

2nd MEETING OF THE FAD MANAGEMENT OPTIONS INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia 28 – 30 September 2016

PNAO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSAL FOR DATA TO INFORM FAD DATA COLLECTION THROUGH FISHING VESSEL CATCH LOGSHEETS SET OUT IN WCPFC-SC12-ST-WP-08

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PNA Office



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The PNAO has the following comments on the proposal:

- a) The proposal provides a good basis for discussion in the Working Group
- b) As we see it, three sets of data required:
 - i) The trip level data in the form of a trip FAD data log to be completed and provided by the vessel operator. This should include:
 - an inventory of the FAD buoys on board at the start of a trip,
 - a record of each FAD activity during the trip linked to a description of the FAD attachment and catch data where appropriate; and
 - an inventory of the FAD buoys on board at the end of the trip
 This is quite close to the fields proposed in SC12-ST-WP-08 with some additional details and structure.
 - ii) a description of the physical characteristics of each FAD attachment to be completed and provided by the vessel operator. This is likely to be based on the existing ROP fields from the GEN-5 form for:
 - Main FAD Materials
 - Attachment Materials
 - Width, breadth, depth

as set out in SC12-ST-WP-08, noting that it should be possible to replace the current observer sketches with photos when this information is provided by the vessel operator.

iii) a set of data on FAD activities provided by the observer. This will be a set of fields to be collected and provided by the observer, largely as verification of the reporting by the vessel operator, so it would probably include the inventories and records of FAD activities referred to in i) above. In addition, most of the observers (those operating in PNA waters) will have appropriate access to data from the PNA electronic FAD tracking programme