

10TH MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Held virtually, 24-28 January 2022

COMM 10 – Inf 02

SPRFMO Communications Dissemination Criteria

Secretariat

1. Background

This paper simply seeks to document the approach of the Secretariat when deciding whether to disseminate information to the Members, CNCPs, and Observers (i.e., a “General” letter). In 2021, the Secretariat circulated **176** General letters (as of 30 December), the following sections provide the rationale for each general communication.

As an information paper, this paper can be “taken as read” and does not require specific discussion (unless specifically requested).

2. Members and CNCPs

As the Secretariat exists to support the Commission, any communications prepared by Chairpersons, Members or CNCPs are distributed immediately upon request. During 2021, **10** General letters were circulated directly in response to Members/CNCPs or Chairpersons’ requests.

In addition, the Convention, Rules of Procedure, Financial Regulations, and CMMs require that the various letters are circulated to provide information to SPRFMO stakeholders on a regular basis. During 2021, **103** General letters were circulated that fit into this category.

3. Observer Participation

Rule 9.4 of the [SPRFMO Rules of Procedure](#) (RoP) states that “*Observers may submit relevant documents to the Secretariat for distribution to the Members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies as information documents and shall be given timely access to all documents subject to any rules relating to the confidentiality of certain data and other commercially sensitive information that the Commission may decide*”.

Hence, the Secretariat circulates Observer information upon request, via a General letter or via posting on the website. During 2021, **9** letters were circulated in response to Observer requests.

4. Other General type letters

The remaining **54** General letters were circulated to improve the overall transparency and functioning of the organisation and consist of reminders, workshop reports and coordination, requests for contributions, vacancy announcements as well as a monthly summary to further ensure all SPRFMO correspondence is received.