



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
6th Regular Session
30th September - 5th October 2010
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
Cross Endorsement of Observers (Draft)

WCPFC7-2010-DP/25 Rev 2
10 December 2010

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION (MOC) ON THE CROSS-ENDORSEMENT OF WCPFC
AND IATTC APPROVED OBSERVERS WHEN OBSERVING ON THE HIGH SEAS OF THE
CONVENTION AREAS OF BOTH ORGANIZATIONS**

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between

**THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN**

and

THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

UNDERSTANDING the value of undertaking cooperative efforts to facilitate the operation of vessels that fish in both Convention Areas during the same fishing trip;

CONSIDERING the Memorandum of Understanding between WCPFC and IATTC signed in 2006 and the Memorandum of Cooperation signed in 2009;

CONFIRM the following conditions for the cross-endorsement of approved observers to operate on authorized vessels that undertake fishing operations in the convention areas of both organizations:

1. The IATTC and the WCPFC recognize the importance of facilitating mutual cooperative participation among the members of both Commissions.
2. The IATTC and the WCPFC recognize that their respective observer programs meet the standards of both Commissions by collecting accurate data on fishing activities essential to the conservation and management of the fish stocks covered by their respective Conventions.

3. Vessels with observers may fish in the IATTC Convention Area only if they are included on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register, or may fish in the WCPFC Convention Area only if they are included on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels.
4. Cross-endorsement for an observer will be given only when the IATTC and WCPFC Secretariats agree that the observer has met the necessary training requirements for operating on vessels that fish on the high seas in both Convention Areas and such requirements will be of the same standard.
5. It is understood that the relevant data and information requirements of each Commission will be met by the cross-endorsed observers when the vessel in question is in the high seas in the respective Convention Areas.
6. All data and information collected by observers operating on trips that extend into the high seas of the Convention Area of the other organization will be provided to both the IATTC and WCPFC Secretariats, in accordance with procedures for the respective Commission and will be considered to be held by the respective Commission.
7. Each Secretariat will identify the data and information required for its Commission and will ensure that observers will be able to meet all such requirements with respect to vessels fishing within the high seas in that Commission's Convention Area.
8. Data and information collected by an observer cross-endorsed by the IATTC and WCPFC Secretariats may be used for compliance purposes and in legal proceedings.
9. The Secretariats may assist in facilitating the training of observers that meet cross-endorsement requirements, with a view towards developing a core group of observers who may be assigned to vessels operating on the high seas in both Convention Areas to meet the requirements of both IATTC and WCPFC with respect to observers.
10. The provisions of this MOC may also apply to specified areas of either organisation which are not high seas, in accordance with relevant approval procedures of each Commission, and when so advised by the Secretariat of the relevant Commission to the other Secretariat that the coastal ~~Contracting Member~~ CCM/CPC in question has requested use of cross-endorsed observers.
11. Cross-endorsement for an observer by the IATTC and WCPFC Secretariats does not affect the application of domestic legislation and procedures of coastal ~~Contracting Members~~ CCM/CPC of either organisation.
12. An observer cross-endorsed by the IATTC and WCPFC remains under the control of the respective national or subregional observer programme and will be made available to fulfil duties in the IATTC Convention Area subject to approval of such programmes. Unless agreed otherwise by such programmes, this MOC does not create any obligation on cross-endorsed observers or programmes.

13. This MOC is subject to periodic review, and may be modified as agreed by both Commissions. Either Commission may terminate this MOC with three months' notice of such intention to the other Commission.

Signed on behalf of the WCPFC and the IATTC: