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## 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (CTC)

*Port Vila, Vanuatu, 10 to 12 February 2020*

### CTC 7 – Doc 16.1

#### Possible Proactive Approaches for Identifying non-Member/non-CNCP Fishing Vessels

*Secretariat*

#### 1. Background

[Annex 8 of the COMM-7 Report](#) records that the Commission has endorsed Recommendation 353(c) of the 1<sup>st</sup> SPRFMO Performance Review which “*Recommends that Members and the Secretariat take a more proactive approach towards identifying those vessels of non-Members and non-CNCPs that are undertaking fishing operations in the SPRFMO Convention Area;*”.

This paper seeks guidance from the Commission as to the types of proactive approaches that might be appropriate for the Secretariat to pursue when considering the identification of vessels of non-Members and non-CNCPs.

If non-Member/non-CNCP vessels were undertaking fishing operations in the SPRFMO Convention Area there are a number of possible methodologies by which they could potentially be detected, including (but not limited to) transponder data (such as AIS), remote detection (e.g. satellite imagery, radar, acoustic buoys), aerial surveillance, analysis of company transactions or direct detection by at sea observation.

The Secretariat does not currently have access to any of these data sources, but access could potentially be arranged, either directly or through increased engagement with other organisations working in the area of the fight against IUU fishing.

#### 2. Possible avenues for exploration

##### *2.1 Direct access*

- The Secretariat could be directed to obtain an AIS (Automatic Identification System) subscription. Note that the use of AIS information has previously been discussed in SPRFMO (refer [CTC2-Doc25](#) and paragraph 7.2, [CTC2-Report](#)) prior to the implementation of the Commission VMS.
- The Secretariat could investigate extending the contract with CLS (the Commission VMS provider) to include AIS or other satellite information into the Commission VMS.
- Member and CNCP vessels could be encouraged to report observations of vessels that are not flagged to Members or CNCPs that they observe fishing in the SPRFMO zone.

##### *2.2 Engagement with other organisations involved in the fight against IUU fishing*

- In January 2019 SPRFMO signed an [MoU](#) with the Network for the Exchange of Information and Shared Experiences Between Latin American and Caribbean Countries to prevent, deter, and eliminate IUU fishing.
- Closer ties could be developed with National initiatives<sup>1</sup> regarding remote monitoring of the SPRFMO Area (similar to the joint CCAMLR/France [Satellite Overwatch project](#)).

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<sup>1</sup> Noting the Data Manager [has reported](#) on his visit to the offices of DG MARE (including the Control and Inspection unit) in Brussels in February 2019.



- Engagement with Interpol, in particular in relation to their [Global Fisheries Enforcement project](#).
- Engagement with other networks such as [tRFMO compliance network](#), [International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network](#)<sup>2</sup> (IMCSN), and/or [Friends of Ocean Action](#).
- Engagement with NGOs with an interest in this area, such as [Global Fishing Watch](#), [Ocean Mind](#) and/or [Trygg Matt Tracking](#).

### 3. Next steps

This paper is intended to promote discussion and the Secretariat awaits guidance from the CTC and Commission on how to proceed.

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<sup>2</sup> Noting the Data Manager (Craig Loveridge) [attended](#) the 5<sup>th</sup> Global Enforcement Training workshop in Auckland in March 2016 and the former Executive Secretary (Dr Johanne Fischer) attended a [meeting of the IMCSN](#) in Rome in July 2016.