

6th Meeting of the Commission Lima, Peru, 30 January to 3 February 2018

COMM 6 – Report – ANNEX 8a: VMS Working Group Report

(Working Paper 27)

Airtime fees

The VMS Working Group (WG) discussed the payment of satellite airtime fees applicable to VMS data transmitted directly by Australian and New Zealand vessels to the Secretariat when they are reporting simultaneously under paragraph 9 b) of CMM 06-2017.

The VMW WG noted that based on quotes provided by CLS the annual costs of position reporting and DNID activation/deactivation would be approximately \$2100. The VMS WG noted that Australia and New Zealand's preference was for the Commission to absorb this cost on the basis that CMM 06-2017 provides Members with the option to either report positions indirectly via their FMC or simultaneously. Australia and New Zealand also noted that this is practiced in WCPFC and CCAMLR, and that it is more cost effective than undergoing a regular reconciliation process.

However, the VMS Working Group recommended that for 2018 Australia and New Zealand shall absorb their respective airtime hosting fees. The VMS WG further recommended this matter to be reviewed at the annual commission meeting in 2019 to ensure that this was capable of being a cost-effective administrative process for the Secretariat.

The VMS WG recommended additional training from CLS for the Secretariat to improve the Secretariat's capacity to process direct reporting. Based on quotes provided by CLS it is estimated that this training would cost approximately \$3 500 NZD. It would also provide relevant training of benefit to the Secretariat.

The VMS WG recommended that the Secretariat would establish DNID connections for the Australia and New Zealand for vessels which are polling directly to the Secretariat and that these costs (approximately \$200) shall be absorbed by Australia and New Zealand.

Reception of the VMS System

The VMS WG noted that the Secretariat report on the VMS Implementation Report indicates that the results of the Initial Client Acceptance Test under Milestone 10 showed that not all the requirements specified in Appendix 1 of the Contract were achieved and that, therefore, the 20% disbursement under Milestone 10 was done "without prejudice". CLS has agreed to fix those functions by 26 March 2018.

The VMS WG recommended that official acceptance of the VMS System by the Commission for the purposes of paragraph 1 of CMM 06-2017 will be completed upon: a) the accomplishment by CLS of the pending VMS functions to be fixed in coordination with the Secretariat and the relevant Member and CNCPs as applicable, b) the fulfilment of the criteria of Milestone 11 and c) the satisfactory outcome of an 8 eight weeks test by the Secretariat and CLS from 26 March 2018. The VMS WG also recommended that the Secretariat shall consult any issues regarding the official acceptance of the VMS System with the Chairperson. The Secretariat shall inform the Commission when the acceptance of the VMS system has been completed.

Revision of CMM 06-2017

The VMS WG agreed to recommend to submit the proposal for their revision of CMM 06-2017, the consequential changes to CMM 02-2017, and the Secretariat's security standards for the use of the Commission data for further consideration by the Commission.