

The logo features a blue background with a pattern of fish swimming in water, overlaid with the organization's name in white text.

# South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Compliance and Technical Committee,  
Manta, Ecuador: 27 - 31 January 2014**

**CTC-01-07 (supplementary I)**

**Application for Cooperating non-Contracting Party Status by Panama**

*Secretariat*

# ARAP

Autoridad de los Recursos Acuáticos de Panamá  
Dirección de Inspección, Vigilancia y Control

Panamá, January 24, 2014  
DGIVC /090/14

Honorable  
Robin Allen  
Acting Executive Secretary  
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

Dear Mr. Allen,

Following the request of The Republic of Panama according to letter No. SG-033.13 signed by the General Secretary of the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama, we will proceed to adequate in accordance of the decision 1.02 "Rules for Cooperating non-contracting Parties".

The Republic of Panama expressed our interest of becoming a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) of the South Pacific Regional Fishery Management Organisation (SPRFMO). One of the reason we want to be part of the Convention as a CNCP is because we have fishing and support fishing vessels that operate in the convention area. We take this opportunity to express our commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and we will ensure that Panamanian flags in the Convention Area and, to the greatest extent possible, comply with the provisions of the Convention and conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

We reiterate our explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspections, once we have been adopted. To report full data on its historical fisheries in the Convention Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas and also any further information as determined by the Commission.

We are implementing... / Page



We are implementing a comprehensive strategy aimed at control, monitoring and surveillance of the entire national fleet of international service. It is expected also can strengthen the monitoring of activities that take place in the sea, to identify the operators that carry out IUU fishing, improve enforcement in the field of fisheries and optimize the system of sanctions in case of breach.

In this regard, The Republic of Panama have been taken the following measures:

- Restrict temporarily the increase of fleet capacity catch, preventing the transfer of effort from one fishery to another.
- We have promoted the entry into force of the Executives Decrees that establish measures related of the issuance of new fishing licenses, as well as inspection, monitoring and control, routing Panama to better control of the fleet taking the appropriate and necessary measures designed to achieve a balance between fleet capacity and fishing resource.

Panama has adequate historical records of artisanal, industrials and international fisheries conservation and Also we is willing and able to ensure guarantee compliance in all its vessels regarding all conservation and management measures according with SPRFMO as we have been able to ensure do the same in other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations.

Panama is a contracting party of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), and The Agreement of the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) Dolphin Safe and Cooperating Non Member of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. We also ratified and adopted the CONVEMAR, ILO Conventions and IMO Conventions as well as FAO's Plans of Action for Illegal Fishing, Carrying Capacity and the Commission for the Conservation of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources.

Reaffirming that multilateral cooperation constitutes the most effective means for achieving the objectives of conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, we reiterate our wish to become a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party in support of this important organisation.

We are sure that the acceptance of our application will strengthen the SPRFMO and guarantee better management of fisheries for all involved.

We would kindly ask to circulate this letter to all SPRFMO Members.

Yours sincerely,



Raúl Delgado  
General Director

