



**TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**

28 September – 4 October 2011
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

PROPOSAL TO MODIFY VMS SSPs RELATED TO MANUAL REPORTING

**WCPFC-TCC7-2011-DP/19 Rev. 2
4 October 2011**

Manual Reporting – Rev.2

TCC7 reviewed the remaining bracketed text in the Commission VMS SSPs in paragraphs 5.4 and 5.5 related to manual reporting. CCMs were not able to agree on final text for these provisions, but wish to ensure that there is a manual reporting requirement and a requirement for vessels to return to port. Several CCMs suggested that it would be helpful if the Secretariat could prepare a report on manual reporting for consideration by TCC8.

TCC7 agreed to revise the language in paragraphs 5.4 and 5.5 provisionally for one year, pending review of the Secretariat's paper on manual reporting. The revised language does not reflect final agreement on either the period of manual reporting or the length of time that a vessel may continue to fish while manually reporting.

TCC7 agrees that Coastal States laws and regulations continue to apply with respect to manual reporting with respect to VMS breakdown where vessels are in coastal state jurisdictions and note Section 1 relating to application to VMS in the Commission SSPs

For 2012, the Commission's VMS SSPs will be modified to read as follows:

4. In the event of non-reception of two consecutive, programmed high seas VMS positions, and where the Secretariat has exhausted all reasonable steps to re-establish normal automatic reception of VMS positions the Secretariat shall inform the vessel's flag State CCM and the vessel Master. From the time of transmission of this communication to the CCM, the vessel Master shall be required to take immediate steps to re-establish automatic reporting. During this period the vessel shall be required to report its position manually to the Secretariat. Until the Commission adopts a manual reporting period, CCMs must ensure that their vessels manually

report at a period of 8 hours or less.

4bis. In cases where automatic reporting has not been re-established, the CCM shall order the vessel to cease fishing, stow all fishing gear and return to port. Until the Commission adopts a specific length of time that the vessel may remain at sea while manually reporting, CCMs must ensure that their vessels return to port no later than 45 days after notification that automatic reporting has ceased unless automatic reporting has recommenced. The vessel may recommence fishing on the high seas only when the ALC has been confirmed as operational by the Secretariat following the flag State CCM informing the Secretariat that the vessel's automatic reporting complies with the regulations established in this SSP.

~~[5. In exceptional circumstances, the flag State CCM may extend the period established in paragraph 4 for an additional consecutive [15] days during which time the vessel will continue to report its position manually every [4] hours to the Secretariat while on the high seas. When such permission is provided the flag State CCM shall provide a report to the Secretariat as to the nature of the exceptional circumstances and steps taken to re-establish automatic reporting. Such reports shall be included in the Secretariat's annual report on the operations of the Commission's VMS to the TCC as required under paragraph 7.3.9.]~~