

## COMMISSION NINTH REGULAR SESSION

Manila, Philippines 2-6 December 2012

**Special Requirements of Small Island Developing States** 

WCPFC9-2012-DP32 28 November 2012

## **Special Requirements of Small Island Developing States**

In giving effect to Article 30 and Resolution 2008-01, FFA Members have requested previously that developed CCMs target their assistance to SIDS in the following areas:

- (a) increased commercialism of tuna fisheries and related industries;
- (b) enhanced capacity for conservation and management of fisheries by SIDS; and
- (c) broader cooperation of the importance of rights-based management.

More specifically, we have identified SIDS needs and priorities throughout the agenda under the following particular agenda items:

- (i) ensuring in the revision of CMM 2008-01/CMM 2011-01 that there is no disproportionate burden of bigeye conservation on SIDS;
- (ii) ensuring in the management of the fisheries for South pacific albacore and the revision of CMM 2008-01/CMM 2011-01, that CCMs contribute to increasing the participation of SIDS in the WCPO tuna fisheries;
- (iii) ensuring effective participation of SIDS in the Compliance Monitoring Scheme process so that SIDS are not marginalised including through improvements such as streamlining of the reporting obligations;
- (iv) ensuring SIDS are being assisted in the implementation of Commission obligations as required by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme, including through capacity-building, rather than using the scheme primarily to penalise SIDS;
- supporting the RMI "flick the switch" proposal to give access to in-zone VMS data, to assist all members to undertake monitoring and surveillance more effectively, and in particular this assists SIDS who have limited MCS tools;
- (vi) providing a budget for SIDS participation in the NC meeting;
- (vii) ensuring that the Special Requirements Fund is not used to fund SIDS nationals to undertake core work of the Commission;
- (viii) ensuring that the proposed port states measure must clearly articulate assistance mechanisms that would support implementation by SIDS given that the implementation burden is placed disproportionately on port states many of which are SIDS;
- (ix) facilitating the use of the Regional Observer Program Support Fund to assist SIDS in developing port sampling programs related to purse seine carrier transhipments;
- (x) ensuring that priority for ROP funding be given to the national observer programmes of SIDS which are developing means of electronic collection of data:
- (xi) ensuring a rationalisation of Commission workloads, including a prioritisation of issues, and duly structuring and streamlining of agendas for all WCPFC related meetings as this would allow a proper consideration of what the realistic options for meeting structures are as well as what works best for SIDS.