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PNA PROPOSED CMM TO CLOSE PURSE SEINE FISHING IN ADDITIONAL HIGH SEAS AREAS

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Paper prepared by PNA Group



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5 November 2010

Professor Glen Hurry
Executive Director
WCPFC Secretariat
Kolonia, Pohnpei
Federated States of Micronesia

Dear Professor Hurry,

Re: High Seas Closures

Please find attached a draft Conservation and Management Measure proposing closure to purse seine fishing in additional high seas. The PNA have prepared this proposal based on their decision to amend the Third Implementing Arrangement to prohibit licensed vessels from fishing in these areas.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Wez Norris (wez.norris@ffa.int).

Yours sincerely,

Glen Joseph PNA Chair

PNA PROPOSAL FOR HIGH SEAS CLOSURES

Conservation and Management Measure on High Seas Closures to Purse Seine Fishing Vessels

Noting that the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) have agreed to amend the Third Implementing Arrangement to the Nauru Agreement to prohibit purse seine vessels licensed to fish in PNA EEZs from undertaking fishing operations on the high seas in addition to those areas already closed through the 3IA and CMM 2008-01.

Recalling that Article 8 of the Convention requires the Commission to introduce conservation and management measures for the high seas that are compatible with those adopted for EEZs;

Concerned about the potential impacts of purse seine effort transfer into the eastern high seas of the Convention Area in terms of bigeye tuna bycatch;

Adopts, in accordance with Article 10 of the Convention, the following Measure, which is to be read in conjunction with CMM 2008-01:

- All high seas areas located within 10°N and 20°S latitude and 170°E and 150°W longitude, including those already closed to purse seine fishing by virtue of paragraph 22 of CMM 2008-01 shall be closed to all purse seine fishing operations from 2011 onwards.
- 2. This measure shall remain in force until repealed or replaced by the Commission.