



Virtual Meeting 3 of HSBI WG

7 August 2025 10:00 – 13:00 (Pohnpei time)

Measuring Tool Calibration Guide

Voluntary HSBI Regional Guides

TOOLS FOR HIGH SEAS BOARDING AND INSPECTIONS

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Prepared by Australia



Voluntary HSBI Regional Guides

TOOLS FOR HIGH SEAS BOARDING AND INSPECTIONS

- Calibration certificates for measuring tools

Tool calibration Guide

Document History

Version	Effective Date	Description of Revision	Prepared by	Reviewed by

Contents

PURPOSE STATEMENT	1
Application of measuring tools in WCPFC HSBI activities.	2
Tool calibration minimum standards	2

PURPOSE STATEMENT

1. The purpose of this Guide is to provide guidance to Authorised inspectors taking measurements of fishing gear or catch as part of a WCPFC High Seas Boarding and Inspections (HSBI¹).
2. This Guide sets out the minimum standards for the use of measuring tools during a HSBI, which includes:
 - tape measures
 - scales.
3. The application of this Guide will be voluntary and apply to HSBI activities within the WCPFC area of competence.

¹ HSBI, refers to boarding and inspection and related activities conducted pursuant to CMM 2006-08 Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Boarding and Inspection Procedures or any successor CMM.

4. This guide can be modified in response to new information, technical innovations, and perspectives. It is expected that this guide will continue to evolve as the field develops.

Application of measuring tools in WCPFC HSBI activities.

5. The aim of HSBI is to check a vessel is operating in compliance with the WCPFC Convention and all applicable WCPFC CMM obligations.
6. Inspectors conducting HSBI activities can use tools to take measurements of the:
 - length and weight of fishing gear
 - the fishing holds
 - catch.
7. Taking measurements during HSBI activities can assist with assessing compliance with:
 - by-catch mitigation methods
 - logbook reporting and catch estimations.
8. The calibration and independent certification of measuring tools can be an important factor in successful compliance investigations and to ensure consistency between inspections.

Measuring tool calibration minimum standards

9. Table 1. Types of commonly used measuring tools:

Tape Measures			
steel, retractable	fabric, retractable	Infrared and laser	Magnetic
Scales			
Hook		pocket	

10. The general principles and procedures for measuring tool use and calibration in fisheries investigations:

a) *Witnesses and Photographing*

- Authorised inspectors should document the taking of measurements using a recording device, including photographs and videos.
- Measurements should be taken with witnesses' present (Authorised inspectors, master, crew, boarding party). Authorised inspectors should ideally work in pairs.
- The master of the vessel should sign the HSBI report which includes details of any measurements taken.
- *Refer to the voluntary HSBI photograph and video Guide*

b) *Documentation and records*

- The HSBI report should record any measurements taken

c) *Transmission of measurement results to the flag CCM*

- Certification standards provided to the flag CMM for the details of the measuring tools could include:
 - o Type of measuring tool
 - o technical data sheet
 - o certified calibration certificates
 - o independently verified by a national body
 - o manufacturing information on ISO or international standards
 - o EC Class² (I, II, III)
 - o Age/Date of purchase

d) *Guidelines for calibration of measuring tools*

- Measuring tools should be certified by an independent nationally accredited body at the point of manufacturing [in accordance with ISO or international recognised standards].
- Measuring tools should be periodically tested for accuracy.
 - a. the process of comparing the measurements on a tape to a known standard, typically a certified reference or master tape
 - b. Recalibration of scales
- Pre-boarding condition checks:
 - c. undamaged
 - d. good working order

² Tape accuracy is guided by harmonised standards set out by the European Committee which divide the category into three classes according to their level of accuracy.