

**TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE Fifteenth Regular Session** 25 September – 1 October 2019 Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

## ANNUAL REPORT ON PORT INSPECTIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PORT STATE MEASURES

WCPFC-TCC15-2019-RP07 9 August 2019

### Paper by the Secretariat

#### Purpose

1. This paper provides for the information of TCC15, a summary of reported activities relating to port state measures under *Conservation and Management Measure on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures* (CMM 2017-02) with the objective to establish processes and procedures to guide CCMs when requesting that port inspections be undertaken on fishing vessels suspected of engaging in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of IUU fishing.

### Designation of ports and contacts for purpose of CMM 2017-02

2. CMM 2017-02 states that each port CCM is encouraged to designate ports for the purposes of inspection through the provision of a list of its designated ports to the Executive Director. The Executive Director then shall establish and maintain a record of designated ports base on the lists submitted by port CCMs. In addition, each port CCM shall notify the Commission of a contact point for the purposes of this measure. Further, CCMs that establish port State measures shall publicize all relevant measures in an appropriate manner and shall advise the Commission to facilitate wider distribution through posting on the WCPFC website.

3. As at 31 July 2019, five CCMs (Australia, Thailand, Japan, New Zealand and United States) have submitted advice of its designated ports and have also submitted information on contact point for the purposes of CMM 2017-02.

### Summary of information relating to port state inspection

4. To date, there have been no reports received by WCPFC related to port inspection activities undertaken pursuant to CMM 2017-02. However, one port CCM exercised its right to deny entry into one of its port from one fishing vessel in 2018 as it sought further information to verify legality of the catch onboard the vessel. This denial of port entry was eventually canceled by the port CCM after receiving the information it was after and was satisfied that the catch was

not taken illegally. In addition, pursuant to Article 25(2) of the Convention, the Secretariat has continued to receive advice of a limited number of requests for flag CCM investigations as a result of port inspection activities undertaken by CCMs. A summary of the records of compliance cases during 2015 - date is provided in Table 1.<sup>1</sup>

Annex 1: Summary of outcome of flag CCM investigations of alleged infringements that were notified to WCPFC as Article 25(2) matters, based on Port Inspection activities (covering the period 1 January 2015 – 31 July 2019)

	Flag CCM Notified	Flag CCM Investigation Completed				Flag CCM Investigation	Grand	
		Infraction - no sanction	Infraction - sanction	Infraction - warning	No infraction	Completed Total	Total	
VMS reporting issue (CMM 2011-02/CMM 2014-02)								
2015	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	
2018	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	
Unauthorised transhipment or transhipment reporting issue								
2018	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	
Fishing while not in the RFV or no evidence of authorisation								
2017	0	0	2	0	4	6	6	
2018	0				1	1	1	
Vessel and gear marking (CMM 2004-03)								
2015	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	

### Review of CMM 2017-02

5. CMM 2017-02 specifies that a review will be undertaken within two years of its entry into force (CMM 2017-02 as a decision from WCPFC14, entered into force on 6 February 2018). For ease of reference this is the text from paragraph 28 and 29 of CMM 2017-02:

"28. The Commission shall review this measure within 2 years of its entry in to force, which shall include but not be limited to an evaluation of its effectiveness, and any financial and administrative burdens associated with its implementation.

29. In the review of this measure, the Commission may consider additional elements such as notification requirements, port entry, authorization or denial, use of ports, and additional inspection requirements."

# Recommendation

6. TCC15 is invited to:	
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a. note the updates in the paper; and

b. review CMM 2017-02 in accordance with its paragraph 28 and 29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Secretariat has established a dedicated page on the website and will periodically include updates and notifications pertaining to CMM 2017-02 notifications at <u>https://www.wcpfc.int/wcpfc-port-state-minimum-standards</u>