



**COMMISSION**  
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**UPDATE ON REVIEW OF CMM 2017-04 MARINE POLLUTION**

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**WCPFC22-2025-15<sup>1</sup>**  
**18 November 2025**

**Submitted by Canada**

<sup>1</sup> This update was submitted to TCC21 in [WCPFC-TCC21-2025-DP05](#) and is provided for consideration at WCPFC22, with amendment only to the Secretariat contact point in paragraph 10 on page 3.

## **Update on the informal intersessional process to review the marine pollution measure**

### **Submitted by Canada**

#### **Purpose**

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide TCC21 with an update on the progress of the informal intersessional process to review the marine pollution measure.

#### **Background**

2. The conservation and management measure on marine pollution states that the measure will be reviewed by the Commission every 3 years to consider expanding its scope with respect to the elimination of marine pollution caused by fishing vessels (paragraph 12 of [CMM 2017-04](#)).
3. In 2024, Canada submitted a proposal to WCPFC21 to amend the conservation and management measure on marine pollution ([WCPFC21-2024-DP04](#)).
4. WCPFC21 requested interested CCMs to work on the marine pollution issue in 2025 and 2026 in light of WCPFC-2024-DP04, and to develop a proposal to amend CMM 2017-04 for submission to TCC22 in 2026 with a view to adopt a measure by WCPFC23 (paragraph 605 of [WCPFC21 Summary Report](#)).
5. In January 2025, [WCPFC Circular 2025-03](#) was shared with CCMs and Observers seeking expressions of interest for participation in an intersessional review of CMM 2017-04.
6. Canada initiated the review by seeking written feedback on WCPFC-2024-DP04 and in June 2025, circulated the feedback received and identified key themes of the review, including:
  1. Definitions
    - a. fishing gear, including Abandoned, Lost and Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG).
    - b. garbage and explore option to differentiate biodegradable and treatable garbage (food waste, paper, cardboard) from non-biodegradable/requiring treatment garbage (oil or fuel products, all other domestic waste, incinerator ashes, sewage, plastics, metals, batteries and e-waste).
    - c. open burning and noise pollution.
    - d. plastics.
  2. Scope of measure
    - a. area of application and its alignment with other international instruments.
    - b. language to clearly reference the work FADMO-IWG.
    - c. scope of prohibition on marine pollution, including ALDFG, plastics, garbage, e-waste, emissions, and noise.
  3. Management
    - a. reporting requirements and timelines.

- b. improvements to provisions on adequate port reception facilities.
- c. provisions to address at-sea activities to ensure measure does not incentivize discharge at sea.
- d. implementation and review timelines.

7. In June 2025, participants were invited to provide input on the draft text and the feedback received to date.
8. The latest version of the text, including all the feedback received to date, is in **Annex 1**.
9. A provisional schedule for the informal intersessional process to review the marine pollution measure in 2026 is as follows:

| Date             | Task  |
|------------------|---|
| January-March    | Revised text (based on 2025 input) circulated for review; approximately 30-days will be given to participants to provide input  |
| April-June       | Canada to collate input received and recirculate for participants to have an opportunity to react to first round of input in 2026; approximately 30-days will be given to participants to provide input |
| September        | Update to be provided to TCC22  |
| October-November | Revised text circulated for review and submitted to WCPFC23   |
| December         | Adopt revised marine pollution measure at WCPFC23   |

10. Should other CCMs and Observers be interested in contributing to the review moving forward, please share relevant contact information with Felicia Cull ([Felicia.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Felicia.Cull@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)), and copy WCPFC Fisheries Management and Compliance Adviser, Hilary Ayrton ([hilary.ayrton@wcpfc.int](mailto:hilary.ayrton@wcpfc.int)).