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Vanuatu Report on the Implementation of the 2011 Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries

Effort Management

Under the Interim Measures Vanuatu has a limit of total fishing capacity of 31,220 GRT. This reflects the tonnage of 4 vessels that operated each year in the fishery between 2003 and 2010.

In 2011, only two Vanuatu vessels were deployed to the fishery with a total capacity of 15,610 GRT.

Catch Management

The catch limit for Vanuatu vessels in 2011, based on a 40% reduction of the 2010 catch, was 27,545 tonnes. The actual catch taken was 7,672 tonnes.

Data Collection and Reporting

Monthly catch reports were provided within the required timeframe. VMS data, a list of active vessels and transshipment data were also provided on a quarterly basis.

Verified annual catch data and tow-by-tow data were provided for 2011.

An annual report, which included up to date 2011 catch and effort data, was provided to the Science Working Group meeting.

Monitoring and Control

VMS is fitted on all Vanuatu flagged trawlers.

No observer coverage was achieved in 2011. At the time of writing the 2011 Annual Report it was anticipated that observer data would be available for 2011

as an observer had been sent to join one of the vessels. However, logistical difficulties prevented the observer from joining the vessel.