



**TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION
Bali, Indonesia
3-8 December 2015**

**Proposed Revisions to the Commission VMS SSP's With Respect To
ALC Type Approvals**

**WCPFC12-2015-DP13rev1
5 December 2015
1900**

Prepared by the USA

**Proposal by the United States of America
to the Twelfth Regular Session of the
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission**

Revisions to the Commission VMS SSPs with respect to ALC Type Approvals

TCC11 noted with concern the findings of the failure of at least 41 vessels to report to the Commission VMS and the urgency of resolving that problem (paragraph 232 of the draft report of TCC11).

The United States agreed at TCC11 to lead the process up to WCPFC12 to further consider revisions to the Standards, Specifications and Procedures for the Commission VMS (VMS SSPs) to address the problem. As of the date of submitting this proposal, the United States has not received any further input from other Commission members.

The United States proposes revisions to the VMS SSPs as shown on the following page. The approach proposed here is somewhat simpler than the approach proposed to TCC11 (in TCC11-DP09_rev1).

The United States believes that additional changes to the VMS SSPs and/or other Commission VMS-related documents might be needed to strengthen the ALC unit approval process, as well as to address other VMS issues, such as those identified by the small working group on VMS in 2012, as described in TCC11-16. However, recognizing that full consideration of those issues will require additional time, the United States offers this proposal as an expedient way to address the urgent problem identified by TCC11.

Standards, specifications and procedures (SSP) for the fishing vessel monitoring system (VMS) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

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2. *Methods to ensure ALCs comply with WCPFC standards*

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6. In preparing the initial list of approved ALCs, the WCPFC Secretariat will take into account lists approved by existing regional and sub-regional VMS programmes and lists approved by CCMs.

7. The Secretariat will assess proposals for inclusion of additional ALC makes and models on this list from both CCMs and equipment manufacturers and make recommendations for the TCC's consideration and the Commission's approval. Approval of ALCs ~~such requests~~ will be based on the Secretariat's assessments of ALCs against minimum standards for the Commission VMS as set out in Annex 1 of CMM 201407-02 (or successor measure), WCPFC SSPs, as relevant, by determining that the ALC make and model has the ability to successfully report to the Commission VMS, and by using the methodology established by the FFA with expenses for type approval processing to be borne by the proposing entity. By 31 December July 2016, and as needed thereafter, the Secretariat will recommend removal from the list of approved ALC types any makes and models it has determined do not meet the minimum standards set out in Annex 1 of CMM 201407-02 (or successor measure), or do not have the ability to successfully report to the Commission VMS. If an ALC make and model is removed from the list of approved ALC types, flag States will, within two years after the Commission's decision, ensure that their fishing vessels replace non-type approved ALCs with approved ALCs.

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