



**TO ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS, COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS,
PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS**

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High Seas Boarding and Inspection Scheme (CMM 2006-08): Authorities of the Fishing Vessel

Dear All,

I wish to advise that the United States of America has informed the Secretariat of its intention to raise under Agenda Item 4 of the Agenda for WCPFC15 an issue under CMM 2006-08 concerning the defined term of "Authorities of the Fishing Vessel". The United States explained that:

"Under CMM 2006-08, the Commission's high seas boarding and inspection procedures depend on effective communication between inspecting CCMs and flag CCMs, and with respect to the latter, the measure includes multiple provisions that refer to "Authorities of the Fishing Vessel", which is a defined term. However, there is no explicit requirement for CCMs to identify their respective Authorities of the Fishing Vessel for the purpose of the measure. In fact, many CCMs have not identified such authorities. As a result, the United States has had difficulties identifying and contacting the relevant authorities in many cases, which has hampered effective implementation of the measure. The United States would like to see this problem addressed and resolved at WCPFC15, and we will be prepared to offer possible ways forward."

For your information and advance notice.

Yours sincerely,



**Feleti Penitala Teo, OBE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**