



WCPFC10
Tenth Regular Session
2th December – 6th December 2013
Cairns, AUSTRALIA

ADVICE ON PURSE SEINE EEZ LIMITS – SAMOA

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17 November 2013

This letter was received by WCPFC Secretariat on 13 November 2013



GOVERNMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade



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12 November 2013

Professor Glen Hurry
Executive Director
Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
Pohnpei
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

Dear Sir,

Formal Declaration of catch and effort limits within the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Independent State of Samoa.

Samoa is a small island developing State which relies heavily on its EEZ fisheries for the sustainable economic development of its people. In this regard Samoa takes its obligations to properly manage and conserve its marine and highly migratory fisheries resources very seriously.

Given that our fisheries resource is an important food sustenance for our people, and a substantial source of economic revenue for our country, we are continuously working to secure the long-term future of these important fish stocks, to improve the economic benefits we can derive from them.

Furthermore, Samoa continues to faithfully participate in the work of the Western and Central Pacific Commission (WCPFC) with this important responsibility in mind, and furthermore meet its obligations as a member of WCPFC.

Therefore pursuant to CMM 2012-01, that was adopted by the WCPFC in December 2012, Paragraph 14 states that members shall establish effort limits or equivalent catch limits for purse seine fisheries within their EEZs reflecting geographical distributions of skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tunas. In this case Samoa puts forward herewith the effort limit for purse seine fisheries for its EEZ as 150 fishing days per annum. Samoa will ensure that every effort is taken so as not to exceed this limit.

It should be noted that we have obligations under the Multilateral Treaty with the United States, including an obligation on non-PNA countries, to allow up to a total collective fishing effort of 300 days for vessels fishing pursuant to the Multilateral Treaty, within non-PNA EEZs. Non-PNA members are and will continue to work

together to ensure that our collective limits are not exceeded as a result of this obligation.

It should also be noted that the limits that we have adopted include room for further development of our fisheries, consistent with the WCPF Convention. These are provided, without prejudice to our future position on the above named fisheries, and our ability to revise and adjust our fisheries management frameworks, including catch or effort limits.

I request your kind assistance in making available this letter as a delegation paper for the 10th Regular Session of the Commission, where we hope to make a short statement outlining to the Commission that we have established these limits.

Samoa looks forward to continuing to engage in the work of the Commission in pursuing the Convention's Objectives.

Thank you

Yours faithfully,



Palepa Ng Chok-Amosa
Acting Chief Executive Officer