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Submitted by Chinese Taipei

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, I would like to extend my appreciation to the government of French Polynesia for hosting this meeting, and Ambassador Nandan, our chair and the Secretariat for their hard work and diligence in preparing the meeting.

There are many outstanding issues to be addressed in the meeting, such as Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) application, Transshipment, IUU vessel listing, Regional Observer Program, IUU fishing vessels list, High seas VDS, Charter Arrangements and WCPFC record of fishing vessels and authorization to fish. I hope that we could fully discuss these issues and reach consensus.

For those MCS measures already adopted and to be adopted, we believe that they should be reviewed on a periodical basis to ensure their effectiveness and practicability. Chinese Taipei is willing to work with other members to contribute our efforts on these issues. Chinese Taipei is also willing to cooperate with other members to facilitate the enforcement of the current conservation and management measures and to combat IUU fishing, in achieving the goal of conservation of the fish stocks of concern. Such MCS mechanism involves the enforcement agencies of all members of the Commission. We would like to stress that we respect the sovereign right of coastal members in the Convention in conserving and managing the fisheries resources in their waters of jurisdiction, and the process in addressing matters on intrusion of their waters should be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the WCPFC Convention and measures adopted by the Commission. The Commission may think of a way to facilitate solving of such disputes. A mechanism for a standard sanction applicable by coastal States in the region for similar violations could be one of the ways worth thinking by the Commission.

Finally, I wish this session of WCPFC a fruitful result.