

COMMISSION NINTH REGULAR SESSION

Manila, Philippines 2-6 December 2012

EU Proposal for a Conservation and Management Measure on Fisheries and Access Agreements Information

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The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission,

AWARE of the data reporting requirements for all CCMs and the importance of complete statistical reporting to the work of the Scientific Committee and the Commission;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure transparency among CCMs, in particular to facilitate joint efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing;

RECALLING the duties of CCMs concerning IUU fisheries as stated in the Conservation and Management Measure to Establish a List of Vessels Presumed to have Carried out Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Activity in the WCPFC; which requires CCMs to ensure that their vessels do not conduct fishing activities within areas under the national jurisdiction of other States without authorisation and/or infringe the coastal State's laws and resolutions;

ADOPTS, in accordance with the provisions of Article 20 of the WCPFC Convention, the following:

- 1. Contracting Members and Cooperating non-Members (CCMs) that allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by WCPFC, and CCMs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CCM or non-Contracting party (NCP) for species managed by WCPFC pursuant to an agreement, shall, individually or jointly, notify the Commission prior to beginning fishing activities of the existence of such agreements and provide to the Commission information concerning these agreements, including:
- The CCMs, Non-contracting parties (NCPs), or other entities involved in the agreement;
- The time period or periods covered by the agreement;
- The number of vessels and gear types authorized;
- The stock or species authorized for harvest, including any applicable catch limits;
- The CCM's quota or catch limit to which the catch will be applied;
- The number of fishing days authorized;

- Monitoring, control, and surveillance measures required by the flag CCM and coastal State involved;
- Data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement, including those between the parties involved, as well as those regarding information that must be provided to the Commission;
- A copy of the written agreement.
- 2. For agreements in existence prior to the entry into force of this CMM, the information specified in paragraph 1 shall be provided, at the latest, 60 days in advance of the 2013 Commission meeting.
- 3. When an access agreement is modified in a manner that changes any of the information specified in paragraph 1, these changes shall be promptly notified to the Commission.
- 4. Consistent with WCPFC data reporting requirements, flag CCMs involved in the agreements specified in paragraph 1 shall ensure that all target and incidental catches made pursuant to these agreements are reported to the Scientific Committee.
- 5. Flag CCMs and coastal CCMs involved in the agreements specified in paragraph 1 shall provide a summary of the activities carried out pursuant to each agreement, including all catches made pursuant to these agreements, in their annual report to the Commission.
- 6. In cases where coastal CCMs allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by WCPFC through a mechanism other than a CCM-to-CCM or CCM-to-NCP agreement, the coastal CCM shall be solely responsible for providing the information required by this CMM. Flag CCMs with vessels involved in such an agreement, however, shall endeavor to provide to the Commission relevant information regarding that agreement as indicated in paragraph 1.
- 7. The Secretariat shall develop a form for reporting the information specified in this CMM and annually compile CCM submissions into a report to be presented to the Commission for consideration at its annual meeting. The Secretariat will make this information available on the secured part of the WCPFC website.
- 8. This CMM does not apply to chartering arrangements covered by CMM 2011-05
- 9. All information provided pursuant to this CMM shall be consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements.

Explanatory Memorandum

EU PROPOSAL FOR A CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE ON FISHERIES AND ACCESS AGREEMENT INFORMATION

This proposal aims to promote more transparency within WCPFC, and more accountability towards international community, stakeholders and civil society, notably to facilitate joint efforts to combat IUU fishing through the data reporting requirements by CCMs and statistical reporting necessary for the work of the Scientific Committee, its Working Parties and the Commission.

CCMs that allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by WCPFC and CCMs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CCMs for species managed by WCPFC pursuant to an agreement, shall provide to the Commission information concerning this agreement.

This information relates to the time period, the number of vessels, gear types, stock or species authorized for harvest including applicable catch limits, the CCM quota or catch limit, monitoring, control, surveillance measures and data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement.