



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

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NON-CCM FLAG CARRIER AND BUNKER VESSELS

WCPFC-TCC5-2009/11

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Introduction

1. The Fifth Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC5) adopted a recommendation from the Fourth Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC4) that the exemption for non-CCM carrier and bunker vessels be extended for a further year. However, WCPFC5 identified as a priority for 2009 the determination of a more lasting solution to the issue of non-CCM flag carriers and bunkers. This paper provides options on this issue for TCC5's consideration.

Background

2. The WCPFC Temporary Register of Fish Carriers and Bunkers established by the Third Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC3) in December 2006 comprises vessels that are exempted from paragraph A(1)(c) of CMM 2004-01. At the time of this paper's preparation this exemption applied to 122 fish carriers flagged to 11 non-CCMs and 23 bunker vessels flagged to five (5) non-CCMs (**Attachment 1**).

3. At present the only proposal for a more lasting solution to this issue is that submitted by Marshall Islands at the Fourth Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC4) as WCPFC4-2007/DP09. This proposal suggested amendment of CMM 2004-01 so as to allow the operation of such vessels through the establishment of a separate, permanent, registry for bunkers and carriers flagged to non-CCMs. This proposal, amended by a small group during WCPFC4 (WCPFC4-2007/28) provides two options for consideration on the control of non-CMM support vessels:

- a. CCMs to exercise control as part of agreements with non-CCM support vessel providers;
and
- b. imposition of obligations on the flag State of non-CCM support vessels.

Discussion

4. TCC5 is invited to consider options, including those presented in WCPFC4-2007/28, in relation to this issue, that may be informed by discussions under TCC5 Agenda Item 2.3 "Transshipment Verification Procedures".

Attachment 1

Flag State	Fish Carriers	Bunkers
Bahamas	4	0
Cambodia	5	0
Cyprus	2	0
Honduras	0	1
Isle of Man	1	0
Netherlands Antilles	3	0
Panama	91	7
Russian Federation	8	2
Sierra Leone	1	1
Singapore	1	12
St Vincent and the Grenadines	1	0
Thailand	5	0
TOTAL	122	23