



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

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Concept Note to Potentially Amend CMM 2017-05

To Expand the Requirement for IMO Numbers

WCPFC-TCC14-2018-DP02

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Paper by the United States of America

**Concept Note to the
Fourteenth Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee
to Potentially Amend CMM 2017-05
To Expand the Requirement for IMO Numbers**

The International Maritime Organization (IMO), on 6 December 2017, approved amendments to the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme (IMO Resolution A.1117(30)) expanding fishing vessels' eligibility for IMO numbers to all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 meters in length overall (LOA) authorized to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State. Previously, the IMO number scheme applied to fishing vessels larger than 100 gross tons (GT) or gross registered tons (GRT). Expanding IMO numbers to smaller vessels on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels (RFV) would, as noted in Conservation and Management Measure for WCPFC Implementation of a Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI) (CMM 2013-04), improve the Commission's monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) programs.

The United States suggests TCC14 consider recommending that the Commission amend Conservation and Management Measure for WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish (CMM 2017-05) to align with IMO Resolution A.1117(30) by requiring motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size of 12 meters in length overall (LOA) to have an IMO number. This could be done by amending Footnote 4 of CMM 2017-05 by appending the following text, "Effective 1 April 2020, flag CCMs shall ensure that all their motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size of 12 meters in length overall (LOA), authorized to be used for fishing in the Convention Area beyond the flag CCM's area of national jurisdiction have an IMO or LR number issued."