



**1<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE FAD MANAGEMENT OPTIONS INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP**

Stones Hotel, Bali, Indonesia  
27 – 28 November 2015

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**COMMENTS ON CHAIRS DISCUSSION PAPER TO TCC11 (TCC11-2015-24)**

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**WCPFC-2015-FADMgmtOptionsIWG01-DP02**

**5 November 2015**

**Paper by Japan**

## Japan's comments on WCPFC-TCC11-2015-24

### General Comments

- Japan would like to express our gratitude for efforts of the WG chair develop the paper.
- At the coming WG meeting, Japan would like to discuss and clarify priority of objectives of WG based on its TOR at first.
- Noting that the WG was established as the result of discussion at WCPFC11 related to paragraph 38 of CMM2013-01, Japan considers the objective of FAD management is primarily for conservation and management of tropical tunas (bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack). The priority matter is management of fishing activities associated with FAD, not FAD itself.
- Noting WCPFC observers collect wide range of data using SPC/FFA GEN-5 form, the work to recognize and analyze what the WG can do using the current data set should be done at the early stage.
- In discussion of additional filed of data to be collect, keeping balance between importance of the data in the scientific and/or management aspect and increased burden of observers and/or vessels is indispensable.
- It should be recognized in the WG that meaning of "FAD" is different by each management option. For example Japan considers that "FAD" covered by the FAD Identification means anchored, drifting, floating or submerged objects deployed and/or tracked by vessels, including through the use of radio and/or satellite buoys, for the purpose of aggregating tuna for purse-seine fishing operations.
- Development of rules on confidentiality of collected data is required because some data, such as points of deployment of FADs, are confidential business information.
- IATTC established *ad hoc* WG on FADs in 2015. Noting these are many common items covered by the two WGs, close communication with IATTC WG would be beneficial.

### Response to a questionnaire

Japan does not intend to make comments, at this stage, on responses from a subset of the CCMs and the Science Service Provider shown in Attachment I of the document. Additional responses from Japan are as follows:

1. *What is the reason for collecting additional information on FADs?*

Following are required in order to response this question.

- 1) Setting of object
- 2) Analysis whether current data set collected by observers et al. is enough for the object or not

2. *What information would be useful to add value to stock assessments?*

- ✓ Data on movement of FADs deployed
- ✓ Data on improvement of fishing efficiency in FAD fishery

3. *What information would be useful to add value to fisheries management for species caught in association with FADs?*

The amount of bycatch (bigeye and yellowfin) landed

4. *Does the WCPFC currently collect information on FADs?*

None

5. *What information is collected?*

None

6. *How is that information collected?*

None

7. *How the FAD information is made available for the Commission use currently?*

None

8. *What additional data fields are needed to collect the relevant information?*

Following are required in order to response this question.

1) Setting of object

2) Analysis whether current data set collected by observers et al. is enough for the object or not

9. *What is the most efficient (cost and timeliness) method of collecting and transmitting the additional data to WCPFC?*

Provision of data from a buoy company to the WCPFC via the flag CCM with agreement from the fishermen deployed FADs with the buoy.

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