDS and Territories in Section 1 of the draft template, and can be elaborated depending on the donor and assistance structure of the non-SIDS CCM.

#### Step 3: SIDS and Territories respond to non-SIDS detailed reports

19. The **third (and final) step** in the reporting process is for each SIDS and Territory CCM to respond to the reporting by non-SIDS against each of the assistance provisions of CMM 2013-07. Specifically, Section 3 of the draft template provides the opportunity for each SIDS and Territory CCM to advise on the adequacy or effectiveness of the assistance reported in Section 2 and whether it has met the expectations set out by the SIDS and Territory CCM in Section 1 of the draft template. The feedback is a critical step in the reporting process to ensure that non-SIDS CCMs are being guided appropriately in meeting the expectations of SIDS and Territory CCMs in the implementation of the CMM.

#### **Additional considerations**

20. CCMs may need to give consideration to issues such as how reporting on meeting SIDS' and Territories' needs can be undertaken when those needs have not been articulated (by way of reporting through the template), and to the relationship between reporting by way of the template and the CMS.

## Recommendation

- 21. The Commission is invited to:
  - a. consider the three-step reporting process reflected in the draft reporting template contained in Attachment A as the basis for CCM reporting under CMM 2013-06 paragraph 1 and CMM 2013-07 (excluding paragraph 3).
  - b. provide advice on the reporting process, including the relationship between reporting by way of the template and the CMS.

# DRAFT Reporting Template for CMM 2013-06 01 and CMM 2013-07 (excl 03)<sup>2</sup>

# SECTION 1 — REPORTING BY SIDS AND TERRITORY CCMS ON:

1. Identification and articulation of needs and priorities (CMM 2013-06, paragraph 1 and CMM 2013-07, paragraph 3)

Identify any development needs to enhance the development of CCM's domestic fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, including but not limited to, the high seas within the Convention Area related to:	Response
a) Capacity Development of Personnel	
b) Transfer of Fisheries Science and Technology	
c) Fisheries Conservation and Management, including	
any Capacity Development Plans	
d) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance	
e) Support for Domestic Fisheries Sectors and Tuna-	
Fisheries-Related Businesses and Market Access	
f) any other development needs	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Article 30 refers to "developing States, particularly the least developed among them and SIDS and territories". For convenience, this template refers to "SIDS and Territories", which for these purposes is inclusive of Philippines and Indonesia.

# 2. Capacity development of personnel (CMM 2013-07, paragraphs 4-5)

**Reporting Guidance**: In the table below, provide details of training, support, or capacity-building activities undertaken to develop the capacity of nationals of SIDS and Territories, including academic study, internships, technical or institutional training, or MCS-related programmes. Include activities delivered directly, through the Commission, or in addition to those funded via WCPFC budget lines.

	oe of Training, Support, or Capacity ilding	Projects or activities that have been completed or are currently being implemented to assist SIDS and Territories.	Dates / timeframe	Number of SIDS assisted	Estimated value USD (\$) of those projects or activities
a.	sponsorship of academic study and				
	training programmes				
b.	individualized training, including				
	internships				
c.	institutional support to regional or				
	sub-regional training programs for				
	observers, including through				
	providing financial and technical				
	support to enhance existing				
	programs				
d.	technical training and assistance in				
	data collection, scientific research,				
	stock assessment, bycatch				
	mitigation, fisheries science and				
	management, fisheries				
	administration and bioeconomic				
	analysis, including through in-				

	country training, workshops,		
	academic exchanges and		
	secondments		
e.	training related to monitoring,		
	control and surveillance activities,		
	including through in-country		
	training, workshops, secondments		
	and other personnel exchanges		

# 3. Transfer of Fisheries Science and Technology (CMM 2013-07 Paragraphs 6-7)

**Reporting guidance:** In the table below, provide details of any actions or cooperation undertaken to promote the transfer of fisheries science or technology to SIDS and Territories. Include both completed and ongoing activities and describe how these have contributed to SIDS' social and economic development.

Type of Technology or Support	Projects or activities that have been completed or are currently being implemented to assist SIDS and Territories	Outcomes / contribution to SIDS social and economic development	Dates / timeframe	Number of SIDS assisted	Estimated value USD (\$) of those projects or activities	Future arrangements or planned cooperation (if none, please explain)
a) Transfer of <b>fisheries science</b> with regard to the exploration, exploitation, conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks, and the protection and preservation of the marine environment						
b) Transfer of fisheries technology with regard to the exploration, exploitation, conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks, and the protection and preservation of the marine environment						

# 4. Fisheries conservation and management (CMM 2013-07 Paragraphs 8-9)

**Reporting guidance:** Under the WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme, if a SIDS or Participating Territory cannot meet an obligation due to lack of capacity, it may submit a Capacity Development Plan that explains what is preventing it from meeting the obligation, identifies the capacity assistance required, estimates the costs or technical resources, and outlines a timeframe within which it expects to meet the obligation once the assistance is provided. All current CDPs can be viewed <a href="here">here</a>. Please describe how the CCM has assisted SIDS and Territories with Capacity Development Plans during the reporting year, including the nature of the support provided (technical, financial, training, or policy), activities undertaken, value of assistance, and measurable outcomes achieved.

## 1. Capacity Development Plan (CDP) Assistance

Which **Capacity Development Plan/Plans (CDP)** has the CCM assisted with during the reporting year? Please provide details of the support provided, including:

- the CDP title and objective(s);
- the type of assistance (technical, financial, training, or policy);
- the activities undertaken, their value (USD or in-kind), and timeframe; and
- any measurable outcomes or progress achieved toward meeting the identified obligations
- If no support was provided, please explain why and identify any planned future cooperation to address CDP priorities.

Reporting guidance: In addition to CDP assistance, please describe how the CCM has provided broader support to SIDS and Participating

Territories to strengthen the implementation of the Convention, Conservation and Management Measures, and other Commission decisions, including improvements in fisheries data collection, reporting, verification, exchange, and analysis. Please outline the nature of support (technical, financial, training, or policy), activities undertaken, value (USD or in-kind), and measurable outcomes achieved during the reporting year.

## 2. Broader Fisheries Conservation and Management Assistance to SIDS and Territories

In addition to specific CDP assistance, please describe any assistance the CCM has provided to SIDS and Territories in improving the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks to assist in implementing:

- a. Obligations in the Convention;
- b. Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs);
- c. Other decisions of the Commission;
- d. The collection of fisheries data and related information;
- e. The reporting of fisheries data and related information;
- f. The verification of fisheries data and related information;
- g. The exchange of fisheries data and related information; and
- h. The analysis of fisheries data and related information.

5. Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (CMM 2013-07, paragraphs 11-12)

**Reporting guidance:** Provide details of how the CCM has cooperated, consistent with national laws and regulations, directly or through the Commission, to enhance the participation of SIDS and Territories in monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS). This includes cooperation through appropriate regional, sub-regional, or bilateral arrangements, such as training and capacity-building, development and funding of observer programmes, and provision of technology and equipment. If no assistance was provided during the reporting year, please explain why and outline any future cooperation planned.

- 1. How has the CCM cooperated to enhance the participation of SIDS and Territories in monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS), including through appropriate regional, sub-regional or bilateral arrangements, such as:
  - a) Training and capacity-building at the local level
  - b) Development and funding of national and sub-regional observer programmes
  - c) Access to technology and equipment
- 2. Are there any additional cooperative initiatives undertaken to enhance SIDS participation in MCS?

**Reporting guidance:** Provide details of how the CCM has coordinated inspection vessels, aircraft, equipment, and technology to enhance their participation in at-sea monitoring, control, surveillance, and enforcement activities. Include both complete and ongoing coordination and describe how these have supported SIDS' operational capacity and participation in MCS activities.

Type of Coordination	Description of Coordination	SIDS or Territories Involved	Dates/Timeframe	Estimated Value (USD \$)	Outcomes / Results	Future Cooperation or Follow-Up Planned
a) Coordination of inspection vessels						
b) Coordination of aircraft						
c) Coordination of equipment						
d) Coordination of technology						

6. Support for the Domestic Fisheries Sector and Tuna-Fisheries Related Businesses and Market Access (CMM 2013-07, paragraphs 12–18)

**Reporting guidance:** Provide details of how the CCM has cooperated with SIDS and Territories to support technical and economic development, investment, employment, trade, and market access in the region. Report on both direct and indirect support (e.g. bilateral cooperation, funding, training, joint ventures, or infrastructure initiatives). If no assistance was provided, please explain why and outline any planned future cooperation.

- 1. How has the CCM cooperated with SIDS and Territories, through technical and economic support, to assist them in achieving the objective of maximising benefits from the development of their fisheries resources?
  - Describe any projects, programmes, or partnerships undertaken, including funding or technical assistance provided.
  - Outline the measurable outcomes (e.g. infrastructure, training, revenue, or local participation).
- 2. How has the CCM endeavored to ensure that the domestic fishing and related industries of SIDS and Territories in the Convention Area account for at least fifty (50) percent of the total catch and value of highly migratory fish stocks harvested?
  - Identify any investments, collaborative arrangements, or joint-venture initiatives your CCM has supported with SIDS and Territories.
- 3. What steps has the CCM taken to ensure that actions are not taken which constrain coastal processing or use of transshipment facilities and associated vessels of SIDS and Territories, or undermine legitimate investment within SIDS and Territories?
  - Provide examples of policy, regulatory, or cooperative measures applied.
- 4. How has the CCM endeavored to cooperate with SIDS and Territories to:
  - a) take actions to maintain and increase employment opportunities for nationals of SIDS;
  - b) promote processing, landing, or transshipment of catches within designated SIDS ports;
  - c) encourage purchase of equipment and supplies, including fuel, from SIDS-based suppliers; and
  - d) encourage use of slipping and repair facilities located in SIDS?
  - Describe any actions, partnerships, or incentives that supported these efforts.

- 5. Has the CCM cooperated directly with SIDS and Territories to promote awareness of import conditions relevant to fish and fisheries products?
  - If yes, describe the outreach, engagement, or information-sharing activities undertaken.
- 6. How has the CCM endeavored to take appropriate action to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products that are not consistent with international laws and regulations, taking into account the importance of such trade for SIDS and Territories?
  - Provide details of any policy actions, advocacy, or cooperative mechanisms implemented.
- 7. How has the CCM endeavored to cooperate to identify and promote activities for the development of domestic tuna fisheries sectors and tuna-fisheries related businesses in SIDS and Territories?
  - Describe activities or initiatives implemented, partnerships developed, or future plans to enhance SIDS' domestic tuna industry participation.

## SECTION 3 — REPORTING BY SIDS AND TERRITORY CCMS IN RESPONSE TO SECTION 2:

**Reporting Guidance:** This section enables SIDS and Territories to provide feedback on how the assistance reported by non-SIDS CCMs in **Section 2** has supported their identified development needs, as set out in **Section 1**, from the previous reporting year

Guiding Questions to consider for responses in the table below:

- 1. To what extent has the assistance reported by non-SIDS CCMs addressed your development needs identified in Section 1, from the previous reporting year?
- 2. Has the assistance strengthened your capacity to develop, manage, or benefit from your domestic fisheries for highly migratory fish stocks, including within the high seas areas of the Convention Area?
- 3. Were there any areas where the assistance was insufficient, delayed, or not well aligned with your priorities?
- 4. What additional capacity, support, or cooperation would help address any remaining needs?

Focus area	Your Development Needs Identified in Section 1 from the previous reporting year	Was Assistance Received? If yes, by which Projects or Activities Reported by Non-SIDS CCMs (from Section 2)	Was the Assistance Adequate and Aligned with Your Needs? (Yes/No – please explain)	Outcomes or Benefits Realised	Outstanding Needs / Gaps Identified
a) Capacity Development of Personnel					
b) Transfer of Fisheries Science and Technology					

c) Fisheries				
Conservation and				
Management /				
Capacity				
Development Plans				
d) Monitoring,				
Control and				
Surveillance				
e) Support for				
Domestic Fisheries				
Sectors and Tuna-				
Fisheries-Related				
Businesses and				
Market Access				
f) Other				
development needs				
Any Additional Com	ments / Observations /	Recommendations:		