



**COMMISSION
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
10-15 December 2018

**PROPOSAL FOR AMENDING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE 2017-01
FOR THE USE OF NON-ENTANGLING FADs IN WCPFC FISHERIES**

**WCPFC15-2018-DP0_rev1
13 December 2018
1630**

European Union

EUROPEAN UNION

PROPOSAL FOR AMENDING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE 2017-01 FOR THE USE OF NON-ENTANGLING FADs IN WCPFC FISHERIES

NON-ENTANGLING AND BIODEGRADABLE FADS

19. To reduce the risk of entanglement of sharks, sea turtles or any other species, as from 1st July 2019, CCMs shall ensure that the design and construction of any FAD to be deployed in the WCPFC Convention Area shall be based on the following specifications:

- The floating or raft part (flat or rolled structure) of the FAD can be covered or not. To the extent possible the use of mesh net should be avoided. If the FAD is covered with mesh net, it must have a stretched mesh size less than 7 cm (2.5 inches) and the mesh net must be well wrapped around the whole raft so that there is no netting hanging below the FAD when it is deployed.
- The design of the underwater or hanging part (tail) of the FAD should avoid the use of mesh net. If mesh net is used, it must have a stretched mesh size of less than 7 cm (2.5 inches) or tied tightly in bundles or “sausages” with enough weight at the end to keep the netting taut down in the water column. Alternatively, a single weighted panel (less than 7 cm (2.5 inches) stretched mesh size net or solid sheet such as canvas or nylon) can be used.
- The use of non-plastic and biodegradable materials should be prioritised.

20. To reduce the amount of synthetic marine debris, the use of natural or biodegradable materials for FADs should be promoted.

21. The Scientific Committee shall continue to review research results on the use of non-entangling material and biodegradable material for FADs design and construction, and shall provide specific recommendations to the Commission as appropriate.

22. The Commission at its 2020 annual session, based on specific guidelines defined by the FAD Management Options Intersessional Working Group and advice from SC16 and TCC16 shall consider the adoption of measures on the implementation of non-entangling and/or biodegradable FADs.