



COMMISSION
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Manila, Philippines (Hybrid)

Draft Audit Points

WCPFC22-2025-37

25 November 2025

Submitted by TCC Vice-Chair

Purpose

1. This paper proposes draft Audit Points for consideration and adoption at WCPFC22.

Background

2. In 2025, TCC21 made the following recommendations:
 - a. TCC21 agreed to a process for the development of Audit Points for submission to WCPFC22, which would be led by the Vice-Chair. TCC21 requested the Vice Chair to circulate draft Audit Points for the obligations in [Annex 6](#) of [TCC21-2025-10](#) and the two obligations assessed as Audit Point Review in the 2025 dCMR by the end of October, for review and comment by CCMs, with draft Audit Points being finalised at WCPFC22.
 - b. TCC21 expressed appreciation to New Zealand as Co-Lead for the Crew Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 for developing draft Audit Points for the new CMM ([TCC21-2025-DP10](#)), which was in line with the agreed process for proponents to prepare the Audit Point Checklist for proposed CMMs and facilitate the preparation of Audit Points.
 - c. TCC21 recommended to WCPFC22 that it agree an ongoing process to fill gaps in Audit Points as new CMMs are adopted and revised.

Draft Audit Points

3. A Circular ([2025/81](#)) released on 11 November 2025 requested CCMs review and provide comment on draft Audit Points. A second Circular ([2025/85](#)) provided a WORD version of the Audit Points for ease of review and iterated the deadline for CCMs feedback was 24 November 2025. Several CCMs provided comments which have been incorporated in the draft Audit Points set out in **Attachment 1**.
4. It is anticipated that discussions during WCPFC22 will assist in finalising Audit Points for adoption.

Recommendation

5. The Commission is invited to consider and adopt proposed Audit Points.

Attachment 1

Draft Audit Points for consideration and adoption by WCPFC22

1.	Pacific Bluefin Tuna CMM 2024-01 04 Category: Quantitative Limit (QL)			
	Agreed Audit Point for CMM 2023-02 04	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	CCM reported its total catches of PBF 30kg or larger and the Secretariat can verify the CCM's reported total catches and confirm that the CCM's catch of PBF 30kg or larger has not increased by more than 15% above its allowable limit, or that the CCM's catch of PBF 30kg or larger has not exceeded 10mt beyond the CCM's applicable baseline catch limit.	CCM reported its total catches of PBF 30kg or larger and the Secretariat can verify the CCM's reported total catches and confirm that the CCM's catch of PBF 30kg or larger has not exceeded 10mt beyond the CCM's applicable baseline catch limit, or that the catch of PBF 30kg or larger has not exceeded 200mt and 40mt respectively, in the cases of New Zealand and Australia.	<p>4. CCMs with a base line catch (20022004 average annual level) of 10 tons or less of Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger may increase their catch as long as it does not exceed 10 metric tons per year. The catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger for New Zealand shall be 200 metric tonnes per year and for Australia 40 metric tonnes per year, taking into account their nature as bycatch fisheries conducted in their waters in the Southern hemisphere.¹</p> <p>Footnote 1: New Zealand and Australia may carry forward up to 35 tonnes per year and 10 tonnes per year, respectively, from 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 to 2023 and 2024. This special arrangement does not create any precedent in future management.</p>	<p>The footnote is applicable to the catch limits of NZ and AU up to 2024 and not to the following years.</p>

Commented [M1]: Japan : Japan suggests deleting this part because the baseline catch limit does not affect compliance with this paragraph.

2.	Pacific Bluefin Tuna CMM 2024-01 10 Category: Implementation (IM) Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	Re-categorization is suggested:	The Secretariat confirms that the CCM	10. CCMs shall intensify cooperation for	Obligations requiring CCMs

	from IM to RP	included a report or statement on the cooperation for effective implementation of the CMM, including juvenile catch reduction, either in the annual report required by para. 14 of CMM 2024-01 or in the Annual Report Part2.	effective implementation of this CMM, including juvenile catch reduction. For this purpose, CCMs will make every effort to prevent their catch of age-0 fish (less than 2kg) from increasing beyond their 50% of 2002-2004 levels	to cooperate are best treated as reporting obligations. The second sentence of this paragraph is of a non-binding nature.
3.	Pacific Bluefin Tuna MCS CMM 2024-02 02 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	No previously agreed audit points	<p>The Secretariat confirms that:</p> <p>a. the CCM reported to the Secretariat by 15 June on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it took in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2024-01.</p> <p>b. the report provided by the CCM includes response to each and every subsection under this paragraph (para. 2 of CMM 2024-02), including “not applicable” response as appropriate.</p>	<p>2. Each CCM that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive Director by 15 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2024-01 that include the following components:</p> <p>(1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries</p> <p>a. Registration of commercial fishing vessels that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including the WCPFC RFV in accordance with CMM 2018-06 on WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish)</p> <p>b. Registration of set nets that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered set nets)</p>	
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			<p>c. Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs, where such allocation exist</p> <p>d. Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards e. Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)</p> <p>f. Measures to monitor landings (including CMM 2017-02 on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures)</p> <p>g. Measures to monitor domestic transactions</p> <p>(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming</p> <p>a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered farms, number of registered 'holding pens' or 'cages')</p> <p>b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish</p> <p>c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish</p> <p>d. Measures to monitor farming activities (including Rules, standards,</p>	
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			and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities	
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4.	Pacific Bluefin Tuna MCS CMM 2024-02 03			
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	Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	No previously agreed audit points	The Secretariat confirms that the CCM [that does not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming] reported to the Secretariat by 15 June any bycatches caught in the previous calendar year, through the annual report required by para. 9 of CMM 2024-01.	3. CCMs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming, shall report to the WCPFC Secretariat annually any bycatches of Pacific bluefin tuna under paragraph 9 of CMM 2024-01.	
5.	Sharks CMM 2024-05 11 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

Commented [M2]: Suggestion by Chinese Taipei, for clarity

	No previously agreed audit points	The Secretariat confirms that the CCM reported in the Annual Report Part 2 whether it encountered any enforcement difficulties and provide relevant information, where applicable.	11. CCMs shall provide information to TCC on any enforcement difficulties encountered in the case of the alternative measures, from observer, electronic monitoring, aerial, boarding, and landing inspection reports.	It may not be possible for the Secretariat or TCC to complete the assessment of audit point b. before the beginning of the regular session of the TCC and the assessment would have to be done during the meeting. The Secretariat would have to be tasked to collate the responses to this paragraph and provide a report to TCC.
6.	North Pacific Striped Marlin CMM 2024-06 05 Category: Quantitative Limit (QL)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	Agreed Audit Point for CMM 201001 05 [QL]:	(for Japan, Chinese Taipei, Korea, United States, and China)	5. Japan, Chinese Taipei, Korea, United States, and China shall, respectively,	In assessing CCMs' compliance with this

Commented [M3]: NZ : The AP is fine - but we still wonder how a CCM should define an "enforcement difficulty"? What kind of information is required from CCMs?

<p>The CCM reported its catch level in AR Pt2 and the Secretariat can verify the CCM’s reported catch limit and confirm that its allowable limit was not exceeded.</p> <p>Paragraph 6. of CMM 2024-05: Any unused TAC from a given year will be placed in a reserve and be available for use by the CCMs in the table above in future years, as described in paragraphs 7 and 8 of this CMM. Each CCM will be able to use up to an additional 165 mt over its annual catch limit, so long as there is available catch in the reserve.¹</p> <p>Footnote 1: The United States, based on historical fishing levels, may, for management purposes, presume an underage and the availability of the additional 165mt of catch.</p>	<p>The CCM reported its catch level and the information on the application of paragraph 6 of CMM 2024-06, if necessary, in AR Pt2 and the Secretariat can verify the CCM’s reported total catch and confirm that its allowable limit was not exceeded.</p>	<p>ensure their annual catches of North Pacific striped marlin shall not exceed the annual catch limits in the table below, without prejudice to future agreements on allocation of TAC. Any CCM not included in the table below shall also ensure that its</p>	<p>paragraph, paragraph 6 should also be considered together.</p>													
	<p>(for CCMs not included in the table) To be considered</p>	<p>catch of North Pacific striped marlin does not result in an exceedance of the overall total catch limit of 2400 mt.</p> <table><tr><th>CCM</th><th>Annual Catch Limit</th></tr><tr><td>Japan</td><td>1454.4</td></tr><tr><td>Chinese Taipei</td><td>358.4</td></tr><tr><td>Korea</td><td>214.8</td></tr><tr><td>United States</td><td>228.4</td></tr><tr><td>China</td><td>68.8</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>2324.8</td></tr></table>	CCM	Annual Catch Limit	Japan	1454.4	Chinese Taipei	358.4	Korea	214.8	United States	228.4	China	68.8	Total	2324.8
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Commented [M4]: NZ : Further work may be required. Agree that para 6 (and para 7?) should be taken into account. Not clear how unused TAC would be allocated to the CCMs in the table. Not clear how non-named CCMs (particularly if there are multiple non-named CCMs) might be held to account for the remaining 75.2t.

Commented [M5]: Chinese Taipei : We have noticed that the Chair has mentioned the arrangements for CCMs not included in the table will be further considered. However, according to paragraph 6 of CMM 2024-06, it is stated that the reserve will be used by the CCMs in the table above for future years. Therefore, we do not believe that this provision is applicable to CCMs that are not included in the table.

7.	North Pacific Striped Marlin CMM 2024-06 10 Category: Report (RP)			
	Agreed Audit Point for CMM 2010-	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	01 08 [RP]			
	Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report of national binding measures CCM applied to flagged/chartered vessels to reduce CCM vessels' catch and total catch.	Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report, through Annual Report Part 2, of national binding measures CCM applied to flagged/chartered vessels to reduce CCM vessels' catch and total catch.	10. Each year CCMs shall report in their Part 2 annual reports their implementation of this measure, including the measures applied to flagged/chartered vessels to reduce their catch, which may include, but is not limited to catch limits, gear modifications, size restrictions and/or spatial management, and the total catch taken against the limits established under paragraph 5.	Minor adjustment to the existing audit point for the similar obligation in the preceding CMM
8.	Protection of Cetaceans CMM 2024-07 01 Category: Implementation (IM)			
	Agreed Audit Point for CMM 2011-03 01 [IM]	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	<p>CCM submitted a statement in ARPt2 that:</p> <p>a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that prohibits CCM flagged PS vessels from setting a purse seine net on a school of tuna associated with a cetacean (if sighted prior to commencement of the set)</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged PS vessels to ensure they do not set a purse</p>	<p>CCM submitted a statement in ARPt2 that:</p> <p>a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that prohibits CCM flagged PS vessels from setting a purse seine net on a school of tuna associated with a cetacean (if sighted prior to commencement of the set)</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged PS vessels to ensure they do not set a purse seine net on a school of tuna associated with a cetacean where a</p>	<p>1. CCMs shall prohibit their flagged vessels from setting a purse seine net on a school of tuna associated with a cetacean in the high seas and exclusive economic zones of the Convention Area, if the animal is sighted prior to commencement of the set.</p>	<p>The CMM was updated but this particular paragraph remains the same so the same audit points</p>
	<p>seine net on a school of tuna associated with a cetacean where a sighting occurs prior to commencement of the set, and how potential infringements or instances of non-compliance with this requirement are handled.</p>	<p>sighting occurs prior to commencement of the set, and how potential infringements or instances of noncompliance with this requirement are handled.</p>		
9.	<p>Protection of Cetaceans CMM 2024-07 02 Category: Implementation (IM)</p>			

	Agreed Audit Point for CMM 2011-03 02 [IM]	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	<p>CCM submitted a statement in AR Pt2 that:</p> <p>a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires the vessel master of CCM flagged PS vessels to follow safe release guidelines in the event a cetacean is unintentionally encircled in the PS net</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged PS vessels to ensure safe release guidelines are followed and how potential infringements or instances of noncompliance with this requirement are handled.</p>	<p>CCM submitted a statement in AR Pt2 that:</p> <p>a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires the vessel master of CCM flagged PS vessels to follow safe release guidelines in the event a cetacean is unintentionally encircled in the PS net</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged PS vessels to ensure safe release guidelines are followed and how potential infringements or instances of noncompliance with this requirement are handled.</p>	<p>2. CCMs shall require that, in the event that a cetacean is unintentionally encircled in the purse seine net, the master of the vessel shall:</p> <p>(a) ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure its safe release. This shall include stopping the net roll and not recommencing fishing operation until the animal has been released and is no longer at risk of recapture; and</p> <p>(b) through the logsheet or any other means, report the incident to the relevant authority of the flag CCM, including details of the species (if known) and number of individuals, location and date of such encirclement, steps taken to ensure safe release, and an assessment of the life status of the animal on release (including,</p>	<p>The CMM was updated but this particular paragraph remains the same so the same audit points</p>
			if possible, whether the animal was released alive but subsequently died).	
10.	<p>Protection of Cetaceans</p> <p>CMM 2024-07 03</p> <p>Category: Implementation (IM)</p>			

	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	No previously agreed audit points	CCM submitted a statement in AR Pt2 that: a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that prohibits CCM flagged longline and purse seine vessels flying their flag, including vessels fishing under charter arrangements, from harvesting, retaining onboard, transshipping, or landing any cetacean, in whole or any part thereof, in the Convention Area b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged vessels or vessels it charters to ensure the requirements are met, and how potential infringements or instances of non-compliance with this requirement are handled.	3. CCMs shall prohibit all longline and purse seine vessels flying their flag, including vessels fishing under charter arrangements, from harvesting, retaining onboard, transshipping, or landing any cetacean, in whole or any part thereof, in the Convention Area.	Mirroring the existing audit point for a similar obligation such as prohibition on oceanic whitetip shark and silky shark
11.	Protection of Cetaceans CMM 2024-07 04 Category: Implementation (IM)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	No previously agreed audit points	CCM submitted a statement in AR Pt2 that:	4. CCMs shall require all longline vessels flying their flag, including those fishing	

		<p>a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires CCM flagged longline and purse seine vessels flying their flag, including vessels fishing under charter arrangements, to release, taking into account the safety of the crew, any cetacean that is caught or entangled by its fishing gear in the Convention Area as soon as possible and in a manner that results in as little harm to the cetacean as possible and utilizing the Best Practices for the Safe Handling and Release of Cetaceans, if possible</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged vessels or vessels it charters to ensure the requirements are met, and how potential infringements or instances of non-compliance with this requirement are handled.</p> <p>Alternative audit points suggested by Chinese Taipei [IM] CCMs submitted a statement in AR Pt2 that :</p>	<p>under charter arrangements, to release, taking into account the safety of the crew, any cetacean that is caught or entangled by its fishing gear in the Convention Area as soon as possible and in a manner that results in as little harm to the cetacean as possible and utilizing the Best Practices for the Safe Handling and Release of Cetaceans (suppl_CMM 2011-03-01), if possible.</p>	
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		<p>a. Confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires CCM flagged longline and purse seine vessels flying their flag, including vessels fishing under charter arrangements, to release, taking into account the safety of the crew, any cetacean that is caught or entangled by its fishing gear in the Convention Area as soon as possible.</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged vessels or vessels it charters to release any cetacean caught or entangled by its fishing gear in the Convention Area as soon as possible, , and how potential infringements or instances of non-compliance with this requirement are handled.</p> <p>[RP] For means of release</p> <p>The Secretariat confirms that the CCM has submitted a statement describing how it ensures that its fishing vessels, or vessels it charters, utilize the Best Practices for the Safe Handling and Release of Cetaceans, if possible, and do so in a manner that results in as little harm as possible to any cetacean caught or entangled in its fishing gear."</p>		
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Commented [M6]: Chinese Taipei : From our point of view, this provision can be divided into 2 separate part, with the first is a requirement of fishing vessels to release and cetaceans caught or entangled as soon as possible, and the second part is the manner, which should be done as little harm as possible and utilizing the Best Practice for Safe Handling and Release of Cetaceans when possible. Following the agreed practices, obligations with certain conditions would be best treated as RP rather than IM. Therefore, we would like to suggest using the following AP for replacement:

12.	Protection of Cetaceans CMM 2024-07 05 Category: Implementation (IM)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	No previously agreed audit points	CCM submitted a statement in ARPt2 that: a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires the masters of	5. In taking steps to ensure the safe release of the cetacean as required under paragraphs 2(a) and 4, CCMs shall require the master of the vessel to follow any guidelines adopted by the Commission for	
		CCM flagged longline and purse seine vessels flying their flag, including vessels fishing under charter arrangements, to follow any guidelines adopted by the Commission for the purpose of the measure. b. describes how CCM is monitoring the masters of CCM flagged longline and purse seine vessels flying their flag, including vessels fishing under charter arrangements, to follow the guidelines and how potential infringements or instances of non-compliance with this requirement are handled.	the purpose of this measure.	

13.	Sea Turtles CMM 2018-04 07(d, e) Category: Implementation (IM) / Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	SC21 Outcome: SC21 endorsed the formation of an informal intersessional working group led by the United States to review CMM 2018-04 for sea turtles, noting that an examination of sea turtle data reporting requirements could be undertaken as part of this review. SC21 requested that this informal intersessional working group report	(7.d.), category IM CCM submitted a statement in ARPt2 that: a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that provides for its longline vessels fishing in a shallow-set manner to record all incidents involving sea turtles during fishing operations and report such	7. CCMs with longline vessels that fish in a shallow-set manner ¹ shall: d. Provide for their longline vessels to record all incidents involving sea turtles during fishing operations and report such incidents to the appropriate authorities of the CCM. e. Provide the results of the reporting	May have to wait for the outcome of the intersessional WG and consideration by SC22 and TCC22

	back to SC22 and TCC22 on the outputs of its discussions.	<p>incidents to the appropriate authorities of the CCM.</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring and ensuring that its longline vessels to record and report such incidents, and how CCM responds to potential infringements or instances of non-compliance with this requirement.</p> <p>(7.e), category RP</p> <p>Secretariat confirms that CCM provided the results, through Annual Report Part 1, of the reporting under paragraph 7(d).</p>	<p>under paragraph 7(d) in their annual reporting of Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission.</p> <p>Footnote 1: "Shallow-set" fisheries are generally to be considered those in which the majority of hooks fish at depth shallower than 100 meters; however pursuant to paragraph 7(c) CCMs are to establish and enforce their own operational definitions.</p>	
14.	<p>Tropical Tunas</p> <p>CMM 2023-01 48</p> <p>Category: Quantitative Limit (QL)</p>			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

Commented [M7]: NZ : Agree this AP should await the further work on sea turtles. In any case, not clear how "incidents" should be defined.

	WCPFC21 Summary Report paragraph 290 & TCC Workplan Priority project specific task for 2025: The Commission tasked the SC and TCC to consider the issues of certain CCMs without baseline catch limit under paragraph 48 of CMM 2023-01 and provide advice to the Commission.	<p>Secretariat confirms that</p> <p>a. for other commercial tuna fisheries [for BET, YFT and SKJ], the CCM reported the total catch of bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack by fisheries for the reporting year in either ARPt1 or ARPt2.</p> <p>b. the total catch of the CCM's respective other commercial tuna fisheries for bigeye, yellowfin or skipjack tuna,</p>	48. CCMs shall take necessary measures to ensure that the total catch of their respective other commercial tuna fisheries for bigeye, yellowfin or skipjack tuna, but excluding those fisheries taking less than 2,000 tonnes of tropical tunas (bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack), shall not exceed either the average level for the period 2001-2004 or the level of 2004.	<p>Are there catch data by CCM fisheries, including other commercial tuna fisheries the period of 2001-2004?</p> <p>What if a CCM does not have catch data for the baseline period?</p>
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Commented [M8]: Suggestion by Chinese Taipei, for clarity

		excluding those fisheries taking less than 2,000 tonnes of tropical tunas, did not exceed either the average level for the period 2001-2004 or the level of 2004.		
15.	Tropical Tunas CMM 2023-01 26 Category: Implementation (IM)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

Commented [M9]: NZ : Important to establish clear and transparent baselines - this AP may be best left to be considered in the context of the review of the TTM.

<p>TCC21 assessed as Audit Point Review:</p> <p><i>“TCC21 noted that there was an issue with the extent to which the Audit Point tracked the obligation in CMM 2023-01, paragraph 26. There was also an issue of applicability of paragraph 26, as it was not clear to some CCMs how it was linked to paragraph 25 and Attachment 1, Table 2 of CMM 2023-01. TCC21 reviewed the applicability of paragraph 26 but no common understanding was reached. Because the Tropical Tuna measure is an important measure and relates to the quantitative limit in paragraph 25, TCC21 recommended that work be undertaken between TCC21 and WCPFC22 to review and clarify the Audit Point if necessary.”</i></p>	<p>Suggested re-categorization: from IM to QL</p> <p>The CCM submitted its high seas PS effort level in i) high sea areas south of 20°S and north of 20°N and ii) high sea areas between 20°N and 20°S within the Convention Area and the Secretariat can verify that the CCM’s total high seas PS effort did not exceed the CCM’s average total high seas PS effort level in days in 2010-2012 by shifting PS effort from ii) to i).</p>	<p>26. CCMs shall ensure that the effectiveness of these effort limits for the purse seine fishery are not undermined by a transfer of effort in days fished into areas within the Convention Area south of 20°S and/or north of 20°N.</p>	<p>TCC Vice Chair’s view (may be wrong but just to start discussion):</p> <p>Para. 25 and 26 of CMM 2023-01 are somehow linked. Together, they are intended to restrict the total high seas PS efforts (area between 20°N and 20°S + other high seas) in the Convention Area.</p> <p>The limits under para. 25 of Attachment 1, Table 2, were developed based on 2010-2012 high seas PS efforts in days.</p> <p>Let’s suppose that the average total PS effort in the high sea areas between 20°N and 20°S was 100 days and</p>
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Commented [M10]: Japan : Thank you for your consideration on this point. This requirement is quite challenging. However, it appears that the suggested audit point could introduce a new legal obligation without formally amending Paragraph 26. There may be various ways to implement Paragraph 26, given the ambiguity of this paragraph. For example, in the case of Japan, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) issues licenses to tropical tuna PS vessels and restricts their operations to the area between 20°N and 20°S. Only a few vessels from the tropical PS fleet hold an additional license that allows them to operate north of 20°N. Through this licensing scheme, Japan effectively prevents the transfer of PS effort from south of 20°N to north of 20°N. In this sense, we think that the audit point should remain as IM. From Japan’s perspective, unless Paragraph 26 is amended, it would be very difficult to clarify what obligations it actually impose on CCMs by amending the audit point.

Commented [M11]: NZ : It is difficult to recategorize this as a QL as there is no agreed limit in the HS beyond the tropical zone (20 S to 20 N) by which to hold CCMs to account. To do that would require a redrafting of the obligation itself (e.g. to require CCMs to restrict fishing beyond the tropical zone to a certain level such as 2010-2012 effort levels). This needs to be discussed as part of the review of the tropical tuna measure.

	<p>Current audit point</p> <p>1. CCM submitted a statement in AR Pt2 that:</p> <p>a. confirms CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that ensures that CCM flagged purse seine vessels do not transfer effort in days fished to the area north of 20N and south of 20S</p> <p>b. describes how it is monitoring its flagged purse seine vessels to ensure they do not transfer effort in days fished to the area north of 20N and south of 20S and how the CCM responds to potential infringements or instances of noncompliance with this requirement.</p> <p>2. The Secretariat can verify that the CCM's flagged vessels have not</p>			<p>that in other high seas was 50 days at that time, totaling 150 days.</p> <p>80 + 70 days may be acceptable but 80 + 90 days may not.</p>
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	shifted PS effort to the area north of 20N and south of 20S.			
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16.	Tropical Tunas CMM 2023-01 33 Category: Report (RP)			
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	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
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<p>TCC21 assessed as Audit Point Review: <i>“While CCMs had self-reported that their purse seine vessels had carried ROP observers, the SSP (SPC-OFP) sometimes did not receive all the observer data to verify the presence of ROP observers on the vessels. This was an issue in particular for vessels that were chartered, where the CCM whose flag the vessel is entitled to fly was responsible for ROP observer placement, but may not be able to ensure that the chartering CCM submitted the requisite observer data to SSP. Some CCMs asserted that the CCM responsible for this reporting in a chartering arrangement is the original flag CCM, and not the chartering CCM...”</i> See para. 24 of pCMR Executive Summary Report for full text</p> <p>Current audit point The Secretariat confirms receipt of a report from the CCM that its flagged</p>	<p>Suggested re-categorization: from RP to IM</p> <p>CCM submitted a statement in ARPt2 that:</p> <p>a. confirms CCM’s implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires purse seine vessels entitled to fly its flag and fishing within the area bounded by 20°N and 20°S exclusively on the high seas, on the high seas and in waters under the jurisdiction of one or more coastal States, or vessels fishing in waters under the jurisdiction of two or more coastal States, to carry an observer from the Commission’s Regional Observer Program (ROP).</p> <p>b. describes how CCM is monitoring its flagged PS vessels to ensure they carry an observer in accordance with this obligation, and how potential infringements or instances of noncompliance with this requirement are handled.</p>	<p>33. CCMs shall ensure that purse seine vessels entitled to fly their flags and fishing within the area bounded by 20°N and 20°S exclusively on the high seas, on the high seas and in waters under the jurisdiction of one or more coastal States, or vessels fishing in waters under the jurisdiction of two or more coastal States, shall carry an observer from the Commission’s Regional Observer Program (ROP) (CMM 2018-05).</p>	<p>Obligations that require CCMs to take particular control or action over its vessels, operators, masters or crew (e.g. 'CCMs shall ensure that its flagged vessels...') are best treated as implementation obligations.</p> <p>What is important is whether the CCM took necessary action(s) to ensure its PS vessels carry an observer.</p> <p>Carrying observers is one thing and transmitting/receiving observer data is another.</p>	<p>Commented [M12]: NZ : Agree with the recategorization of the AP to Implementation. Amendment of this AP does not address the issues raised at TCC regarding responsibility for placement of an observer (flag CCM vs chartering CCM; transmission of observer data). LGL adviser’s view on this (particularly flag CCM vs chartering CCM) would be welcome.</p> <p>Commented [M13]: China : China believes this matter should be the responsibility of the chartering member rather than the flag State responsibility. This is because, according to paragraph 1 of CMM 2024-03: “The provisions of this measure shall apply to Commission Members and Participating Territories that charter, lease or enter into other mechanisms with vessels eligible under paragraph 4 flagged to another State or Fishing Entity for the purpose of conducting fishing operations in the Convention Area as an integral part of the domestic fleet of that chartering Member or Participating Territory.” Therefore, we request clarification on whether the reporting responsibility for observer trip reports should rest with the chartering member rather than the flag State in such circumstances. This is our intervention during the CMS SMG on WCPFC22</p>
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	purse seine vessels carried an ROP observer where that flagged purse			
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	seine vessel was fishing exclusively on the high seas, on the high seas and in waters under national jurisdiction of one or more coastal States, or in waters under the jurisdiction of two or more coastal States.			
17.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04/03 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	<p>The Secretariat confirms that CCMs with crew providers provided information as part of their Annual Report Part 2 to the Secretariat on these crew providers, including:</p> <p>a) name of crew providers b) location of crew providers c) contact details of crew providers.</p> <p>Alternative audit point suggested by Chinese Taipei</p> <p>Pending on the request from flag CCMs, the Secretariat can confirm whether CCMs that</p>	3. When the flag CCM of a fishing vessel, whose owner/operator uses a crew provider from another CCM to source crew, through the WCPFC Secretariat requests the CCM of the crew provider, the CCM shall provide information to the WCPFC Secretariat annually on crew providers. The information shall include at a minimum the name, location and contact details of the crew provider. The Secretariat shall make the information available to all CCMs.	

Commented [M14]: Chinese Taipei : We would first like to thank New Zealand for submitting these proposals to further advance the implementation of labour standards. However, given the division of responsibilities on labour matters within our government, we are currently consulting with the relevant departments and can only provide our initial comments. Considering that this CMM will only take effect in 2028, and in light of the tight schedule the Commission faces this year and next year, we would like to propose that the Commission task the TCC to further consider and discuss the audit points for CMM 2024-04, and to submit a proposal back to the Commission no later than the 2027 Commission meeting.

Commented [M15]:
: Regarding the newly added audit points for paragraphs 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18, we provide the following general and specific comments:
Firstly, CMM 2024-04 will only take effect in January 2028. We believe there remains ample time to discuss the associated audit points. Historically, within the implementation of CMMs, audit points have typically been developed after a CMM enters into effect. The legal basis for developing an audit point derives from the CMM's effectiveness.
Secondly, beyond historical practice, we consider that a number of issues remain unresolved in designing workable audit points. Without further clarification, implementation of the obligations may be challenging—particularly as this represents the first binding measure concerning crew labour within RFMOs.

Some specific issues for your consideration:

a) Attribution of Responsibilities. Certain obligations may involve not only flag CCMs but also CCMs that provide crews. However, the draft audit points assign reporting responsibilities solely to flag CCMs. For example:
For example, CMM 2024-04, paragraph 3 includes reporting obligations for flag CCMs and CCMs with crew providers. Yet, the draft

		provide crew to another CCM have responded to the request and have provided the requested information on crew providers, including at a minimum the name, location, and contact details.		
18.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 04 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit	Flag CCMs, which have fishing vessels as specified in paragraph 1 and where the	4. CCMs shall ensure that owners and/or operators of fishing vessels covered by this	

Commented [M16]: Chinese Taipei : The requirements set forth in paragraph 3 are conditional, as they apply only when flag CCMs make a request through the Secretariat for the necessary information from crew-provider CCMs. In addition, we are concerned that providing such information annually through AR-Pt 2 would not meet urgent or time-sensitive needs. Therefore, we would like to suggest the following amendments to replace the current proposal:

	Points for Crew Labour Standards	crew is provided by a crew provider, provide information in their Annual Report Part 2 that: a) confirms that there is a requirement for owners and/or operators of fishing vessels to liaise with any crew providers in order to effectively implement all requirements set out in this measure.	measure, as specified in paragraph 1, liaise with any crew providers in order to effectively implement all requirements set out in this measure.	
19.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 07 Category: Implementation (IM)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	<p>WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards</p>	<p>Flag CCM submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 that:</p> <p>a) confirms the flag CCM's implementation through adoption of a national binding measure that requires owners and/or operators of fishing vessels to implement paragraph 7 (a) to (g).</p> <p>b) describes how the flag CCM is monitoring and ensuring that owners and/or operators of fishing vessels implement paragraph 7 (a) to (g), and how the flag CCM responds to potential infringement or instances of noncompliance with these requirements.</p>	<p>7. CCMs shall ensure that owners and/or operators of fishing vessels covered by this measure, as specified in paragraph 1:</p> <p>a) Provide crew members a safe working environment where the welfare, occupational safety and health of crews is effectively protected.</p> <p>b) Ensure there is no forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment on fishing vessels.</p> <p>c) Provide terms of employment, that are set out in a written contract or agreement, in a form and language that facilitates the crew member's understanding of the terms, is agreed by the crew member prior to departure on the fishing trip, and signed by both the crew member and the owner and/or operator (or, where crew members</p>	
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			<p>are not employed or engaged by the fishing vessel owner and/or operator, the fishing vessel owner and/or operator shall have evidence of contractual or similar arrangements). The written contract or agreement shall be made available to the crew member and, upon request, authorised officers, in accordance with national law and practice. A CCM may allow the owner and/or operator to use the particulars in Attachment 1 as a guideline for crew contracts or agreements.</p> <p>d) Provide crew members decent working and living conditions on board fishing vessels, including access to clean or potable freshwater and food, occupational safety and health protection, medical care, rest periods and sleeping quarters, and conditions that facilitate minimum standards of health and hygiene;</p> <p>e) Provide crew members, in accordance with the flag CCM's standards or regulations, with decent and regular remuneration (for example monthly or quarterly) that is accessible by crew as well as appropriate insurance for the crew;</p>	
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			f) Provide crew members regular opportunity to disembark consistent with laws of the flag CCM, unfettered access to their identity documents, ability to	
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			<p>terminate the contract of employment and seek repatriation, and unmonitored access to communication devices to seek assistance.</p> <p>g) Cover costs of repatriation where the early termination of a contract is sought by the owner and/or operator, except where the crew member has been found, in accordance with a CCM's regulations, to be in breach of contract.</p>	
20.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 08 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	Flag CCM submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 that: a) Confirms that owners and/or operators of fishing vessels are required to carry crew details as set out in paragraph 8 (a) and to deliver safety training and/or instruction as set out in paragraph 8 (b).	8. CCMs shall ensure that owners and/or operators of fishing vessels covered by this measure: a. Carry aboard a record of the provided contact details of each crew member's next of kin or designated contact person; and b. Provide safety training and/or instruction for all the crew members working on board the vessel, with consideration given to relevant international guidelines and standards for training of crew members.	
21.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 09 Category: Report (RP)			

	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
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	<p>WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards</p>	<p>The Secretariat confirms that the flag CCM submitted in their Annual Report Part 2 a statement confirming that, in the event a crew member dies, it required the owner and/or operators of fishing vessels:</p> <p>a) to meet the requirements in paragraph 9 (a) to (e), including to notify the flag CCM, relevant authorities, and the Secretariat; and</p> <p>b) to ensure that the body is well-preserved for the purposes of an autopsy, investigation and/or repatriation.</p>	<p>9. In the event a crew member dies, the flag CCM shall inform the Secretariat as soon as practicable, and ensure that the owner and/or operators of the fishing vessel:</p> <p>a. ceases fishing operations as soon as practicable;</p> <p>b. immediately notifies the flag CCM and the crew member's next of kin or designated contact person;</p> <p>c. cooperates fully in all official investigations, and preserves any potential evidence and the personal effects and, if not needed by other crew, the quarters of the deceased crew member;</p> <p>d. returns to port if required by the flag CCM for the official investigation and departs only when clearance is received from the flag CCM authorities; and</p> <p>e. preserves the body for the purposes of an autopsy, investigation, and/or repatriation. Bodies of deceased crew should not be buried at sea or disposed of in any other manner unless specifically authorized by the flag CCM's national regulation, or next of kin.</p>	<p>comparable to AP for CMM 2017-03 03-06 where there was general support for the obligations to be Report as the required action is triggered by an event. There were also comments that the 'monitoring' element is difficult to include as it relates to a reportable event.</p>
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22.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 10			
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	Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that the flag CCM submitted in their Annual Report Part 2 a statement confirming that, in the event a Crew Member Suffers Serious Illness or Injury, it required the owner and/or operators of fishing vessels: a) to meet the requirements in paragraph 10 (a) to (d).	10. As the health and safety of the crew is paramount, in the event a crew member suffers from a serious illness or injury that threatens his or her health or safety, the flag CCM shall ensure that the owner and/or operators of the fishing vessel: a. ceases fishing operations as soon as practicable and takes all reasonable actions to care for the crew member and provide any medical treatment available and possible on board the vessel; b. immediately notifies the flag CCM; c. where directed by the flag CCM, facilitates the disembarkation and transport of the crew member to a medical facility equipped to provide the required care, as soon as practicable; and d. cooperates fully in any and all official investigations into the cause of the illness or injury.	

23.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 11 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that the flag CCM submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 confirming that, in the event a crew member is missing or	11. In the event that a crew member is missing or presumed fallen overboard, the flag CCM shall ensure that the owner and/or operator of the fishing vessel:	comparable to AP for CMM 2017-03 07 & 08 – implementation with removal

		<p>fallen overboard, it required the owners and/or operators of fishing vessels to implement paragraph 11 (a) to (f).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. ceases fishing operations as soon as practicable; b. immediately notifies the responsible Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) to report the incident time and location and commences search and rescue for at least 72 hours unless the crew member is found sooner, or unless instructed by the flag CCM to continue searching; c. immediately notifies the flag CCM and notifies the crew member's next of kin or designated contact person as soon as practicable after the search and rescue operation has ceased; d. immediately alerts other vessels in the vicinity regarding the status of the crew member by using all available means of communication; e. cooperates fully in any search and rescue operation; f. provides a report about the incident to the appropriate authorities of the flag CCM and other appropriate authorities on the incident if requested; g. cooperates fully in all official investigations, and preserves any potential 	<p>of the monitoring element</p>
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			evidence and the personal effects and, if not needed by other crew, the quarters of the missing crew member; and h. returns to port if required by the flag	
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			CCM for the official investigation and departs only when clearance is received from the flag CCM authorities.	
24.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 12 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	<p>WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards</p>	<p>The Secretariat confirms that the flag CCM submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 confirming that, in the event a crew member is subject to forced or compulsory labour or other mistreatment, it required the owners and/or operators of fishing vessels to implement paragraph 12 (a) to (d).</p>	<p>12. In the event that a flag CCM has reasonable grounds to believe, based on information such as port state notifications, electronic monitoring, observer reports, high seas boarding inspection reports or information provided by a crew member, that a crew member's health and safety is endangered or that a crew member has been subject to forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment, the flag CCM shall ensure that the owner and/or operator of the fishing vessel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. immediately takes action to preserve the safety of the crew member and mitigate and resolve the situation on board; b. immediately provides the flag CCM's designated authorities with a report on the situation, remedies provided, including the status and location of the crew member, as soon as possible; c. facilitates the safe disembarkation of 	
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			the crew member in a manner and place, as agreed by the flag CCM and crew member, including access to any needed medical treatment at the expense of the owner and/or operator; and d. cooperates fully in any and all official investigations into the incident, including by providing independent and individual access to all crew members remaining on the vessel.	
25.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 13 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that port CCMs submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 confirming that, in the event a crew member reports allegations of forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment to a port CCM, it notified, in writing, the flag CCM and the Secretariat. The Secretariat confirms that the flag CCM submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 confirming that, in the event that it is notified by a port CCM of a crew allegation of forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment, it investigated the allegation and took appropriate action, including cooperating in investigations	13. In the event that, after disembarkation from a fishing vessel, a crew member reports to the port CCM an allegation of forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment while on board the fishing vessel, including providing any available supporting information, the port CCM shall notify, in writing, the flag CCM and the Secretariat. Upon notification, the flag CCM in accordance with Article 25 of the Convention, shall: a. investigate the allegations, including through information provided by the crew member (and crew provider where relevant), port CCM, and crew on the fishing vessel and take any appropriate	comparable to CMM 2017-03 10 – supported as a Report obligation rather than Implementation obligation due to wording of paragraph
		carried out by the port CCM or a crew provider.	action in response to the results of the investigation; and b. cooperate fully in any other investigation conducted, including providing the flag CCM's investigation report to the crew provider and port CCM.	
26.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 14 Category: Report (RP)			

	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that port CCMs submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 that confirms, in the event that it is notified by a flag CCM about forced or compulsory labour or mistreatment of a crew member on board a fishing vessel, it facilitated port entry for the relevant fishing vessel, facilitated safe disembarkation of the crew member, and assisted any investigation if requested by the flag CCM [, to the extent possible under national law].	14. In the event a port CCM is notified by a flag CCM that a crew member may have experienced forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment, the port CCM shall facilitate entry to port of the fishing vessel to allow disembarkation of the crew member to the extent possible under national law and assist in any investigations if so requested by the flag CCM.	comparable to CMM 2017-03 09 – report obligation.
27.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 15 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that CCMs submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 that confirms that it cooperated and supported investigations	15. CCMs shall cooperate and provide support in relation to cases of forced or compulsory labour and other mistreatment on fishing vessels, including	

Commented [M17]: Suggestion by Chinese Taipei : The provision includes the qualifier “to the extent possible under national law.” Therefore, we suggest incorporating this proviso into the audit point to accurately reflect the original text

		into forced or compulsory labour or mistreatment of a crew member on board a fishing vessel, including facilitating evidence gathering from crew providers in their jurisdiction or from their nationals[, where possible].	facilitating evidence gathering from crew providers in their jurisdiction or from their nationals, where possible.	
28.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 17 Category: Report (RP), Deadline (DL)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments
	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that CCMs notified the Secretariat within one month of the entry into force of this CMM (i.e. by 1 February 2028) of their designated contact point(s) for the implementation of this CMM.	17. Within one month after the entry into force of this measure, CCMs shall inform the Secretariat of its designated contact point(s) in connection with the implementation of this measure.	
29.	Labour Standards CMM 2024-04 18 Category: Report (RP)			
	Notes	Draft Audit Point for consideration	CMM Paragraph	Decision Points/Comments

Commented [M18]: Suggestion by Chinese Taipei : Similar to our previous comment, the original provision includes the qualifier “where possible.” Therefore, we suggest incorporating this proviso into the audit point to accurately reflect the original text.

	WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP10 submitted by New Zealand: Audit Points for Crew Labour Standards	The Secretariat confirms that CCMs submitted a statement in their Annual Report Part 2 on implementation of this CMM.	18. CCMs shall advise the Commission (in Part 2 of their Annual Report) on implementation of this Measure, including for flag CCMs to report on the implementation of obligations in the event that a crew member dies (paragraph 9); suffers serious illness or injury (paragraph 10); is missing or fallen overboard (paragraph 11); there are	
			allegations of forced or compulsory labour or other mistreatment (paragraph 12 & 13); and for port CCMs to report on the implementation of obligations if they are notified of allegations of forced or compulsory labour or other mistreatment (paragraph 13 & 14).	