



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE: EUROPEAN UNION PROPOSAL FOR A CMM ON WCPFC
SCHEME FOR MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR INSPECTION IN PORT**

WCPFC-TCC8-2012/DP12

23 September 2012

Explanatory Memorandum

**EUROPEAN UNION PROPOSAL FOR A
CMM on WCPFC SCHEME FOR MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR INSPECTION IN
PORT**

Goal: this CMM would contribute to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, and in particular of highly migratory stocks, in the WCPFC Convention Area through strengthened, harmonized and transparent minimum standards for inspections in port to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

New elements: as compared with the EU proposal submitted in 2010 and 2011 this simplified proposal abandons the fully-fledge FAO Port State Measures approach in favour of a step-by-step approach. This proposal represents a first step with a focus on the most essential elements of port inspections: designation of ports, prior notifications, inspections and infringements. It is better aligned with the requests from small island developing coastal CCMs as it also includes a number of simplified provisions taking into account the limitations of small administrations.

Rationale: in coherence with the role of port States in the adoption of effective measures to promote the sustainable use and the long term conservation of living marine resources, this CMM foresees the agreement by CCMs on a list of minimum standards for port inspections including designated ports to which vessels may request entry, a system of prior notification, the verification of landings and transshipments, port inspections, and inspection and infringement procedures.

In addition, a port inspection measure adopted by WCPFC will improve the results of the measures aimed towards conservation of tuna and tuna-like species in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and ensure consistency with management measures taken in other RFMOs. This will contribute to more responsible management of the stocks under WCPFC mandate.