

**3rd Meeting of the Compliance and Technical Committee  
Valdivia, Chile, 21-23 January 2016**

**CTC-03-15**

Proposal: Recommendation on vessels without nationality in the SPRFMO  
Convention Area

Australia

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**The Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation:**

*Recalling* that the FAO Council has adopted an International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU fishing) and has recommended that States take measures consistent with international law in relation to fishing vessels without nationality involved in IUU fishing on the high seas;

*Recognising* that vessels without nationality operate without governance and oversight, and that there should be no legal lacuna governing vessels without nationality;

*Concerned* that fishing in the Convention Area by vessels without nationality undermines the objective of the Convention and the work of the Commission;

*Adopts* the following recommendation in accordance with article 8 of the Convention:

1. Vessels determined under international law to be without nationality that are fishing in the SPRFMO Convention Area undermine the Convention and the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and are engaged in IUU fishing;
2. Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCPS) are encouraged to take measures, including by sharing information about the activities of vessels without nationality and, where appropriate, by enacting domestic legislation, to prevent and deter vessels without nationality from engaging in fishing or fishing related activities in the Convention Area;
3. Members and CNCPS are encouraged to take action, in accordance with international law, against vessels without nationality that have engaged in IUU fishing, including to prohibit the landing and transshipment of fish and fish products and access to port services by such vessels, except where such access is essential to the safety or health of the crew or the safety of the vessel;