



**SPRFMO**  
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

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## 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Manta, Ecuador, 13 to 17 February 2023*

COMM 11 – Obs 02

Proposal for a temporary moratorium for the squid fishery

*CALAMASUR*

# 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Manta, Ecuador, February 2023

## COMM 11 – Prop xx

### PROPOSAL TO:

<b>Amend</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Create</b>	Temporary moratorium on the activation of new industrial fishing vessels engaged in the jumbo flying squid ( <i>Dosidicus gigas</i> ) fisheries in the Convention Area
<b>Submitted by:</b> xxxxxxxxxxxx	
<b>Summary of the proposal:</b> <p>The proposal aims at complementing the management measures currently in force by virtue of CMM 18-2020, establishing a separate conservation measure.</p> <p>It is based on the clear objective of ensuring the long-term conservation and the sustainable use of fishery resources, through the application of the precautionary approach as set forth in article 2 of the Convention, the present proposal seeks to establish a temporary limitation in the fishing effort through freezing the activation of new industrial fishing vessels into the jumbo flying squid fisheries (<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>).</p> <p>CMM 18-2020 establishes several management measures, focusing on data collection and reporting, monitoring and control, and observer coverage, addressing the need to properly obtain and communicate quality data of the jumbo flying squid fishery’s behavior, especially in respect of catch data. However, the CMM 18-2020 lacks an appropriate conservation measure that deals with the fishing effort in terms of number of harvesting vessels, other than requiring that such vessels be previously listed by their respective flag State in the Commission’s Record of Vessels established by CMM 05-2022. Despite this provision, the fishery is open for the entrance of new industrial vessels, provided that they are duly listed on the said Record. Therefore, a conservation measure freezing the activation of new industrial vessels, in application of the precautionary approach, is necessary in order to achieve the objective of the Convention pursuant to Article 2 thereof.</p> <p>The temporary moratorium shall be in force for a period of 3 years.</p> <p>With the adoption of the proposed conservation measure it is not necessary to amend CMM 18-2020, whose review shall take place in 2024.</p>	
<b>Objective of the proposal:</b> <p>To adopt a new conservation measure, consisting in the establishment of a temporary moratorium on the activation of new industrial fishing vessels wishing to enter the jumbo flying squid (<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>) fisheries managed by CMM 18-2020 in the Convention area, in order to control fishing effort via the number of vessels, preventing this number to further rise for a period of 3 years.</p>	

Has the proposal financial impacts or influence on the Secretariat work?	Yes	No
Ref: COMM11 - PROP xx	Received on: xx December 2022	

## CMM XX-2023

### **Conservation and Management Measure for the adoption of a moratorium on the activation of new industrial fishing vessels engaged in the jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) fisheries in the Convention Area**

#### **The Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation;**

*RECALLING* that Article 3.1 (a) (ii) and (iii) of the Convention establishes that fishing shall be commensurate with the sustainable use of fishery resources and overfishing and excess fishing capacity shall be prevented or eliminated;

*FURTHER RECALLING* that Article 8 (b) of the Convention tasks the Commission to determine the extent of participation in fishing for fishery resources, including, as appropriate for particular fish stocks

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the precautionary approach as set forth by Article 3.2 (a) (i) and (ii) of the Convention prescribes the wide application of the precautionary approach in order to protect those resources, being more cautious when information is uncertain, unreliable, or inadequate, and states that the absence of adequate scientific information shall not constitute a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures of the Convention;

*RECALLING* that Article 19 of the Convention recognizes the special requirements of developing State Contracting Parties, in particular to ensure access to fisheries and the need to ensure that measures adopted do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation actions onto such developing State Contracting Parties.

ADOPTS the following CMM:

1. The purpose of this CMM is to establish a temporary moratorium on the activation of new industrial fishing vessels engaged in the jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) fisheries in the Convention Area.
2. For the purposes of this CMM, “industrial fishing vessel” means any fishing vessel larger than 20 meters length overall with high-end engine, gear and refrigeration technology
3. No Member and CNCs may increase the number of industrial fishing vessels listed in the Commission’s Record of Vessels established by CMM 05-2022, as of the date sets forth in paragraph 4.

Excepted from this moratorium is the replacement of industrial fishing vessels sunk or withdrawn from the Convention Area as of December 31, 2022 by others of similar characteristics, as well as the inclusion of new vessels by developing coastal States that are Contracting Parties, commensurate with their fishing capacity, to meet the fishing needs and opportunities of their coastal communities.

4. This CMM shall enter into force 30 days after the conclusion of the annual Commission meeting of 2023 and shall be reviewed by the Commission in 2027.