

TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Eighth Regular Session 27 September- 2 October 2012 Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE

WCPFC-TCC8-2012/DP06_rev1 17 September 2012

Paper from Niue on behalf of TVM Arrangement participants (Cook Islands, New Zealand, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau and Kingdom of Tonga)



Mr Brendon Pasisi, Director Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Niue

Chair of Te Vaka Moana Arrangement Participants

12 September 2012

Re: South Pacific Albacore

Dear Charles and Glenn,

I write to you on behalf of the Participants to Te Vaka Moana (TVM) Arrangement (the fisheries administrations of the Cook Islands, New Zealand, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau and the Kingdom of Tonga).

At the Regular Session in Guam we (along with other FFA Members) worked to engender a discussion to improve the existing measure for South Pacific Albacore.

Pleasingly, the work received expressions of support, for which we remain very thankful.However, time constraints, made it impossible for us to work through the questions and points made by some WCPFC Members in Guam. We hope that this situation can be avoided at future WCPFC meetings.

We seek your ongoing support to ensure that sufficient time is allocated for discussions on south pacific albacore in WCPFC meetings, going forward.

South pacific albacore remains a high priority to TVM Participants, and other WCPFC Members who participate in the line fisheries of the South Pacific.

TVMParticipants are committed to improving the management of south pacific albacore and are looking to play our part, by putting in place zone based catch limits for each of our EEZs. We also may table a revised proposal for the south pacific albacore CMM for the Regular Session in Manila.

However, before tabling or seeking to advance any proposals, we would first like to explore the opportunity to sit down for an informal discussion with all who have an interest in this fishery, in order to exchange ideas and to strengthen relationships with one another.

We would like to stress that we are looking for a positive and constructive discussion, with the view to forming a "partnership" approach to the management of this fishery.



With TCC fast approaching we would like to propose that two hours be set aside, for an informal discussion about south pacific albacore. We hope that by having an informal meeting, we may be able to have an open exchange of ideas and views with one another, and that this may positively influence our formal work with one another.

We ask that you circulate this proposal to other WCPFC Members, canvas their views on the proposal for an informal discussion, and identify potential time slots where we might be able to have an informal meeting about south pacific albacore.

Thank you for you help and assistance with our request in advance, and I know that TVM Participants look forward to working with you closely at TCC at the end of the month.

With kind regards

19/12.

Brendon Pasisi Chair Tevaka Moana Arrangement