



SPRFMO COMMISSION  
14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Report

*Panama City, Panama*

*2 to 6 March 2026*

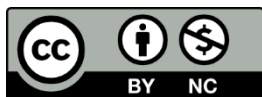
**Document name:** SPRFMO COMM14-Report

**Meeting location:** Panama City, Panama

**URL:** <https://www.sprfmo.int/meetings/comm/14th-commission-meeting>

**Recommended citation:**

SPRFMO (2026). 14<sup>th</sup> SPRFMO Commission Meeting Report. Wellington, New Zealand, 2026.



You are free to copy and distribute the work and to make derivative works under the following conditions:

**Attribution.** You must attribute the work in the manner specified by the author or licensor.

**Non-commercial.** You may not use this work for commercial purposes.

Any of these conditions can be waived if you get permission from the copyright holder. Your fair dealing and other rights are in no way affected by the above.

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

**Acknowledgements:**

The 14<sup>th</sup> SPRFMO Commission Meeting (COMM14) report was prepared under the overall direction of the Chairperson of the Commission, Ms Jung-re Riley Kim, with support from the rapporteur, Mr Jacques Chaumont.





## Contents

|     |   |    |
|-----|---|----|
| 1.  | Opening of the Meeting.....                                     | 1  |
|     | a. Meeting Arrangements .....                                   | 1  |
|     | b. Adoption of the Agenda and Participation .....               | 1  |
|     | c. Meeting Documents .....                                      | 1  |
| 2.  | Membership .....  | 1  |
|     | a. Status of the Convention .....                               | 1  |
| 3.  | Scientific Committee (SC) .....                                 | 1  |
|     | a. Report of the 13 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the SC (SC13)..... | 1  |
|     | b. 2026 SC Workplan .....                                       | 2  |
|     | c. Science-Management Dialogue on Jack Mackerel.....            | 2  |
| 4.  | Finance and Administration Committee (FAC).....                 | 3  |
|     | a. Report of the FAC13 .....                                    | 3  |
|     | b. Draft and forecast Budgets.....                              | 3  |
|     | c. Member Contributions .....                                   | 3  |
| 5.  | Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC).....                   | 4  |
|     | a. Report of the CTC13 .....                                    | 4  |
|     | b. Final Compliance Report.....                                 | 4  |
|     | c. 2026 IUU Vessel List .....                                   | 4  |
|     | d. Status of Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) .....   | 4  |
|     | e. Observer Programme Accreditation .....                       | 4  |
| 6.  | Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) .....               | 5  |
|     | a. Amendments to current CMMs and/or decisions .....            | 5  |
|     | b. Proposals for New CMMs and/or Decisions .....                | 9  |
| 7.  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> SPRFMO Performance Review .....                 | 10 |
|     | a. PR2IWG Report to Commission .....                            | 10 |
|     | b. Allocation of recommendations to COMM.....                   | 10 |
|     | c. Workplan for addressing recommendations .....                | 10 |
| 8.  | Climate Change.....   | 11 |
|     | a. Consideration of SC and CTC recommendations .....            | 11 |
|     | b. Other Considerations.....                                    | 11 |
| 9.  | Cooperation Priorities.....                                     | 11 |
|     | a. Report on Arrangements and MoUs.....                         | 11 |
|     | b. External cooperation engagements.....                        | 11 |
| 10. | Office Holders .....  | 12 |
|     | a. Election of Officers .....                                   | 12 |
| 11. | Arrangements for Future Meetings .....                          | 12 |
| 12. | Other Matters.....  | 13 |
| 13. | Adoption of the Commission Report .....                         | 13 |
| 14. | Close of the Meeting .....                                      | 13 |





---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report

### 1. Opening of the Meeting

1. The Chairperson of the Commission, Ms Jung-re Riley Kim (Republic of Korea), opened the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SPRFMO Commission (COMM14) and welcomed all participants. The Executive Secretary, Mr James Brown, also welcomed participants. Mr Eduardo Carrasquilla (Administrator of the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama) delivered opening remarks. On behalf of the meeting, the Chairperson thanked Panama for its welcome and for hosting the meeting. The speech by Mr Eduardo Carrasquilla is contained in Annex 9a of the report.

#### *a. Meeting Arrangements*

2. The Secretariat provided an overview of the meeting arrangements and facilities.
3. The Rapporteur (Mr Jacques Chaumont) was appointed, and Spanish interpretation was provided for the meeting by Panama.

#### *b. Adoption of the Agenda and Participation*

4. **The Commission adopted the Meeting Agenda** (COMM14-Doc01, Annex 1) with one amendment to add a report on “Updates on Science-Management Dialogue on Jack Mackerel” under agenda item 3. The List of Participants is contained in Annex 2.

#### *c. Meeting Documents*

5. The Secretariat introduced the List of Meeting Documents (COMM14-Doc03\_rev3) including the meeting schedule (COMM14-Doc04, Annex 3), which was **adopted by the Commission**. A late paper was accepted. The list of meeting documents and meeting schedule were updated throughout the meeting.

### 2. Membership

#### *a. Status of the Convention*

6. New Zealand, as Depositary of the SPRFMO Convention, provided an update of the status of the Convention (COMM14-Doc05), noting that no new instruments of ratification, approval or accession, nor any notifications of withdrawal had been received since the last Commission meeting.

### 3. Scientific Committee (SC)

#### *a. Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SC (SC13)*

7. The Chairperson of the Scientific Committee (SC), Dr Ricardo Oliveros-Ramos (Peru), presented the report and scientific advice of the 13<sup>th</sup> SC meeting (SC13), held in person in Wellington, New Zealand, from 8 to 13 September 2025.



8. The Chairperson of the SC presented the highlights from the SC.
9. **The Commission endorsed the recommendations of SC13 and accepted the SC13 report.**
10. The Commission commended the SC and its Members for their work.

#### *b. 2026 SC Workplan*

11. The SC Chairperson introduced the draft SC Multi-Annual Workplan 2026–2028 (COMM14-Doc06), noting that following recommendations from the Second Performance Review, the workplan had been restructured on a three-year planning cycle to provide greater predictability and stability, while retaining flexibility to update activities annually. Key funding requests included funding for expert support during the SC assessment process, an MSE in-person workshop, a squid workshop, squid operating model development, an ecosystems data workshop, and a jack mackerel connectivity workshop. The SC Chairperson noted that while the workplan had been reorganised on a three-year planning cycle, it was difficult for many Members to plan science work three years in advance.
12. The workplans for the squid, ecosystems, data, and other crosscutting items were endorsed by the Commission without further amendment. However, the workplans for jack mackerel and deepwater required further deliberation.
13. The SC Chairperson presented a revision to the SC Workplan (COMM14-Doc06\_rev1), incorporating changes based on feedback from Members, primarily relating to the prioritisation of work on jack mackerel MSE-related activities. It also included deepwater species, the Salas y Gomez and Nazca Ridge area, and VMEs.
14. **The Commission adopted the SC Workplan as revised on the floor** (COMM14-Doc06\_rev2, Annex 4a).

#### *c. Science-Management Dialogue on Jack Mackerel*

15. The Jack Mackerel Working Group (JMWG) Chair, Dr Jim Ianelli (USA), presented a report on the Jack Mackerel Science-Manager Dialogue and 2026 Work Planning (COMM14-WP13), summarising the key outcomes from the dialogue held on 28 February 2026 and proposing a clear pathway for Commission decisions on 2026 work.
16. The JMWG Chair presented an update on the jack mackerel MSE implementation pathways (COMM14-WP21).
17. Members expressed broad support for the proposed pathway, with several emphasising the urgency of completing the MSE given the length of time the process had been under way and that the Commission had decided in 2025 to complete the MSE work in order to use an updated HCR for the setting of a TAC in 2026. Some Members raised concerns regarding the contractor's past performance and the absence of a confirmed cost figure for the contract renewal. These Members also requested that all sources of uncertainty, including alternative stock structure hypotheses, be incorporated into the MSE, that outputs be interpretable for decision-makers, and that the contractor engage a team rather than work as a sole individual.
18. In response to concerns raised about the contractor's past performance, the Jack Mackerel Working Group Chair noted that, in his view, the delays in the MSE work were not attributable to the contractor. One Member confirmed its agreement with his view.
19. Members also raised questions about the risks of the timeline, the merits of falling back to the 2025 stock assessment model, and the process by which the Commission would formally adopt a management procedure at COMM15. The Commission also noted the need to account for climate change and stock status changes in determining the future frequency of MSE reviews.
20. The JMWG Chair developed a revised proposal incorporating cost figures, which was discussed further on the floor.
21. The European Union agreed to redirect part of an existing voluntary contribution to cover part of the MSE contractor cost in the short term. Vanuatu offered to make a voluntary contribution of NZ\$ 35,000 for this purpose and the European Union offered a further voluntary contribution to cover the remaining MSE contractor cost.



22. The Commission thanked the European Union and Vanuatu for their voluntary contributions in support of the jack mackerel MSE-related activities.
23. **The Commission endorsed the proposed pathway for jack mackerel MSE implementation** (COMM14-WP21, Annex 4b).

## 4. Finance and Administration Committee (FAC)

### *a. Report of the FAC13*

24. The Chairperson of the FAC, Mr Juan Santibáñez (Chile), presented the FAC report and its recommendations, noting that adoption of the budget and schedule of contributions was pending further discussions.
25. The Commission noted that staff positions now carry fixed terms and a reliance on the accumulated surplus excess to cover staff departure-related costs should not be treated as a precedent.
26. **The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the FAC.**
27. The Commission considered the Guidelines for SPRFMO Observers (COMM14-WP16), which was introduced by the FAC Chairperson as a revised working paper based on COMM14-Doc10, following feedback during the FAC from Members and observers.
28. The FAC Chairperson presented a further revision to the Guidelines for SPRFMO Observers, incorporating the views of interested Members and observers.
29. **The Commission adopted the Guidelines for SPRFMO Observers** (COMM14-WP16\_rev1, Annex 5a).
30. The Commission noted that DSCC, Pew, AIDA, and CALAMASUR each expressed concern about aspects of the adopted Guidelines, including the potential for provisions to be interpreted restrictively in ways that could limit Observer participation and public access to sustainability-related information.
31. The FAC Chairperson presented a revised FAC multi-annual workplan (COMM14-WP17), noting it reflected recommendations from Members made during the FAC meeting. The FAC Chairperson developed further revisions to address concerns about Secretariat capacity and aligning with workplans of the other subsidiary bodies.
32. **The Commission adopted the FAC Workplan as revised** (COMM14-WP17\_rev2, Annex 5b).

### *b. Draft and forecast Budgets*

33. The Commission held extensive discussions on the draft budget for Financial Year 2026-27, particularly on reducing allocations for travel, and data systems 'Member Implementation & Support', and removing the internship allocation.
34. The Commission agreed to the appointment of an Administrative Officer (COMM-WP08) and agreed to cover the costs associated with the departure of the Compliance Manager and recruitment of his replacement from the Accumulated Surplus Account.
35. **The Commission adopted the budget** (FAC13-Doc13\_rev4, Annex 5c).

### *c. Member Contributions*

36. The Commission agreed to utilise CNCP voluntary contributions and NZ\$ 150,043 from the Accumulated Surplus Account to offset Member contributions this year.
37. **The Commission adopted the schedule of contributions** (FAC13-Doc13\_rev4, Annex 5d).



## 5. Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC)

### *a. Report of the CTC13*

38. The Chairperson of the CTC, Ms Rebeca Espinoza (Ecuador), presented the report of the CTC13. She highlighted the CTC discussions and corresponding recommendations regarding proposals to revise CMMs, introduce new CMMs and Decisions, as well as the Provisional IUU Vessel List, Provisional Compliance Report, renewal of CNCPs and the implementation reports presented by the Secretariat, including the accreditation of observer programmes.
39. The CTC Chairperson noted that 22 potential issues of compliance were reviewed, and 18 were assigned a compliance status “Non-Compliant, No Further Action”, one was assigned “Non-Compliant, Further Action Required”, three were assigned “Priority Non-Compliant” and none were assigned “Compliant”.
40. **The Commission endorsed the recommendations of the CTC.**
41. **The Commission accepted the CTC13 Report.**

### *b. Final Compliance Report*

42. The CTC Chairperson presented the Provisional Compliance Report (COMM14-WP06\_rev1 RESTRICTED).
43. **The Commission adopted the Final Compliance Report (COMM14-WP10, Annex 6a).**

### *c. 2026 IUU Vessel List*

44. The CTC Chairperson presented the Provisional IUU Vessel List (COMM13-WP05 RESTRICTED), which contained one vessel.
45. **The Commission adopted the 2026 Final IUU Vessel List, which contains one vessel flagged to Sao Tome and Principe (COMM14-WP18, Annex 6b).**

### *d. Status of Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCPs)*

46. The Commission considered the applications from two existing CNCPs, Curaçao and Liberia, for renewed CNCP status on the basis of the CTC consideration.
47. Liberia and Curaçao submitted supplemental explanations in response to respective inquiries of Members raised during the CTC meeting (COMM14-WP12 and COMM14-WP14).
48. **The Commission renewed the CNCP status for Curaçao.**
49. **The Commission renewed the CNCP status for Liberia, requesting that Liberia provide detailed reporting to CTC14 on progress against each item contained in its action plan to address its non-compliance with CMM 05 on Record of Vessels and CMM 06 on VMS.**

### *e. Observer Programme Accreditation*

50. **The Commission accredited the observer programmes of the Cook Islands and the Russian Federation.**
51. **The Commission accredited Panama’s observer programme with respect to transshipment observation services, noting that any expansion to include data collection and harvesting activities would require further assessment.**



## 6. Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs)

### *a. Amendments to current CMMs and/or decisions*

#### *a1-a4. CMM 01 *Trachurus murphyi* (CHL, EU, KOR, PER)*

52. Chile (COMM14-Prop01), the European Union (COMM14-Prop02), Korea (COMM14-Prop03), and Peru (COMM14-Prop04) each put forward proposals to amend CMM 01 on jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*).
53. A working group, chaired by Mr Anthony Zuanich (Vanuatu), was formed during the Commission meeting and convened three times to deliberate on matters relating to jack mackerel, focusing on three main elements. Introducing a banking (carry forward) mechanism, setting the TAC, and changing the submission deadline for annual national reports of observer data. The working group chair reported back to the Commission.
54. The working group chair presented the revised version of Korea's proposal (COMM14-Prop03\_rev1), which had been used as a basis for discussion as it encompassed all three above elements.
55. On the TAC, the working group discussed a figure representing a 19.59% increase over the 2025 SC advice and a 10% increase over the 2025 TAC, reflecting a level just below the midpoint between the two SC advice scenarios for this year.
56. Many Members noted their concerns about deviating from the agreed HCR again this year, especially in light of the commitment made by Chile last year "that the proposed TAC increase would be for 2025 only, after which the fishery would return to the existing HCR unless a new management strategy was adopted."
57. The Commission acknowledged that the full MSE remained incomplete at the time of the SC meeting.
58. In order to address, to some extent, the concerns about deviating from the agreed HCR, one Member proposed an additional paragraph to put a limit on the 2027 TAC should the Commission be unable to adopt a TAC based on the management procedure adopted through the MSE process, which was supported by many Members.
59. As the Commission was unable to agree on inclusion of the additional paragraph, a Heads of Delegation meeting was convened to seek a consensus on the TAC level.
60. One Member was still unable to accept the additional paragraph, and a compromise of the average of the two proposed options for TAC was agreed.
61. One Member expressed its concern about its domestic legal constraints regarding the carry forward arrangements.
62. Regarding banking (carry forward) mechanism, some Members expressed legal and scientific concerns about the potential effects of this type of measure and recommended that the scientific aspects be evaluated by the SC within the framework of the MSE.
63. The Commission tasked the SC to evaluate a 20% up/30% down TAC change scenario within the MSE framework.
64. The Commission agreed that in the event it is unable to adopt a TAC based on the management procedure adopted through the MSE process, the TAC for 2027 shall not exceed 1,726,278 tonnes as per the agreed harvest control rule in 'adjusted Annex K' (Annex 12 of the SC13 report).
65. Belize recalled that they had reserved the right to seek reinstatement of historical catches and delivered a statement, to be reflected in the Commission report (Annex 9b).
66. **The Commission adopted the proposal COMM14-Prop03\_rev2 (Annex 7a).**

#### *a5. CMM 02 Data Standards (KOR)*

67. Korea put forward its revised proposal (COMM14-Prop05\_rev1) to amend CMM 02 on Data Standards, seeking to formally incorporate the SC13 recommendations as set out in Annex 22 of the SC13 report.



68. Korea developed a further revision (COMM14-Prop05\_rev2) incorporating feedback from Members.
69. Members made additional suggestions, particularly concerning extension of data submission deadlines in exceptional cases, which Korea incorporated in a further revision. Further edits were made on the floor regarding the exceptional case of late submission of observer data.
70. **The Commission adopted COMM14-Prop05\_rev4 (Annex 7b).**

*a6. CMM 03 Bottom Fishing (AUS)*

71. Australia put forward a proposal (COMM14-Prop06) to amend CMM 03 on Bottom Fishing.
72. One Member expressed concern about the significant impact on its fishing industry if the boundaries are revised as set out in the proposal. The Member also referred to the Second Performance Review and IWG recommendation regarding the need to explore “alternative approaches to bottom fishing”.
73. Some observers welcomed the proposal by Australia. They considered that while this level of protection is not enough to prevent SAIs, its implementation is well overdue.
74. No consensus was reached and this proposal was not adopted.
75. Some Members expressed disappointment that the Commission had not fully implemented the bottom fishing framework in the revised CMM 03 and reiterated the importance of implementing the existing SC advice. Australia indicated it would work intersessionally towards implementation of the Commission’s bottom fishing framework.

*a7. CMM 03 Bottom Fishing (NZL)*

76. New Zealand put forward a proposal (COMM14-Prop07) to amend CMM 03 on Bottom Fishing.
77. New Zealand noted that its proposal sought to ensure a commercially viable fishery whilst preventing significant adverse impacts of VMEs and expressed support for the Second Performance Review recommendation to explore alternative approaches for managing the deepwater fishery.
78. New Zealand commented that the proposal to increase bycatch thresholds was consistent with the parameters recommended by SC9 in 2021 and agreed by the Commission in 2022. Further, SC13 in 2025 affirmed that since there has been no new relevant data since 2021, this advice “remains the best available science to inform thresholds and levels of risk for VME indicators”.
79. Some Members noted if the thresholds are amended, that would require an amendment to SPRFMO’s level of risk tolerance.
80. Some observers expressed concern that the proposal is not precautionary, has not been through the SC, and does not align with paper SC9-DW10.
81. No consensus was reached and this proposal was not adopted.

*a8. CMM 03a Deepwater Species (AUS/NZL)*

82. Australia and New Zealand jointly put forward a proposal (COMM14-Prop08) to amend CMM 03a on Deepwater Species, which sought to confirm catch limits for orange roughy in the Louisville Ridge, Tasman Sea, and Westpac Bank areas for the period 2026–2028. This was consistent with the 2022 stock assessment, which is relevant to the Louisville Ridge and Tasman Sea, and the 2024 stock assessment, which is relevant to the Westpac Bank.
83. New Zealand drew attention to a significant study from 2013 on the orange roughy population structure, which, in their view, concluded that there was no significant divergence in genetics between the Australia and New Zealand populations. This peer-reviewed study involved extensive sampling from both populations.



84. Some observers expressed concern that there were no new stock assessments for orange roughy and that the current catch limits are not precautionary and should be reduced.
85. Many Members expressed support for the direction of the proposal, and the proponents developed a revision together with interested Members. It was agreed that SC14 would give further consideration to the population structure issues.
86. **The Commission adopted COMM14-Prop08\_rev1** (Annex 7c).

*a9. CMM 05 Record of Vessels (PER)*

87. Peru put forward its revised proposal (COMM14-Prop09\_rev1) to amend CMM 05 on the Record of Vessels, which aimed to provide exceptions to the IMO requirement for small-scale vessels under 15 metres, and to clarify that alternative satellite systems are compatible with Secretariat requirements.
88. Some Members suggested further clarifying edits to the proposal on the floor.
89. **The Commission adopted the proposal COMM14-Prop09\_rev2** (Annex 7d).

*a10. CMM 07 Port Inspections (EU)*

90. The European Union put forward its revised proposal (COMM14-Prop10\_rev1) to amend CMM 07 on Port Inspections, which sought to align the current CMM with the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA).
91. The European Union developed further revisions incorporating feedback from Members, including on the proposed minimum inspection rate (COMM14-Prop10\_rev2).
92. The Commission noted many Members' disappointment that no agreement could be reached to increase the minimum inspection rate beyond the current 5% and encouraged Members to continue inspecting vessels at a higher rate.
93. **The Commission adopted the proposal COMM14-Prop10\_rev3** (Annex 7e).

*a11. CMM 09 Seabirds (NZL)*

94. New Zealand put forward its revised proposal (COMM14-Prop11\_rev2) to amend CMM 09 on Seabirds, noting that the proposal sought to better align the CMM with best practice guidance from the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) and to give effect to most SC13 recommendations in Annex 23.
95. Many Members expressed support for the proposal, and New Zealand worked with other Members during the Commission meeting to resolve outstanding issues.
96. New Zealand presented a revised version of its proposal (COMM14-Prop11\_rev3) to reflect the views of Members. An additional edit to a footnote text was made in plenary.
97. **The Commission adopted COMM14-Prop11\_rev4** (Annex 7f).

*a12. CMM 12 Transhipments (ECU)*

98. Ecuador put forward its proposal (COMM14-Prop12) to amend CMM 12 on Transhipments, which aimed to require fishing vessels engaged in transshipment on the high seas to carry an observer on board, with vessels lacking an observer being restricted to conducting transfer activities only in port.
99. Ecuador's proposal was considered in the wider context of the squid proposals discussion.
100. Due to time constraints at the meeting, Ecuador withdrew its proposal.



*a13. CMM 12 Transshipments (PER)*

101. Peru put forward its revised proposal (COMM14-Prop13\_rev1) to amend CMM 12 on Transshipments, which sought to strengthen transparency over transshipment and other transfer activities, including crew, fuel, bait, and gear transfers.
102. Many Members expressed general support of the direction of the proposal, but shared concerns about crew personal information requirements.
103. Following extensive discussions Peru withdrew its proposal, noting that the revised text no longer fully reflected its original intent. Peru reiterated that its objective remains to strengthen transparency and traceability in transshipment operations and indicated its intention to present a revised proposal at a future meeting.

*a14-15. CMM 18 Squid (ECU, USA/NZL)*

104. Ecuador put forward a proposal (COMM14-Prop14), and the United States and New Zealand put forward a joint proposal (COMM14-Prop15) to amend CMM 18 on squid.
105. Many Members acknowledged the importance of taking steps to manage the squid fishery more effectively.
106. Many Members held the view that TAC shall be based on the best available science with SC's prior advice, and it shall apply to all fisheries.
107. One Member expressed the view that a TAC could be set as an effort limitation.
108. A working group, chaired by Ms Alexa Cole (United States), was formed during the Commission meeting to jointly consider proposals on squid.
109. The working group convened multiple times during the meeting, and the chair of the working group produced a consolidated proposal (COMM14-WP19\_rev3). Minor corrections were agreed on the floor.
110. **The Commission adopted the consolidated proposal (COMM14-WP19\_rev4, Annex 7g).**
111. The Commission thanked the working group chair for her leadership and noted the spirit of compromise and collaboration demonstrated during the discussions.
112. One Member recalled the importance of applying the precautionary approach, as reflected in the UNFSA, noting that the lack of complete scientific information should not delay conservation measures. The Member expressed regret that more robust measures had not been possible.
113. One Member noted that a step-by-step approach would be appropriate in the management of squid fisheries and that the establishment of a buffer zone could be considered once the Commission adopts a new provision for catch limits in the future.
114. Some Members noted that fleet size should be taken into account in future squid management considerations.
115. One observer spoke in support of the proposal and offered to provide analyses that could support the work of the SC and the CTC.
116. Some observers acknowledged the efforts of the Commission Members, however they urged the creation of more measures to strengthen the conservation of jumbo flying squid under the precautionary approach.

*a16. Proposal to amend the SPRFMO Staff Regulations (KOR)*

117. Following initial discussion in the FAC, Korea put forward a revised proposal (COMM14-Prop19\_rev1) to amend the SPRFMO Staff Regulations.
118. Korea developed a revision incorporating feedback from interested Members (COMM14-Prop19\_rev2).
119. **The Commission adopted COMM14-Prop19\_rev2 (Annex 5e).**



*a17. Proposal to amend the Policy on Secondments and Internships (SEC)*

120. The Secretariat's proposal to amend the Policy on Secondments and Internships was amended and resubmitted by the FAC Chairperson. The FAC Chairperson presented the revised proposal (COMM14-Prop20\_rev1).
121. **The Commission adopted COMM-Prop20\_rev1** (Annex 5f).

*b. Proposals for New CMMs and/or Decisions*

*b1. Proposal for a new CMM on a Buffer Zone for Squid (PER)*

122. Peru presented its proposal (COMM14-Prop16) for the establishment of a 20-nautical-mile non-fishing buffer zone in high seas areas adjacent to the EEZs of Ecuador, Chile, and Peru, presented as a precautionary, ecosystem-based measure to strengthen stock resilience and reduce fishing pressure in areas surrounding national jurisdictions.
123. Many Members pointed out that the proposed establishment of the squid non-fishing buffer zone lacks a clear legal and scientific basis to support its implementation.
124. Peru's proposal was considered in the working group formed to discuss other squid proposals.

*b2. Proposal for a new CMM on Labour Standards (NZL/USA)*

125. New Zealand and the United States presented the revised proposal (COMM14-Prop17\_rev1) for a new binding CMM on crew labour standards, noting the text was largely drawn from a WCPFC labour standards CMM adopted in 2024.
126. Many Members supported the proposal, and the Cook Islands, Korea, and Australia joined as co-sponsors of the proposal.
127. Some Members expressed the view that SPRFMO does not possess a mandate to prescribe labour standards for fisheries within the Convention Area.
128. A working group, led by Ms Heather Ward (New Zealand), was formed during the Commission meeting to consider this proposal.
129. The Commission was unable to reach a consensus, and the proposal was not adopted.
130. New Zealand committed to leading intersessional work together with the co-sponsors and interested Members, with a view to adopt a new measure at COMM15.
131. Many Members and the co-sponsors expressed strong support for the objectives of the proposal, highlighting its consistency with Members' broader international obligations, including the SPRFMO Convention, the vulnerability of crew on fishing vessels, and the need for ethical fishing practices.
132. One Member noted that such minimum standards already exist under ILO Convention 188, and that a decision by WCPFC should not prevent SPRFMO from adopting higher standards.
133. One Member pointed out the geographical overlap between the Convention Area with other RFMOs.
134. One Member noted that in accordance with paragraph 4 of the Article 25 of the Convention, the Commission has limited mandate to establish any regulation regarding safety at sea for vessels and their crews.
135. The Commission thanked the chair of the working group for her efforts to progress this proposal.

*b3. Proposal for a new CMM on Electronic Monitoring Standards (WGEMS)*

136. The Co-Chairperson of the Working Group on Electronic Monitoring Standards (WGEMS), Mr Colin Brinkman (United States), presented the report of the working group (COMM14-Doc08) and an update on the Co-Chairs' proposal for minimum standards for electronic monitoring in SPRFMO fisheries (COMM14-Prop18\_rev1).
137. The Co-Chair reported that at a meeting held on the Saturday prior to the Commission meeting, the WGEMS had made good progress on required EM data fields, reaching common understanding on most proposed



fields. However, questions remained regarding the initial review and approval of EM programmes, particularly in relation to the development of an accreditation scheme.

138. The Co-Chair discussed with Members on the margins to produce a revised version (COMM14-Prop18\_rev3), with substantive changes including a new paragraph requiring EM coverage to be representative of the fishery as a whole, replacement of the Commission approval procedure for EM domestic programme descriptions with a notification requirement, and new several sections adapted from CMM 16-2025.
139. The Co-Chair presented a further revision (COMM14-Prop18\_rev4), which incorporated both editorial and substantive changes relating to the definition of EM coverage units, alignment of data submission deadlines with CMM 02, direct incorporation of reporting requirements from CMM 16 2024, and proposed dates for entry into force. Additional minor edits were made on the floor.
140. **The Commission adopted COMM14-Prop18\_rev5** (Annex 7h).
141. Many Members expressed their appreciation for the adoption of the measure, recognising it as a significant step forward in monitoring, control and surveillance for SPRFMO and in the collection of independent fisheries data.
142. The Commission congratulated the Co-Chair for his leadership and expressed appreciation for the work done. The Commission extended its appreciation to members of the WGEMS for their significant efforts over the preceding two years in developing the measure.
143. The Commission recalled its endorsement of the CTC recommendation for the WGEMS to continue its work on an as-needed basis to address remaining technical elements related to the implementation of the measure.

## 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> SPRFMO Performance Review

### *a. PR2IWG Report to Commission*

144. The Co-Chairperson of the Intersessional Working Group on the recommendations of the Second Performance Review (PR2IWG), Mr Mat Kertesz (Australia), delivered a presentation on the outcomes of the working group (COMM14-Doc9\_rev1), with reference to the revised draft Implementation Plan (COMM14-Doc09.1\_rev1) and Implementation Timeline (COMM14-Doc09.2).
145. The Commission noted the report of the PR2IWG.
146. The Commission expressed appreciation to the PR2IWG Co-Chairpersons and members for their extensive intersessional work on reviewing all recommendations.

### *b. Allocation of recommendations to COMM*

147. The PR2IWG Co-Chairperson guided the Commission through a review of each of the 24 recommendations from the Second Performance Review, using the consolidated table contained in COMM14-Doc09.1\_rev1. Each recommendation was given a pre-assessment by the PR2IWG for the Response and Priority columns, which the Commission either agreed to or amended, adding explanatory notes as needed.
148. The PR2IWG Co-Chairperson presented a revised version of the draft Implementation plan (COMM14-Doc09.1\_rev2).
149. **The Commission considered, amended, and adopted the draft Implementation Plan as revised** (COMM14-Doc09.1\_rev3, Annex 8a).

### *c. Workplan for addressing recommendations*

150. The Commission acknowledged that it would not be possible to finalise a complete implementation plan, including detailed timeframes, within the current meeting.
151. The Commission agreed that this work should be continued intersessionally and directed that the PR2IWG continue its work to develop a finalised implementation plan for consideration at COMM15.



152. The PR2IWG Co-Chairperson presented the revised Terms of Reference for the PR2IWG (COMM14-WP22).
153. **The Commission adopted the revised Terms of Reference and expressed gratitude to Australia for agreeing to continue leading this work (Annex 8b).**

## 8. Climate Change

### *a. Consideration of SC and CTC recommendations*

154. **The Commission noted and endorsed the recommendations from SC and CTC regarding climate change.**

### *b. Other Considerations*

155. Some observers welcomed the CTC recommendation to task the Secretariat to compile climate-change related information from the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and other RFMOs and referred to the DSCC's observer paper COMM14-Inf03 section 8 on climate change.

## 9. Cooperation Priorities

### *a. Report on Arrangements and MoUs*

156. The Executive Secretary presented the Report on Cooperation Efforts and MoUs (COMM14-Doc07\_rev1).
157. The Commission noted that the MoU with IATTC had automatically renewed in January 2025, confirming that it remained comprehensive and sufficiently broad without any need for amendment.
158. **The Commission endorsed the renewal of the MoU with NPFC for another three years and directed the Secretariat to arrange for its signing subject to NPFC agreement, noting that the NPFC Commission would hold its next annual meeting in April 2026.**
159. **The Commission endorsed the termination of the agreement with RMIT University and the MoU with Red LAC de Pesca INDNR.**

### *b. External cooperation engagements*

160. The European Union presented its information paper on the interaction between RFMOs and the BBNJ Agreement (COMM14-Inf03), noting that the Agreement had entered into force on 17 January 2026 and that preparatory work for the first Conference of the Parties (COP1) was underway. The European Union encouraged SPRFMO to begin reflecting on how it would interact with the Agreement as an organisation, noting that some other RFMOs had already commenced similar processes.
161. The Commission noted the European Union's information paper and the broad support among Members for beginning reflection on SPRFMO's relationship with the BBNJ Agreement.
162. Members emphasised that any engagement must respect the non-undermining principle in the BBNJ Agreement, that the SPRFMO Secretariat may provide information to BBNJ bodies but not receive direction from them, and that any future work should be sequenced carefully given the organisation's limited capacity.
163. The Commission noted that this matter would require ongoing attention as the BBNJ process develops.
164. Some observers referred to the paper COMM13-Obs03 and proposed a standing agenda item on BBNJ.
165. FAO advised that it was implementing two GEF-supported projects to support ratification and implementation readiness of the BBNJ Agreement and noted that the tools and resources generated would be accessible to regional fisheries bodies and other stakeholders. FAO presented its report on the Common Oceans Deep-Sea Fisheries (DSF) Project (COMM14-Obs01), providing an overview of key activities and achievements from 2022-26.



166. The Commission noted the report and SPRFMO's active participation in the project, including through the Secretariat's participation in online and in-person workshops, and the forthcoming support from the project for SPRFMO's Data Working Group Strategy and Workplan.

## 10. Office Holders

### a. *Election of Officers*

167. The Commission noted the working paper on office holders (COMM14-WP23).
168. The Commission thanked Ms Jung-re Riley Kim (Republic of Korea) for her excellent work as Chairperson of the Commission, and renewed her appointment for a second two-year term, and confirmed that the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Ms Alexa Cole (United States), will continue in her position for another year.
169. The Commission renewed the appointment of Ms Rebeca Espinoza (Ecuador) as Chairperson of the CTC for a second term, and confirmed that the Vice-Chairperson of the CTC, Mr Zhao Ming (China), will continue in his position for another year.
170. The Commission confirmed that the Chairperson of the FAC, Mr Juan Santibáñez (Chile), will continue to serve in his position for another year, and the Vice-Chairperson of the FAC, Ms María Sierra (Panama), will continue to serve in her position for another year.
171. The Commission renewed the appointment of Dr Ricardo Oliveros-Ramos (Peru) and Mr Ignacio Payá (Chile) as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the SC, respectively, both for a second two-year term.
172. The Commission endorsed SC13's recommendation to renew the appointment of Dr Jim Ianelli (USA) as an Interim Chairperson of the Jack Mackerel Working Group for another year and acknowledged his commitment and thanked him for staying in the position for another year.
173. The Commission endorsed SC13's recommendation to renew the appointment of Dr Gang Li (China) for one more term of the Squid Working Group and acknowledged his commitment and thanked him for staying in the position for another terms.
174. The Commission appointed Ms Karolina Molla Gazi (European Union) as the Data Working Group Chairperson.
175. The Commission thanked Mr Trent Timmiss (Australia) for leading the Data Working Group as Interim Chairperson.

## 11. Arrangements for Future Meetings

176. The Commission noted the working paper on arrangements for future meetings (FAC13-Doc21).
177. Regarding venues for the next meeting of the Commission, the Commission welcomed and accepted the European Union's offer to host the Annual Meeting (COMM15, FAC14, CTC14) from the week starting 22 February to the week starting 1 March 2027.
178. In response to a comment from one Member about the right to equal representation of all Members, the European Union noted that this right is enshrined in Article 7, paragraph 1, of the SPRFMO convention, which provides that "*Each Contracting Party shall be a member of the Commission and shall appoint one representative to the Commission who may be accompanied by alternative representatives, experts and advisers*". The European Union expressed its full commitment to respecting the Convention and confirmed that, as host of the 2027 annual meeting, it would seek to enable in person participation by all Members, CNCPs, and Observers, by informing and assisting, as necessary, any participant with travel entry requirements.
179. The Commission welcomed and accepted the Republic of Korea's offer from the previous year to host the 2028 Annual Meetings.



180. Regarding venues for the next annual meetings of the SC, the Commission welcomed and accepted the Faroe Islands' offer to host the 2026 meeting of the SC from 7 to 12 September 2026.
181. The Faroe Islands confirmed that the meeting venue would also be available from 5 to 6 September 2026 to facilitate pre-SC activities and advised that meeting information, including accommodation and entry requirements, will be circulated shortly after COMM14.
182. The Commission encouraged voluntary contributions of Members to facilitate provision of Spanish interpretation for SC14.
183. The Commission welcomed and accepted China's offer to host the 2027 meeting of the SC.

## 12. Other Matters

184. Greenpeace International delivered a presentation on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems identified from direct observations within the Central Lord Howe 2024 temporary suspension of bottom fishing VME encounter area (COMM14-Obs05).

## 13. Adoption of the Commission Report

185. **The Commission adopted its meeting report on 6 March 2026 at 05:29pm Eastern Standard Time (EST).**

## 14. Close of the Meeting

186. The 14<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting was closed on 6 March 2025 at 05:36pm in Panama City, Panama.



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 1 Meeting Agenda

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING
  - a. Meeting arrangements  
Adoption of the Agenda
  - b. Meeting documents
2. MEMBERSHIP
  - a. Status of the Convention
3. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC)
  - a. Report of the SC13
  - b. SC Multiannual Workplan
  - c. Updates on Science-Management Dialogue on Jack Mackerel
4. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (FAC)
  - a. Report of the FAC13
  - b. Draft and forecast budgets
  - c. Member contributions
5. COMPLIANCE AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (CTC)
  - a. Report of the CTC13
  - b. Final Compliance Report
  - c. 2026 IUU Vessel List
  - d. Status of Cooperating non-Contracting Parties
  - e. Observer Programme Accreditation
6. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES (CMMs)
  - a. Proposals to amend current CMMs
    - a1. CMM 01 *Trachurus murphyi* CHL
    - a2. CMM 01 *Trachurus murphyi* EU
    - a3. CMM 01 *Trachurus murphyi* KOR
    - a4. CMM 01 *Trachurus murphyi* PER
    - a5. CMM 02 Data Standards KOR
    - a6. CMM 03 Bottom Fishing AUS
    - a7. CMM 03 Bottom Fishing NZL
    - a8. CMM 03a Deepwater Species AUS-NZL
    - a9. CMM 05 Record of Vessels PER
    - a10. CMM 07 Port Inspections EU
    - a11. CMM 09 Seabirds NZL
    - a12. CMM 12 Transshipments ECU
    - a13. CMM 12 Transshipments PER
    - a14. CMM 18 Squid ECU
    - a15. CMM 18 Squid USA-NZL
    - a16. Staff Regulations KOR
    - a17. Policy on Secondments and Internships
  - b. Proposals for new CMMs
    - b1. New CMM on a Buffer Zone for Squid PER
    - b2. New CMM on Labour Standards NZL-USA
    - b3. New CMM on Electronic Monitoring Standards WGEMS
  - c. CMMs for review in 2025
    - c1. *CMMs for review to be determined and listed here at a later date*



7. 2<sup>ND</sup> SPRFMO PERFORMANCE REVIEW
  - PR2IWG Report to Commission
  - Allocation of recommendations to COMM
  - Workplan for addressing recommendations
8. CLIMATE CHANGE
  - a. Consideration of SC and CTC recommendations
  - b. Other considerations
9. COOPERATION PRIORITIES
  - a. Report on Arrangements and MoUs
  - b. External cooperation engagements
10. OFFICE HOLDERS
  - a. Election of Officers (*as required*)
11. ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS
12. OTHER MATTERS
13. ADOPTION OF THE COMMISSION REPORT
14. CLOSE OF MEETING



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 2 List of Participants

*Under development*



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 3 Meeting Schedule



# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 4a Scientific Committee Multi-Annual Workplan

### 1. Jack Mackerel Working Group

| Code                                       | Activity  | Coordinator             | Funding                                    |             |             |
|--|---|-------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|
|  |   |                         | 2026                                       | 2027        | 2028        |
| <b>1.1 Jack mackerel assessment</b>        |   |                         |  |             |             |
| 1.1.1                                      | Review available input data and its quality for the JM assessment   | CHL, EU                 | In-kind                                    | In-kind     | In-kind     |
| 1.1.2                                      | Provide TAC advice according to Commission request  | SC                      | In-kind                                    | In-kind     | In-kind     |
| 1.1.3                                      | Experts support during SC assessment  | SC Chair<br>Secretariat | NZ\$<br>16K                                | NZ\$<br>16K | NZ\$<br>16K |
| 1.1.4                                      | Continue to update and compare standardizations of commercial tuning indices among different fleets and the impacts of increased efficiency in the fleets                     | CHL, PER, EU            | In-kind                                    | In-kind     | In-kind     |
| <b>1.2 Jack Mackerel MSE</b>               |   |                         |  |             |             |
| 1.2.1                                      | Develop and carry out an MSE  | USA, EU                 | N/A  | N/A         | N/A         |
| 1.2.2                                      | External support for MSE technical work   | JMWG Chair              | 165k<br>NZD<br>(35k<br>VUT,<br>130k<br>EU) | N/A         | N/A         |
| 1.2.3                                      | MSE in-person workshop (after intersessional work 1.2.1)  | USA                     | NZD<br>35k                                 | N/A         | N/A         |
| 1.2.4                                      | Finalise a recommendation on Management Procedures (after 1.2.3)  | SC                      | N/A  | N/A         | N/A         |
| <b>1.4 Jack Mackerel Ageing Techniques</b> |   |                         |  |             |             |
| 1.4.1                                      | Workshop to evaluate methodologies for implementation in age readings in otoliths of jack mackerel ( <i>T. murphyi</i> ) among the age and growth laboratories of the SPRFMO. | CHL, PER                | In-kind                                    | N/A         | N/A         |
| <b>1.5 Chub mackerel</b>                   |   |                         |  |             |             |
|  |   |                         |  |             |             |



## 2. Deepwater Working Group

| Code   | Activity   | Coordinator | Funding |         |         |
|--|--|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
|  |  |             | 2026    | 2027    | 2028    |
| <b>2.1 Orange roughy assessment</b>                                  |  |             |         |         |         |
| 2.1.2  | Estimate stock status  | NZL         | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| 2.1.3  | Provide advice on sustainable catch levels   | NZL         | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| 2.1.4  | Coordinate and design acoustic surveys for relevant stocks ( <i>intersessional consideration</i> )   | NZL         | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>2.2 Deep water stock structure</b>                                |  |             |         |         |         |
| 2.2.3  | Investigate the stock structure of orange roughy on the Westpac Bank and adjacent New Zealand EEZ  | NZL         | In-kind | in-kind | in-kind |
| <b>2.3 Other stock assessments, &amp; ecological risk assessment</b> |  |             |         |         |         |
| 2.3.1  | Review the risk assessment of teleost and elasmobranch species considering new available information and methods   | AUS (2030)  | N/A     | N/A     | N/A     |
| 2.3.2  | Assess other assessment options for hapuku and blue eye trevalla including standardised CPUE   | AUS         | In-kind | In-kind | N/A     |
| 2,3,3  | Refine species list for chondrichthyans in SPRFMO area and review the suitability of distribution data   | AUS/NZ      | N/A     | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>2.4 VME Encounters and benthic bycatch</b>                        |  |             |         |         |         |
| 2.4.1  | Develop VME taxa ID guide for benthic bycatch, following the steps proposed in SC9-DW12, and associated training videos  | NZL         | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| 2.4.2  | Evaluate the performance of the spatial management measures  | NZL         | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 2.4.3  | To improve the particle tracking model used in the validation of the bioregionalization and investigate connectivity amongst geographically separated areas of the same bioregion  | NZL         | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 2.4.4  | Develop a standard to identify a VME eligible to be listed in Annex 9 of CMM03   | NZL/AUS     | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>2.5 Bottom Fishery Impact Assessment</b>                          |  |             |         |         |         |
| 2.5.1  | The Scientific Committee shall review, and update if required, the SPRFMO BFIAS every 5 years, to ensure that it reflects, as appropriate, best practice. Standing item  | DWWG (2030) | N/A     | N/A     | N/A     |
| 2.5.2  | For VME taxa potentially at risk of SAI, improve and validate abundance models, using independent data   | NZL         | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 2.5.3  | With a focus on VME Indicator taxa currently estimated to be most impacted by fishing, work to reduce uncertainties in risk assessments for benthic habitats and VMEs by exploring the overlap between the spatial distribution of bottom trawling fishing impact (i.e., the ‘naturalness layer’) and abundance estimates of VME indicator taxa [potentially at multiple spatial scales, including Management Areas] Contingent on previous task | NZL         | -       | In-kind | In-kind |
| 2.5.4  | Complete Cumulative BFIA. Standing item  | AUS/NZL     | N/A     | In-kind | N/A     |
| 2.5.5  | Derive an SAI threshold from an empirical study tailored to the dRBS approach  | NZL         | In-kind | In-kind | N/A     |



| 2.6 CMM 03 request regarding Encounters with VMEs  |  |         |         |          |         |
|--|--|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| 2.6.1  | Developing a multi-spatial scale risk-based approach to assess encounters with VME indicator taxa  | NZL     | N/A     | N/A      | In-kind |
| 2.6.2  | Review all reported VME encounters   | NZL     | In-kind | In-kind  | In-kind |
| 2.6.3  | Conduct an independent analysis on observational data related to the 2024 NZ encounter   | NZL     | In-kind | N/A      | N/A     |
| 2.7 CMM 03 request regarding ongoing appropriateness   |  |         |         |          |         |
| 2.7.1  | Review all available data and provide advice on the ongoing appropriateness of the management measures to ensure the CMM continues to achieve its objective and the objectives of the Convention | DWWG    | In-kind | In-kind  | In-kind |
| 2.8 CMM 03 request regarding Marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern |  |         |         |          |         |
| 2.8.1  | Direct and indirect interactions between bottom fishing and marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern;   | AUS/NZL | In-kind | In-kind- | In-kind |
| 2.8.2  | Develop a protocol for safely releasing sharks alive   | AUS/NZL | In-kind | in-kind  | N/A     |
| 2.8.4  | Report results/outcomes for mitigation technologies including bird deterrent curtain, cachalotera nets on trot lines, and bird bafflers  | DWWG    | In-kind | In-kind  | In-kind |



### 3. Squid Working Group

| Code                             | Activity  | Coordinator       | Funding                            |         |         |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|                                  |   |                   | 2026                               | 2027    | 2028    |
| <b>3.1 Squid assessment</b>      |   |                   |                                    |         |         |
| 3.1.1                            | Form a task team to conduct simulation and model evaluations for squid stock assessments  | SC Chair          | In-kind                            | In-kind | N/A     |
| 3.1.3                            | Squid Workshop including potential assessment techniques, abundance indices and simulated assessment; to be held in person  | SQWG/ Secretariat | 25k NZD                            | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.4                            | Develop template for monthly data, including catch, effort and CPUE   | SQ WG             | In-kind                            | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.5                            | Develop a template for biological data, including time, location, length, weight and maturity stage   | SQ WG             | In-kind                            | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.6                            | Protocol for data submission and templates management   | SQ WG             | In-kind                            | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.7                            | Review available input data and its quality to for stock assessment (report to SC14)  | SQ WG             | NZ\$ 51k (SC 2025)                 | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.8                            | Perform a stock assessment to evaluate the current status of the jumbo squid fishery.   | SQ WG             |                                    | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.9                            | Develop an Operating Model to support MSE and other simulation work, including support for multiple phenotypes.   | CHL/CHN/S Q WG    |                                    | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.10                           | Extend the Operating Model to explicitly incorporate environmental effects on population dynamics, enabling research on climate change impacts.   | N/A               |                                    | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.11                           | Design climate-sensitive harvest control rules tailored to squid life history and the SPRFMO decision-making framework.   | N/A               |                                    | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.1.12                           | Evaluate the performance of these harvest control rules through MSE to provide robust management advice under uncertainty.  | SQ WG             |                                    | N/A     | N/A     |
| <b>3.2 Squid CMM development</b> |   |                   |                                    |         |         |
| 3.2.1                            | Develop a plan for more detailed within-season fishery Monitoring depending upon the uptake of EM, etc.   | SQ WG             | In-kind                            | In-kind | In-kind |
| 3.2.2                            | Explore and develop alternative approaches to provide management advice if a stock assessment cannot be completed or is not suitable for management purposes.   | SQ WG             | In-kind                            | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>3.3 Observer Program</b>      |   |                   |                                    |         |         |
| 3.3.1                            | Review the template for recording seabird interactions and seabird abundance  | NZL/SQ WG         | In-kind                            | N/A     | N/A     |
| <b>3.4 Squid Connectivity</b>    |   |                   |                                    |         |         |
| 3.4.1                            | Collect samples for population genomic studies (Convention Area and adjacent National Jurisdiction Areas)   | N/A               | NZ\$ 97K (CHN) +20k USD (CHN, TBD) | N/A     | N/A     |
| 3.4.2                            | DNA Sequencing using lcWGS, for population genomics analysis<br>Review the DNA extraction protocols and analysis pipelines to lcWGC in an online workshop with all Members interested in March-April 2026.      | N/A               | In-kind                            | In-kind | In-kind |
| 3.4.3                            | Provide a report with a phylogeographic analysis using the complete mitochondrial genome obtained from the lcWGS short reads, integrating data from all Members and include a review of the existing protocols. | N/A               | In-kind                            | In-kind | In-kind |



## 4. Ecosystems Working Group

| Code  | Activity   | Coordinator  | Funding        |         |         |
|---|--|--------------|----------------|---------|---------|
|   |  |              | 2026           | 2027    | 2028    |
| <b>4.1 Species distribution and preferences</b>                   |  |              |                |         |         |
| 4.1.1   | Analyse the habitat preferences of jack mackerel to identify environment-related changes in their distribution and abundance.  | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| 4.1.2   | Workshop to review the data inventory main findings of the SDMTT and enhance data availability for spatiotemporal distribution analysis of target species, including the impact of climate change scenarios. | CHL          | \$25,000 NZD   | N/A     | N/A     |
| 4.1.3   | Implement species distribution models (SDMs) for jack mackerel and jumbo squid, using retrospective data and projecting distributions under climate change scenarios.  | ECO-WG Chair | N/A            | In-kind | In-kind |
| 4.1.4   | Explore the implications of potential spatial and temporal shifts in species distributions for management measures under climate change scenarios  | EWG chair    | N/A            | N/A     | In-kind |
| 4.1.5   | Analyse the habitat preferences of jumbo squid to identify environment-related changes in their distribution and abundance.  | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| 4.1.6   | Analyse behaviour, distribution, and abundance information about mesopelagic, euphausiids and other key species of the Humboldt Current System   | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>4.2 Standardised oceanographic data products and modelling</b> |  |              |                |         |         |
| 4.2.1   | Integration of databases provided by different Members with linkage to a metadata repository   | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>4.3 Ecosystem Assessment</b>                                   |  |              |                |         |         |
| 4.3.1   | Provide ecosystem status overview for SC at seasonal to decadal scale  | EWG Chair    | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| 4.3.2   | Publication of a Special Issue of Symposium on State of the Art of Habitat Monitoring  | EWG Chair    | NZ\$ 15k (USA) | N/A     | N/A     |
| <b>4.4 Data collection from fishing vessels</b>                   |  |              |                |         |         |
| 4.4.1   | Mapping spatial-temporal population density distribution of jack mackerel using a combination of the existing acoustic survey data and acoustic information as obtained from industry vessels                | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| 4.4.2   | To provide acoustic indices from fishing vessels for consideration in the data and stock assessment benchmarks of jack mackerel and chub mackerel  | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |
| 4.4.3   | Assess the feasibility of developing regional integrated indices from acoustic surveys to support jack mackerel stock assessment   | PER/CHL      | In-kind        | In-kind | In-kind |



| 4.5 Jack Mackerel Connectivity |  |           |     |            |         |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------|-----|------------|---------|
| 4.5.1                          | Workshop to identify key practical requirements and considerations for sampling approaches for progressing work on the identified priority topics (Genetics, Tagging methods, Early stages & Reproduction) including outlining possible iterative/annual changes to sampling design. | CHL / PER | N/A | 25,000 NZD | N/A     |
| 4.5.2                          | Identify key hypotheses on connectivity and a description of how these hypotheses could be tested using the priority topics. Describe an approach for considering evidence.  | CHL / PER | N/A | N/A        | In-kind |
| 4.5.3                          | Design a sampling programme on the four identified priority topics to generate evidence on jack mackerel connectivity.   | CHL / PER | N/A | N/A        | In-kind |
| 4.5.4                          | Implement the designed sampling and research programme—including data analysis and reporting—on the four identified priority topics to generate evidence to support jack mackerel connectivity hypotheses.   | CHL/PER   | N/A | N/A        | In-kind |

## 5. Data Working Group

| Code                      | Activity  | Coordinator | Funding |      |      |
|---------------------------|---|-------------|---------|------|------|
|                           |   |             | 2026    | 2027 | 2028 |
| <b>5.1 Data Standards</b> |   |             |         |      |      |
| 5.1.1                     | Review and update data standards to ensure appropriate scientific data are collected in SPRFMO fisheries (Paragraph 8 of CMM 02-2025)                   | N/A         | N/A     | N/A  | N/A  |
| 5.1.2                     | Prioritise data needs of Members.   | N/A         | N/A     | N/A  | N/A  |
| 5.1.3                     | Provide input to the Secretariat in developing improved data management infrastructure including databases, data repositories and data processing tools | N/A         | N/A     | N/A  | N/A  |



## 6. Other (Crosscutting issues)

| Code   | Activity  | Coordinator                     | Funding |         |         |
|--|---|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
|  |   |                                 | 2026    | 2027    | 2028    |
| <b>6.1 Climate Change</b>                                      |   |                                 |         |         |         |
| 6.1.1  | Identify management implications of climate change on habitat and fisheries in the SPRFMO area (Decision 13-2023)   | USA                             | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| <b>6.2 Research in the Salas y Gomez and Nazca ridges area</b> |   |                                 |         |         |         |
| 6.2.1  | Provide an analysis of all fishing data within the Salas y Gomez and Nazca ridges area, including for 2024  | N/A                             | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 6.2.2  | Provide an evaluation of fishing impacts for the Salas y Gomez and Nazca ridges area  | N/A                             | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 6.2.3  | Undertake an analysis of observer data from all fisheries (not limited to SPRFMO if that data is available) regarding interactions with marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern within the Salas y Gomez and Nazca ridges area and adjacent areas                         | N/A                             | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 6.2.4  | Review and discuss all compiled data and information and present possible measures to SC14 for the recommendation to COMM15.  | N/A                             | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| <b>6.3 Seabird bycatch</b>                                     |   |                                 |         |         |         |
| 6.3.1  | Progress southern hemisphere quantitative risk assessment (SEFRA)   | N/A                             | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| 6.3.2  | Compile and characterise existing data relevant to seabird interactions with squid jig and recommend future data collection protocols   | China/Chinese Taipei/Korea/ACAP | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
|  | Conduct trials on purse seine mitigation technologies, taking into account those described in the ACAP toolbox, and report on the outcomes of these trials including seabird bycatch rates.   | Chile                           | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
|  | Summarise and characterise seabird bycatch-related data held by the Secretariat and to work with interested Members and ACAP to identify any future potential improvements to data collection and reporting processes.  | Secretariat                     | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| <b>6.4 CMM 17 Marine pollution</b>                             |   |                                 |         |         |         |
| 6.4.1  | SC Members and CNCPs are encouraged to undertake research into marine pollution related to fisheries in the SPRFMO Convention Area to further develop and refine measures to reduce marine pollution and are encouraged to submit to the SC and the CTC any information derived from such efforts | N/A                             | N/A     | N/A     | N/A     |
| <b>6.5 Cooperation</b>   |   |                                 |         |         |         |
| 6.5.1  | FAO ABNJ Deep Sea Fisheries: coordinate activities over their next five-year plan that could involve Member scientists and a number of SPRFMO science projects  | Secretariat                     | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |
| 6.5.2  | CPPS: Increase cooperation and collaboration between both organisations.  | Secretariat                     | In-kind | N/A     | N/A     |



| 6.6 Secretariat Scientific Support |  |             |         |         |         |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 6.6.1                              | Continue with analyses of catch composition and fishing activities; support CPUE analyses; and general scientific analyses, as capacity allows.                                | Secretariat | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| 6.7 Other crosscutting             |  |             |         |         |         |
| 6.7.1                              | To update long version profiles (FAO species synopsis format) for jack mackerel, chub mackerel and jumbo flying squid  | N/A         | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |
| 6.7.2                              | Development of assessments for species in the SPRFMO Convention Area that are bycaught or subject to targeted fishing operations (in line with tier-based assessment approach) | N/A         | In-kind | In-kind | In-kind |



# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 4b Jack Mackerel MSE Implementation Pathway

(COMM14-WP21)

### 1. The Situation

The Jack Mackerel MSE programme is incomplete through no fault of past contractors and Member scientists efforts. Stock complexity (four structural hypotheses, JJM convergence challenges) required more iteration than anticipated. The Commission has declared MSE completion a **high priority to be achieved ASAP**. A new proposal from the existing WMR contractor was recently submitted; SPRFMO’s budget is largely allocated. This paper proposes funding a contract scaled appropriately to budgets and formal Member scientific contributions.

### 2. Proposed Approach: Hybrid (Reduced Contract + Member Contributions)

The WMR contract is retained for the technical core but scoped to minimum viable deliverables for SC14 (September 2026). Member scientists from Chile and Peru formally contribute to scenario runs. Interoperability with alternatives may serve to enhance WMR’s approach, including bringing results into a commonly used format (e.g., “Slick”).

| Work Package                        | Original Scope   | Reduced Scope (–25%)   | Member Contribution   |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>WP1 OM Conditioning</b>          | Full JJM reconditioning; all 4 stock structure hypotheses; robustness OMs    | <b>Unchanged — critical path to benchmark</b>  | —   |
| <b>WP2 MP Implementation</b>        | 3 MP types: Buffer/K60, multi-index, surplus production; banking & borrowing | Retain Buffer/K60 + one model-based MP; third type deferred to post-SC14                       | Chile & Peru contribute model-free MPs on benchmarked OMs                         |
| <b>WP3 Conducting MSE</b>           | Full robustness suite; ENSO scenarios; banking & borrowing; full metrics     | Core scenarios only: ENSO offshore drop; 2 MPs; key SC14 performance metrics                   | Parallel runs on same scenarios by Chile/Peru; results formally submitted to JMWG |
| <b>WP4 Meetings &amp; Reporting</b> | 3 in-person meetings + travel; full technical report + source code           | 2 meetings (Lima, Wageningen); online JMWG coordination replaces third; interim report to SC14 | JMWG Chair leads online sessions; Member scientists attend Wageningen             |

### 3. Milestone Timeline

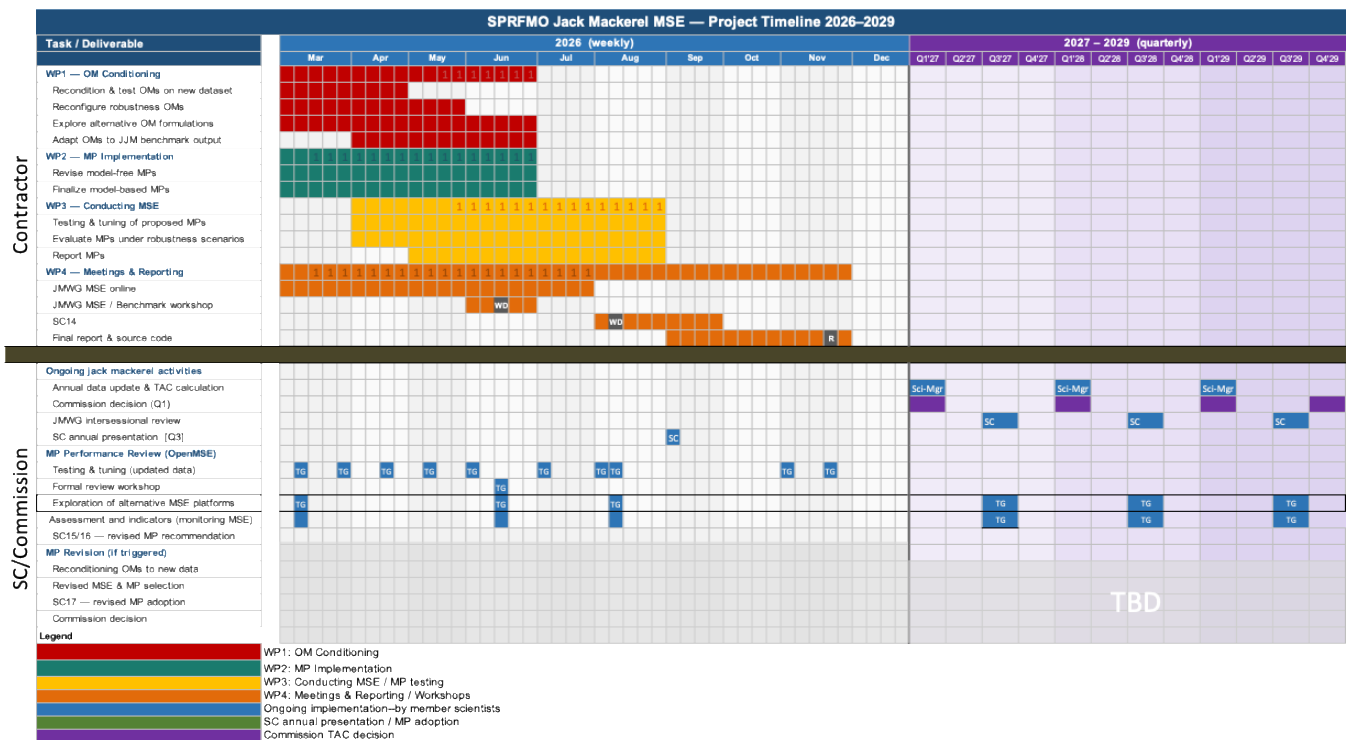
| When                 | Event                                   | Deliverable   | Output for  |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>May 2026</b>      | Benchmark workshop, Lima (Peru hosting) | Candidate assessment models, modifications to SC13 approved model | SC Intersessional meeting (seeking approval of Benchmark results) |
| <b>Late May 2026</b> | <b>SC Intersessional meeting</b>        | Model approval from Benchmark                                     | Wageningen MSE workshop   |
| <b>Jun 15–19</b>     | MSE workshop, WMR (NL)                  | Candidate MP (CMP) shortlist                                      | SC14 document   |
| <b>Sep 2026</b>      | SC14 — Scientific Committee             | CMP recommendation to Commission                                  | Commission decision   |
| <b>Nov 2026</b>      | WP4 final deliverable                   | Technical report, source code                                     | SC15 / archive  |



### 4. The Commission is asked to endorse

- A WMR contract (scaled to fit within funding) to complete minimum viable MSE outputs for SC14; budget to be confirmed by the JMWG Chair.
- Recognition of parallel developments (where possible) of Members’ work on the contractor’s platform and alternatives that best advance the SPRFMO MSE by SC14.
- Direction to the JMWG Chair to finalise contract terms with WMR, report on budget at the next Commission session, and deliver the milestones above.

### 5. Timeline for SPRFMO and Contractor activities





---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 5a SPRFMO Guidelines for Observers

*(COMM14-WP16\_rev1)*

### 1. Purpose

These Guidelines set out the principles, expectations, and conduct standards applicable to Observers participating in the work of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO). They aim to support Members and Observers in facilitating effective Observer participation in the work of the Organisation.

### 2. Legal Basis

Observer participation in the SPRFMO is governed by:

- a. Article 18 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean; and
- b. Regulation 9 of the Rules of Procedure, which defines the rights and modalities of participation of Observers in the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Under Regulation 9, Observers:

- a. may participate as Observers in meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies unless otherwise decided by the Commission;
- b. may participate in deliberations but shall not take part in taking decisions;
- c. may submit relevant documents for circulation as information papers; and
- d. shall have timely access to documents subject to their confidentiality.

### 3. Principles of Participation

SPRFMO values the participation and contributions of Observers, who bring scientific, technical, and policy expertise that enhances transparency, legitimacy, and informs decision-making. Observer engagement is guided by the following principles:

- a. Transparency – including sharing information in good faith and respecting established confidentiality provisions.
- b. Constructive engagement – contributing constructively to discussions and the pursuit of outcomes that support the objective of the Convention.
- c. Professionalism – maintaining decorum and respect for all participants and Chairpersons.
- d. Integrity – acting consistently with SPRFMO’s objectives and in a manner that supports the effective functioning and governance of the Organisation and promoting the implementation of the Convention’s objectives.



## 4. Participation Rights and Responsibilities

Observers are entitled to:

- a. Attend open sessions of Commission and subsidiary body meetings. They are not entitled to attend sessions that are closed or otherwise limited in nature.
- b. Submit written information documents through the Secretariat.
- c. Access papers, subject to confidentiality restrictions.
- d. Make oral interventions during discussions at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Observers are responsible for:

- a. Respecting the Chairperson's authority to manage discussions and speaking order.
- b. Submitting relevant documents to the Secretariat for distribution to the Members of the Commission or its subsidiary bodies, and ensuring such materials are accurate, relevant, and aligned with SPRFMO's document standards, processes and timelines.
- c. Maintaining an up-to-date contact point with the Secretariat
- d. Respecting confidentiality provisions governing non-public data, deliberations, and intersessional exchanges.

## 5. Standards of Conduct

All Observers and their representatives shall at all times:

- a. Act professionally and courteously at all times during meetings and intersessional communications.
- b. Refrain from making any remarks or behaviour that could be perceived as personal, offensive, or disruptive.
- c. Respect established confidentiality provisions.
- d. Comply with reasonable instructions of Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons, and Coordinators.
- e. Engage collaboratively and respectfully.
- f. Ensure representation integrity – only duly authorised individuals participate and speak on behalf of the Observer entity.

## 6. Document Submissions

Information papers and presentations must be submitted to the Secretariat in advance of applicable deadlines. The Secretariat may adjust format. Submissions should clearly state the submitting organisation's name, purpose, and relevance to the meeting of the Commission or subsidiary body agenda.

## 7. Meeting Etiquette

- a. Speak only on the floor when recognised by the Chairperson.
- b. Keep interventions concise, relevant, and oriented to achieving the objective of the Convention.
- c. Avoid interrupting or speaking over others.
- d. Use appropriate channels to raise procedural concerns.
- e. Respect time limits and Chairperson guidance during sessions.



## 8. Confidentiality and Use of Information

Non-public domain SPRFMO information and non-public information provided by Members and CNCP's—including documents marked restricted, draft, or confidential—shall not be distributed or cited externally without prior authorisation. This obligation extends to:

- a. Information disclosed by Members, Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, or other Observers during meetings, including written submissions and oral statements;
- b. Deliberations that are ongoing, including positions expressed by delegations during formal and informal sessions;
- c. Discussions held in informal settings (e.g., side events, corridor conversations, or working groups) where it is agreed or reasonably expected that no attributable record will be kept or that discussions are off-the-record.

Observers shall not disclose, including through social media or other public platforms, the content of deliberations or the positions expressed by any delegation while meetings are still in progress, nor after their conclusion if such information remains confidential under these Guidelines or applicable rules of procedure.

Failure to respect these confidentiality obligations may be considered a serious breach of these Guidelines and may result in the revocation of Observer status in accordance with section 10.

## 9. Coordination with the Secretariat

Observers are encouraged to communicate with the SPRFMO Secretariat regarding matters such as contact updates, document submissions, logistical arrangements, and any clarifications about these Guidelines.

## 10. Non-Compliance

Sustained or serious lack of respect for the rules of the Organisation, including the Rules of Procedure and these Guidelines, may lead to a formal warning by the Chairperson, or review and potentially revoking of Observer status by the Commission under Regulation 9(2). In assessing the seriousness of a breach, the Commission shall consider, inter alia, whether the Observer has failed to respect confidentiality obligations under section 8, made unauthorised public statements about ongoing deliberations, or otherwise undermined the integrity of the meeting process.

The Secretariat shall notify the observer in writing of the alleged breach, evidence, and proposed sanction, and give a defined period to submit a written response. The Observer may request a hearing before the Chairperson and Secretariat, in which case a report of hearing will be forwarded to all Members and Observers. The observer will be given an opportunity to speak at any meeting at which the alleged breach is being discussed, if the Commission considers it appropriate.

## 11. Review and Updates

These Guidelines may be reviewed periodically to ensure continued alignment with the rules of the Organisation and best practices.

## 12. Contact

SPRFMO Secretariat  
PO Box 3797, Wellington 6140, New Zealand  
Email: [secretariat@sprfmo.int](mailto:secretariat@sprfmo.int)  
Website: [www.sprfmo.int](http://www.sprfmo.int)



# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 5b Finance and Administration Committee Workplan

(COMM14-WP17\_rev2)

### 1. Introduction

The purpose of this Workplan is to help guide the work of the FAC, including planning and prioritisation. It would be reviewed and updated at each annual meeting of the FAC, especially in relation to wider Organisational planning and tasking by the Commission and taking into consideration Secretariat capacity.

### 2. Annual Tasks

Each year the FAC will undertake the routine tasks assigned to it under the Article 13 and 15 of the Convention and the Financial Regulations at the annual meeting. This includes:

- examining the draft of the annual budget and making recommendations to the Commission.
- reviewing the amount available in the SPRFMO funds, i.e., Accumulated Surplus Account, Contingency Fund, Developing States Fund, Scientific Support Fund, Spanish Interpretation Fund.
- reviewing and commenting on the audit report.
- assessing applicants to the Developing States Fund for technical assistance and capacity-building and making recommendations to the Commission.

### 3. Auditors Appointment

Financial Regulation 10 provides that “*The auditors shall serve for a maximum term of three (3) years and may be reappointed*”. There is flexibility around whether a request for proposals (RFP) needs to be issued by the Secretariat towards the end of the term to test the market, or whether auditors may more simply be reappointed.

In the final year of an audit term, the FAC will consider whether the Executive Secretary should issue an RFP later that year or just invite the serving auditor to submit an expression of interest to renew their term for FAC to consider the following year.

| Action  | Frequency                                   | Next FAC Meeting                           |
|---|---|--|
| Recommend to Commission the re-appointment of current auditors or new appointment of new auditors | 3 years, following the end of an audit term | 2026, FAC13<br>2027 if next term is 1 year |
| Direct the Secretariat to issue an RFP or invite an expression of interest from serving auditor   | 3 years, in the final year of an audit term | 2029 if next term is 1 year                |



## 4. Periodic Reviews

The planned schedule of FAC reviews of Funds required under the Financial Regulations are as follows:

| Fund / Instrument       | Review Frequency  | Next Review Start Year | FAC Meeting Review Conclusion | Review Lead |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Developing States Fund  | At least once every four years (Financial Regulation 2.5) | 2027                   | FAC15                         | Secretariat |
| Scientific Support Fund | At least once every four years (Financial Regulation 2.5) | 2026                   | FAC14                         | Secretariat |

Other funds (Contingency Fund and Spanish Interpretation Fund) and instruments under the responsibility of the FAC will be reviewed on an as necessary basis. Currently planned reviews are as follows:

| Fund / Instrument              | Review Frequency | Next Review Start Year | FAC Meeting Review Conclusion |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Accumulated Surplus Account    | When needed      | 2026                   | FAC14                         |
| Secretariat Security Standards | When needed      | 2026                   | FAC14                         |

The process and terms of reference of future reviews will be decided at the time.



# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 5c SPRFMO Budget for the Financial Year 2026-27

(FAC13-Doc13\_rev4)

| South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation<br>Budget for Financial Year 2026-27 and Forecast Budget for Financial Year 2027-28<br>(New Zealand Dollars) |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|---|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Budget Categories   | Budget Items   | COMM13                    |                              | COMM14                  |                            |
|   |  | Adopted Budget<br>2025-26 | Forecasted Budget<br>2026-27 | Draft Budget<br>2026-27 | Forecast Budget<br>2027-28 |
| <b>1. Personnel</b>   |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 1.1 Salaries   |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | Professional Category (PC)                             |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | Executive Secretary (P5)                               | 312 500                   | 326 000                      | 346 100                 | 356 470                    |
|   | Data Manager (P3)                                      | 241 000                   | 252 000                      | 211 100                 | 217 420                    |
|   | Compliance Manager (P3)                                | 252 000                   | 258 000                      | 270 700                 | 278 780                    |
|   | Communication and Co-ordination Officer (P1)           | 183 500                   | 187 500                      | 205 400                 | 211 560                    |
|   | Science Manager (P2)                                   | 56 167                    | 177 000                      | 191 000                 | 196 650                    |
|   | Rental Subsidy   | 15 000                    | 20 000                       |                         |                            |
|   | General Services Category (GSC)                        |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | Administrative Officer                                 | 119 000                   | 129 000                      | 60 000                  | 65 000                     |
|   | Internship   | 0                         | 0                            | 0 000                   | 34 855                     |
|   | Total Staff Salary Cost                                | <b>1 179 167</b>          | <b>1 349 500</b>             | <b>1 284 300</b>        | <b>1 360 735</b>           |
|   | 1.2 Insurance  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | Medical Insurance                                      | 54 000                    | 56 000                       | 74 500                  | 79 000                     |
|   | Life Insurance   | 5 700                     | 5 800                        | 13 000                  | 13 780                     |
|   | ACC  | 500                       | 500                          | 500                     | 500                        |
|   | Total Insurance Cost                                   | 60 200                    | 62 300                       | 88 000                  | 93 280                     |
|   | 1.3 Home Leave   | 25 000                    | 30 000                       | 11 000                  | 65 000                     |
|   | 1.4 Staff training & development                       | 15 000                    | 15 000                       | 24 000                  | 25 000                     |
|   | <b>Subtotal Personnel Cost</b>                         | <b>1 279 367</b>          | <b>1 456 800</b>             | <b>1 407 300</b>        | <b>1 544 015</b>           |
| <b>2. Premises and Equipment</b>  |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 2.1 Premises   |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | Office Rent  | 69 000                    | 72 000                       | 72 000                  | 74 200                     |
|   | Insurances   | 4 000                     | 4 200                        | 5 000                   | 5 250                      |
|   | Power  | 6 000                     | 6 500                        | 6 500                   | 6 700                      |
|   | Cleaning   | 3 500                     | 3 500                        | 3 500                   | 3 600                      |
|   | Total Premises Cost                                    | 82 500                    | 86 200                       | 87 000                  | 89 750                     |
|   | 2.2 IT Equipment                                       | 12 000                    | 12 000                       | 12 000                  | 12 360                     |
|   | 2.3 Office Equipment and Supplies                      | 4 000                     | 4 000                        | 4 000                   | 4 120                      |
|   | <b>Subtotal Premises and Equipment</b>                 | <b>98 500</b>             | <b>102 200</b>               | <b>103 000</b>          | <b>106 230</b>             |
| <b>3. Meetings and Travel</b>   |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 3.1 CTC, FAC and Annual Commission Meeting             | 84 000                    | 84 000                       | 118 750                 | 67 500                     |
|   | 3.2 Scientific Committee Meeting                       | 0 000                     | 33 300                       | 61 800                  | 23 100                     |
|   | 3.3 Scientific Committee Workshops                     |                           |                              | 22 800                  | 22 800                     |
|   | 3.4 Data Systems Capacity Building                     |                           |                              | 0 000                   | 42 000                     |
|   | 3.5 Other Meetings and Travel                          | 42 500                    | 47 500                       | 2 943                   | 41 922                     |
|   | 3.6 Meeting related expenses                           | 6 500                     | 7 000                        | 7 000                   | 7 210                      |
|   | 3.7 Streaming support                                  | 21 000                    | 22 000                       | 22 000                  | 22 660                     |
|   | 3.8 Travel insurance                                   |                           |                              | 2 000                   | 2 200                      |
|   | <b>Subtotal Meetings and Travel</b>                    | <b>154 000</b>            | <b>193 800</b>               | <b>237 293</b>          | <b>229 392</b>             |
| <b>4. Information and Communication</b>   |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 4.1 Telephone and Internet                             | 2 500                     | 2 800                        | 2 800                   | 2 900                      |
|   | 4.2 IT systems, software, support                      | 20 000                    | 21 000                       | 21 000                  | 22 000                     |
|   | 4.3 Website Expenses                                   | 8 000                     | 10 000                       | 10 000                  | 10 300                     |
|   | <b>Subtotal Information and Communication</b>          | <b>30 500</b>             | <b>33 800</b>                | <b>33 800</b>           | <b>35 200</b>              |
| <b>5. Data Systems</b>  |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 5.1 Database Hosting                                   | 37 000                    | 39 000                       | 39 000                  | 42 000                     |
|   | 5.2 Database Support & Maintenance                     | 50 000                    | 52 000                       | 52 000                  | 55 000                     |
|   | 5.3 Database Development                               |                           |                              | 100 000                 | 0 000                      |
|   | 5.4 Member Implementation & Support                    |                           |                              | 13 500                  | 13 000                     |
|   | <b>Subtotal Data</b>                                   | <b>87 000</b>             | <b>91 000</b>                | <b>204 500</b>          | <b>110 000</b>             |
| <b>6. Operational Costs</b>   |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 6.1 Professional services:                             |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | Financial Services                                     |                           |                              | 95 000                  | 97 850                     |
|   | Auditors   | 12 000                    | 13 500                       | 16 100                  | 17 000                     |
|   | Legal advice   | 12 500                    | 12 500                       | 15 000                  | 13 000                     |
|   | Employee Assistance Programme                          |                           |                              | 1 000                   | 1 000                      |
|   | 6.2 Stationeries, Printing and Publications            | 2 500                     | 3 000                        | 3 000                   | 3 090                      |
|   | 6.3 Bank and Post Services                             | 2 800                     | 3 000                        | 2 000                   | 2 060                      |
|   | 6.4 Hospitality  | 1 600                     | 1 700                        | 5 000                   | 5 200                      |
|   | 6.5 Other General Expenses                             | 5 000                     | 5 000                        | 5 000                   | 5 150                      |
|   | <b>Subtotal Operational Expenses</b>                   | <b>36 400</b>             | <b>38 700</b>                | <b>142 100</b>          | <b>144 350</b>             |
| <b>7. Vessel Monitoring</b>   |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 7.1 VMS Maintenance Fee                                | 112 000                   | 113 000                      | 110 000                 | 112 200                    |
|   | 7.2 Contingency for vessel monitoring costs            | 0                         | 13 000                       | 13 000                  | 14 000                     |
|   | <b>Subtotal VMS</b>                                    | <b>112 000</b>            | <b>126 000</b>               | <b>123 000</b>          | <b>126 200</b>             |
| <b>8. Non - Routine Expenses</b>  |  |                           |                              |                         |                            |
|   | 8.1 SPRFMO Observer Programme Accreditation Evaluation | 60 000                    | 15 000                       | 15 000                  | 0                          |
|   | 7.4 (2025-26) Science Manager (Installation)           | 74 000                    |                              |                         |                            |
|   | <b>Subtotal Non - Routine Expenses</b>                 | <b>134 000</b>            | <b>15 000</b>                | <b>15 000</b>           | <b>0 000</b>               |
| <b>Subtotal</b>   |  | <b>1 931 767</b>          | <b>2 057 300</b>             | <b>2 265 993</b>        | <b>2 295 387</b>           |
| <b>9. Contingency Fund</b>  | (Financial Regulation 4.6)                             | 0                         | 30 000                       | 30 000                  | 30 000                     |
| <b>10. Scientific Support Fund</b>  | (Financial Regulation 2.4)                             | 70 600                    | 90 650                       | 0                       | 43 000                     |
| <b>11. Developing States Fund</b>   | (Financial Regulation 5)                               | 35 000                    | 35 000                       | 37 000                  | 39 000                     |
| <b>Grand Total</b>  |  | <b>2 037 367</b>          | <b>2 182 950</b>             | <b>2 332 993</b>        | <b>2 377 387</b>           |
| <b>Voluntary Contributions affecting the budget</b>   |  | <b>45 000</b>             | <b>0</b>                     | <b>0</b>                | <b>0</b>                   |
| <b>Net Total</b>  |  | <b>1 992 367</b>          | <b>2 182 950</b>             | <b>2 332 993</b>        | <b>2 377 387</b>           |



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 5d Schedule of Member Contribution for Financial Year 2026-27 (FAC13-Doc13\_rev4)

| Member                   | Contribution (NZ\$) |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Australia                | 119 899             |
| Belize                   | 15 106              |
| Chile                    | 53 559              |
| China                    | 569 865             |
| Cook Islands             | 78 515              |
| Cuba                     | 18 958              |
| Ecuador                  | 14 003              |
| European Union           | 256 978             |
| Faroe Islands            | 77 160              |
| Korea                    | 74 372              |
| New Zealand              | 260 098             |
| Panama                   | 51 717              |
| Peru                     | 63 434              |
| Russian Federation       | 125 254             |
| Chinese Taipei           | 51 278              |
| United States of America | 190 225             |
| Vanuatu                  | 96 623              |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>2 117 044</b>    |



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 5e Staff Regulations of the Commission 2026 (COMM14-Prop 19\_rev2)

### REGULATION 1

- 1.1. These Staff Regulations (Regulations) establish the fundamental principles of employment, regulate the working relationships and establish the rights and responsibilities of formally appointed employees who render their services in and receive remuneration from the Secretariat of the Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO). These Regulations, together with the terms of the offer of appointment provided to each employee, form the terms and conditions of employment of the relevant employee.
- 1.2. These Regulations should be applied giving due regard to the geographical distribution of the Members of the Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (hereinafter called the Commission).
- 1.3. In the application of these Regulations, any discrimination based on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, religion or belief, political or other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age, or sexual orientation shall be prohibited.
- 1.4. While respecting the principle of non-discrimination, mandatory retirement age is justified as based on objective and reasonable grounds.

### REGULATION 2

#### *Recruitment and Appointment*

- 2.1. In accordance with Article 14 of the Convention, the Contracting Parties shall appoint the Executive Secretary in accordance with the UN categories and level, including his or her remuneration and such other entitlements, as it deems appropriate.
- 2.2. In accordance with Article 14 of the Convention, the Executive Secretary shall appoint<sup>1,2</sup>, direct, and supervise employees. The paramount consideration in the appointment, transfer or promotion of the employees shall be the necessity for securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity.
- 2.3. Any employee appointed before the adoption of these Regulations shall be deemed to have been appointed under these Regulations and, save for any specific terms set out in the offer of appointment of the employee, these Regulations will be deemed to form the terms and conditions of employment of the employee.

---

1 The Commission shall designate staff positions to be filled through appointments made by the Executive Secretary.

2. The Executive Secretary shall prepare the recruitment process and position description for new employees in consultation with the Chairperson of the Commission and the Chairperson of the relevant Subsidiary body.



- a. Upon selection, each employee shall receive an offer of appointment stating:
  - i. that the appointment is subject to the Regulations applicable to the category of appointment in question, and to changes which may be duly made in such Regulations from time to time;
  - ii. the nature of the appointment;
  - iii. the date on which the employee is required to commence duty;
  - iv. the period of appointment, the notice required to terminate it and the period of probation;
    - v. the category, level, commencing rate of salary and the scale of increments and the maximum salary attainable;
  - vi. the allowances attached to the appointment;
  - vii. any special terms and conditions which may be applicable.
- b. Together with the offer of appointment, employees shall be provided with a copy of these Regulations and the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service<sup>3</sup>. Upon acceptance of the offer employees shall state in writing that they are familiar with and accept the conditions set out in these Regulations.
- c. The instrument of appointment shall state the date on which the appointment takes effect. This date will not be prior to the date on which the employee takes up his or her duties.
- d. Either prior to or during the period of employment, in order to ascertain whether an employee remains able to perform the full range of duties, employees may be required to undergo medical examination from time to time as determined by the Executive Secretary or the Commission as the case may require. The medical examinations shall be at the expense of the Commission. If the employee refuses to undergo any medical examination or does not consent to the health professional providing a report that provides an assessment of whether the employee can perform their full range of duties, the Executive Secretary, or the Commission as the case may require, may suspend the employee from duties while it considers what, if any other steps ought to be taken with respect to the Employee's employment based on the information that is available.
- e. Employees shall be required to retire on reaching the age of 68 years with the exception of an Executive Secretary whose four-year appointment commenced prior to reaching the age of 68 and who then reaches 68 years during that term, who will be required to retire at the end of that term. The Executive Secretary may extend an employee's age of separation if such extension were to be in the interest of the Commission.

## REGULATION 3

### *Duties, Obligations and Privileges*

- 3.1. Members of the staff of the Secretariat, and the Executive Secretary (hereinafter called "employees") are international civil servants. Upon accepting their appointments, they pledge themselves to discharge their duties faithfully and to conduct themselves with the interests of the Commission in mind guided, as international civil servants, by the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service.
- 3.2. Employees are not required to renounce either their national feelings or their political or religious convictions.

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://icsc.un.org/Resources/General/Publications/standardsE.pdf>



- 3.3. In the performance of their duties, employees may neither seek nor accept instructions from any government, authority, organisation or person other than the Commission.

#### *Confidentiality Requirements*

- 3.4. Employees shall observe maximum discretion regarding official matters and shall abstain from making private use of information they possess by reason of their position. Authorisation for the release of information for official purposes shall lie with the Commission or the Executive Secretary, as the case may require.
- 3.5. For the purposes of these Regulations “confidential information” means all information which is not in the public domain and which, due to its nature or the method by which it was communicated, would be regarded as confidential by a reasonable person, including, but not limited to:
- a) business and technical information in respect of or relating to the Commission;
  - b) business methods and management systems of the Commission;
  - c) undisclosed financial information relating to the Commission.
- 3.6. Other than in the proper performance of their duties, employees will hold all confidential information in confidence and will not, without the written consent of the Executive Secretary after consultation with the Chairperson of the Commission, directly or indirectly, at any time during their appointment or following its termination (for so long as the information continues to be confidential information):
- a) use any confidential information;
  - b) disclose any confidential information to any person, other than to the extent necessary to carry out these Regulations; or
  - c) copy any material containing confidential information for personal use or for use by any other unauthorised person, firm, company or entity.
- 3.7. Any invention, improvement, design, process, trademark, copyright, system or intellectual property right whatsoever made or discovered by an employee in the course of the performance of their duties must be immediately disclosed to the Commission and will be the absolute property of the Commission.

#### *Independence*

- 3.8. Employees shall, in general, have no employment other than with the Commission. In special cases, employees may accept other employment, provided that it does not interfere with their duties in the Commission and is not incompatible with the interest of the Commission, and that prior authorisation by the Executive Secretary has been obtained. The Commission's prior authorisation shall be obtained in respect of the Executive Secretary.
- 3.9. No employee may be associated in the management of a business, industry or other enterprise, or have a financial interest therein if, as a result of the official position held in the Secretariat, he or she may benefit from such association or interest. Upon accepting their appointment with the Commission and on a continuing basis thereafter, employees are required to immediately disclose any associations or financial interests that may cause a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest with the Commission.
- 3.10. Ownership of non-controlling stock in a company shall not be considered to constitute a financial interest within the meaning of paragraph 3.9.



### *Employee Relations*

- 3.11. An enabling environment is essential for constructive employee relations serving the interests of the organisation. Relations among employees should be guided by mutual respect.
- 3.12. Staff members have the right to form a Staff Association (SA). The SA is composed of all SPRFMO employees on a permanent or at least a one-year contract excluding the Executive Secretary.
- 3.13. The SA should elect a Staff Representative (SR) according to the rules specified in Annex 1. The SR is elected as a spokesperson by the Staff Association.
- 3.14. Most conflicts within the Secretariat can be and should be solved internally according to the Conflict Resolution Procedure (Annex 2).
- 3.15. In the rare case that a conflict cannot be solved internally or through mediation between the parties involved in the conflict or if its resolution causes major concern (e.g. perceived unjust dismissal of an employee) the FAC Committee can be asked to intervene bringing the case before SPRFMO Members.

### *Relations with Members and CNCs of the Commission and its Subsidiary bodies*

- 3.16. Employees have the reasonable expectation that the highest professional standards should be upheld by others when interacting with the staff of the Secretariat.
- 3.17. Employees are encouraged to report any breach of this Regulation to the ES or to the Subsidiary Bodies' Chairperson whose responsibility it is to take appropriate action, and to cooperate with duly authorized audits and investigations. An employee who reports such a breach in good faith or who cooperates with an audit or investigation has the right to be protected against retaliation and victimization for doing so.

### *Relations with the Public and the Media*

- 3.18. Employees shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with the international nature of the Commission. They shall always bear in mind the loyalty, discretion and tact imposed on them by their international responsibilities in the performance of their duties. They shall avoid all actions, statements or public activities which might be detrimental to the Commission and its aims.
- 3.19. Employees shall refrain from any unauthorised disclosure of information received in the line of duty, unless that information has already been made public or is accessible to the public. They shall continue to be bound by this obligation after leaving the organisation.
- 3.20. Employees have the right to freedom of expression, with due respect to the principles of loyalty and impartiality.
- 3.21. Without prejudice to Article 3.20, employees shall avoid making personal references and expressing personal views in relation to the Commission or the subject and nature of their duties; in no circumstances should they use the media to further their own interests, to discuss their own grievances, to reveal or use confidential information or attempt to influence the Commission policy decisions.

### *Privileges and Immunities*

- 3.22. Employees shall enjoy the privileges and immunities to which they are entitled under the Headquarters Agreement between the Government of New Zealand and the Commission, pursuant to Article 6.3 of the Convention.



## REGULATION 4

### *Hours of Work*

- 4.1. The normal working day shall be eight hours, Monday through Friday, for a total of forty hours per week, inclusive of at least a half hour unpaid lunch break each day. Any individual arrangements in respect of working hours, including part-time and flexible working time arrangements, will be set out in the offer of appointment of the relevant employee.
- 4.2. The Executive Secretary shall establish the working hours and may, in consultation with employees, alter them for the benefit of the Commission as circumstances may require.

## REGULATION 5

### *Classification of Staff*

- 5.1. Employees shall be classified in either of the two following United Nations (UN) categories:
  - a) Professional Category  
Positions of high responsibility of a managerial, professional, or scientific nature. These posts will be filled by appropriately qualified professionals, preferably with University qualifications or the equivalent. Employees in this category will be recruited internationally (including, where appropriate, from New Zealand). This category shall comprise different levels in accordance with the UN Staff categories.
  - b) General Services Category  
Auxiliary administrative and technical positions. Clerical, secretarial and other office personnel. Such employees shall be recruited from among citizens of Members of the Commission, taking into account potential benefits that may occur from hiring staff locally. This category shall comprise different levels in accordance with the UN Staff categories.
- 5.2. Persons employed under Regulation 11 shall not be classified as employees for the purposes of these Regulations.

## REGULATION 6

### *Salaries and Other Remuneration*

- 6.1. The scale of salaries for employees in the professional category shall be established in US dollars according to the corresponding scales of salaries which would apply to officials of the United Nations Secretariat employed in New Zealand for a given category and level and shall be paid in New Zealand dollars. The exchange rate used to calculate the relevant New Zealand dollar amount will be referenced against the UN Operational Rate of Exchange monthly.
- 6.2. Salaries or wages for employees in the general services category shall be set by the Executive Secretary and will be detailed in the offer of appointment for each employee. Such rates will, in principle, be paid in New Zealand dollars at rates equivalent to those paid in Wellington for staff of equivalent qualifications and experience.
- 6.3. The promotion of employees from one category and/or level to another requires the prior approval of the Commission.

### *Taxes and Levies*

- 6.4. Subject to paragraph 6.5, the Commission shall levy from each employee's salary (and such other emoluments of staff members as are computed on the basis of salary), an amount for Staff Assessment. Staff Assessment rates shall be those in force in the United Nations at the time of the relevant levy.



- 6.5. The Executive Secretary shall make arrangements to ensure that any employee who is subject to national taxes on income is reimbursed tax paid on his or her salary. Such arrangements shall be made only on the basis that the direct costs of reimbursement are paid by the ~~employee's home country~~ country in which the tax was paid. The Staff Assessment will not be levied in respect of employees who are subject to national taxes on income that cannot be reimbursed by the Executive Secretary.
- 6.6. Each employee shall have their performance assessed annually by the Executive Secretary. A summary of the performance reviews will be provided to the Commission annually. The annual performance review of the Executive Secretary shall be completed by the Commission Chairperson on behalf of the Commission.
- 6.7. Employees may receive annual increments at the discretion of the Executive Secretary (or, in respect of the Executive Secretary, the Commission). There is no guarantee that any employee's salary or wages will be increased. Increments shall cease once the employee has reached the highest level in the category in which he or she is serving.

#### Dependants and Spouses

- 6.8. For the purposes of these Regulations the term "dependant" shall include only:
- a) any unsalaried child, who is born of, or adopted by, an employee, his or her spouse or partner, or their children, who is below the age of twenty-one years and who is dependent on an employee or his or her spouse or partner for main and continuing support;
  - b) any child fulfilling the conditions laid down in paragraph (a) above, but who is between eighteen and twenty-five years of age and is receiving school or university education or vocational training;
  - c) any child with a disability who is dependent on an employee or his or her spouse or partner for main and continuing support;
  - d) any other child who is below the age of twenty-one years and who is given a home by and is dependent on an employee or his or her spouse or partner for main and continuing support;
  - e) any person related by blood, marriage de facto relationship, or civil union for whose main and continuing support an employee or his or her spouse or partner is legally responsible.
- 6.9. For the purposes of these Regulations "spouse" means husband or wife and "partner" in the phrase "spouse or partner" and in related contexts, means a civil union partner or a recognised de facto partner.

#### Education Allowance

- 6.10. Subject to any alternative arrangements that may be reached with any employee (with any such arrangements being recorded in the offer of appointment), employees shall be eligible to receive an education allowance in respect of each dependent child in full-time attendance at an educational institution. However, no education allowance for a dependent child shall be paid:
- a) in respect of children of New Zealand staff members;
  - b) for attendance at a New Zealand school;
  - c) for attendance at a University in New Zealand;
  - d) for correspondence courses or private tuition;
  - e) when schooling does not require regular attendance at an educational institution;
  - f) in respect of education expenses covered from scholarship grants or subsidies from other sources.
- 6.11. The education allowance shall be limited to two-thirds of proven costs up to the maximum amount applying from time to time in the United Nations Secretariat.



### Overtime

- 6.12. Employees in the professional category are not entitled to overtime pay or time off in lieu (TOIL). The employees agree that their salaries and other benefits compensate them fully for the performance of their duties for the Commission and also for them making themselves available to perform their duties.
- 6.13. Employees in the general services category required to work more than 40 hours during one week will be entitled to take as TOIL the equivalent to the hours of overtime performed, provided that the hours of overtime have been approved in advance by the Executive Secretary. Any TOIL accrued must be used within six months of the date of accrual at a date to be agreed between the employee and the Executive Secretary. Failing agreement, the Executive Secretary may appoint a date upon which such leave may be taken.

## REGULATION 7

### *Leave*

- 7.1. Employees shall be entitled to annual leave at the rate of two and half workdays for each full month of service, pro-rated for part-time employees. Annual leave will be paid in the pay period during which the leave is taken and will be paid in accordance with the Holidays Act 2003 (NZ) or any replacement legislation. Annual leave is cumulative, but at the end of each calendar year, not more than 20 days may be carried over to the following year. The Executive Secretary shall inform the FAC of any unused balances over 20 days, whether such balances were paid out, or agreed to be used within a specified timeframe<sup>4</sup>. Annual leave may be taken in advance of entitlement accruing at the discretion of the Executive Secretary (or the Commission [Chairperson](#) in respect of the Executive Secretary). If annual leave has been taken in advance and the employee's employment terminates prior to the employee accruing sufficient leave, the employee agrees that the Commission may deduct the relevant leave payment from the employee's final salary or wage payment or, if this is not sufficient to cover the leave payment, the employee will repay the relevant amount to the Commission prior to the termination date.
- 7.2. The taking of leave shall not cause undue disruption to normal Secretariat operations. In accordance with this principle, leave dates shall be subject to the needs of the Commission. Leave dates shall be approved by the Executive Secretary who shall, as far as possible, bear in mind the personal circumstances, needs and preferences of employees. The Executive Secretary shall plan leave in consultation with the [Commission Chairperson](#).
- 7.3. Annual leave may be taken in one or more periods.
- 7.4. Any absence not approved within the terms of these Regulations shall be either unpaid or deducted from annual leave at the election of the employee. This paragraph is without prejudice to any disciplinary action which may be taken against an employee (up to and including termination of employment) in respect of any unauthorised absences.
- 7.5. Employees who, upon termination of their appointment, have accumulated annual leave which has not been taken shall receive the cash equivalent calculated in accordance with the Holidays Act 2003 (NZ) or any replacement legislation.

### Home Leave

- 7.6. After 18 months of service the Commission shall, in accordance with these Regulations, pay economy class airfares to the employee's home country (other than New Zealand) for employees and their spouse or partner and dependants if the employee has sufficient accrued annual leave ("home leave"). Employees will be required to take annual leave for any period of home leave.

---

<sup>4</sup> It is envisaged that this situation shall occur only in unusual circumstances, it should not be a common occurrence. The Secretariat staff should have regular opportunities to use their leave balance.



- 7.7. Following this, home leave shall be granted at two-year intervals on the expectation that the employee will return to the Secretariat to continue rendering their services for a minimum additional period of 6 months. A spouse, partner or dependant who benefits from this Commission grant must have resided at Wellington for at least 6 months prior to travel.
- 7.8. If an employee leaves their appointment with the Commission within 6 months of returning from a period of home leave (except in cases of redundancy or termination of employment due to illness, injury or death), the employee will be required to reimburse the Commission for the amount of the airfares on a pro-rated basis (for example, if the employee leaves two months after returning from home leave the employee will be required to repay 4/6 of the airfare amount). The employee agrees that such amounts may be deducted from any sums owing to the employee on termination, including final salary and holiday pay.
- 7.9. The possibility of combining travel to the employee's home country on leave with official travel in Commission service may also be considered, provided the interests of the Commission are duly borne in mind.
- 7.10. For the purposes of these Regulations, an employee's home country is the country of their nationality. Where an employee holds two or more nationalities/citizenships, the employee shall designate one of those countries as his or her home country upon acceptance of the offer of appointment. The Executive Secretary (or, in the case of the Executive Secretary, the [Commission](#) Chairperson) may, in exceptional circumstances, authorise an employee to designate a different country as his or her home country if the employee has maintained normal residence in such other country for a prolonged period preceding his or her appointment and that employee continues to have close family and personal ties in that country. Once designated, the employee's home country shall remain fixed for the entire duration of the employee's employment, unless a change of home country is authorized by the Executive Secretary (or, in the case of the Executive Secretary, the Commission Chairperson) only in the most exceptional circumstances, on the basis of a written request supported by documented evidence. Where an employee holds two or more nationalities/citizenships, and one of them is New Zealand citizenship, the employee may not designate a country other than New Zealand as his or her home country unless he or she moved to New Zealand solely for the purpose of taking up a position at the Secretariat.

#### Public Holidays

- 7.11. In addition to annual leave, employees shall be entitled to the holidays celebrated in Wellington as follows:
- 1 January New Year's Day
  - 2 January
  - Wellington Anniversary Day
  - 6 February Waitangi Day
  - Good Friday
  - Easter Monday
  - 25 April Anzac Day
  - King's Birthday
  - Matariki
  - Labour Day
  - 25 December Christmas Day
  - 26 December Boxing Day.



- 7.12. Employees may, at their option, observe either Wellington Anniversary Day or select an alternative holiday at a date that enables them to observe their religion, customs and/or traditions provided that does not interfere with their duties at the Commission. This holiday must be used during the relevant calendar year and may not be carried over to the following year. Employees wishing to transfer Wellington Anniversary Day to an alternative day, must discuss this with (and have the relevant day approved by) the Executive Secretary at least two weeks prior to Wellington Anniversary Day in respect of that calendar year.
- 7.13. If under special circumstances employees are required to work on one of the aforementioned days set out in paragraph 7.11 (with the exception of Wellington Anniversary Day for employees observing an alternative holiday), or if any one of the above holidays falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the provisions of the Holidays Act 2003 (NZ) or any replacement legislation will be observed.

## REGULATION 8

### *Social Security*

- 8.1. Where an employee wishes to contribute to a recognised retirement fund, the Commission shall pay two-thirds of the total contributions to that fund, up to the maximum percentage applying from time to time in the United Nations Secretariat (UN Common System of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits booklet).
- 8.2. The Commission shall pay two-thirds of the proven cost of:
- medical insurance cover for employees and their dependants; and
  - life and disability insurance cover for employees, up to the maximum percentage applying from time to time in the United Nations Secretariat (UN Common System of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits booklet).

### *Sick Leave*

- 8.3. Employees (other than casual employees) will be entitled to 10 days paid sick leave per year of service (which may be accumulated to maximum of 40 days), paid in accordance with the Holidays Act 2003 (NZ) or any replacement legislation, (pro-rated for part-time employees) when they are absent:
- due to the employee's illness or injury; or
  - for the purposes of caring for a spouse, partner or dependant of the employee who is ill or injured and requires the employee's care and support or who required care due to an unexpected emergency.
- 8.4. Employees shall not be granted paid sick leave in accordance with paragraph 8.3 above for a period of more than 3 consecutive days (whether or not they are working days) without producing a medical certificate.

### *Parental Leave*

- 8.5. Employees are entitled either to parental leave under the New Zealand Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987, or to the parental leave provided in paragraphs 8.6 or 8.7 below at the employee's election.
- 8.6. After one year of continuous employment with the Commission, a employee giving birth to a child who elects not to use the entitlement in paragraph 8.5 above shall be entitled to maternity leave. The employee will be entitled to 16 weeks' paid leave, for any parent with an additional 10 weeks for the parent who gave birth, up to six weeks of which may be taken prior to the expected due date of the child. During this period, employees shall receive pay at a rate equal to their average pay for the last 12 months and corresponding allowances.
- 8.7. Paid parental leave of 8 weeks is available to employees who elect not to use the entitlement in paragraph 8.5 above and who have assumed the care of a child under six they intend to adopt.



### Bereavement Leave

- 8.8. Employees shall be entitled to bereavement leave upon the death of a family member or relative or the end of the employee's pregnancy or the pregnancy of the employee's spouse, partner, or of a person specified in the Holidays Act 2003 due to miscarriage or stillbirth, up to a maximum of 3 days per bereavement (Reasonable travel time to and from destination will not be counted under these limits). For the purposes of this section, "family member or relative" will include the employee's spouse or partner, parent, child, brother or sister, grandparent, grandchild or spouse's or partner's parent. Employees shall also be entitled to one day's bereavement leave when the Commission otherwise accepts that the employee has suffered a bereavement.
- 8.9. In the event of death of an employee following illness or surgery not resulting from an accident covered by the appropriate insurance, the right to salary, allowances and other corresponding benefits shall cease on the day on which death occurs, unless the deceased leaves a spouse, partner or dependants, in which case these shall be entitled to mortality allowances and return travel and removal expenses to their home country or former residence at the expense of the Commission.
- 8.10. Eligibility of the spouse, partner or dependants of a deceased employee for the payment of return travel and removal expenses shall lapse if the travel is not undertaken within six months of the date of the employee's death.

### Mortality Allowance

- 8.11. The above mortality allowance for death shall be calculated in accordance with the following scale:

#### Years of Service - Months of Net Base Salary Following Death

- Less than 3 years - 3 months
  - 3 years and more, but less than 7 years - 4 months
  - 7 years and more, but less than 9 years - 5 months
  - 9 years and more - 6 months
- 8.12. The Commission shall pay for transfer of the employee's remains and personal effects from the place of death to the place designated by the spouse, the next of kin, or other individual(s) designated by the employee.

### Rental Subsidy

- 8.13. Professional category employees shall be entitled to a rental subsidy consistent with the UN common system of salaries, allowances and benefits for UN duty stations as specified in the UN Common System of Salaries, Allowances and Benefits booklet (Annex III).

## REGULATION 9

### Travel

- 9.1. Where official travel is identified in the Travel Plan adopted pursuant to Regulation 2 of the Financial Regulations, such official travel shall be authorised by the Executive Secretary in advance within the limits of the budget, and the itinerary and travelling conditions shall be those best suited for maximum effectiveness in the fulfilment of duties assigned. All official travel shall be conducted in accordance with any Commission travel policies and procedures in force at the time. Any unforeseen official travel not included in the Travel Plan shall be planned in consultation with the [Commission](#) Chairperson, provided it is within the limits of the budget.



- 9.2. Staff may use Secretariat credit cards for pre-approved expenses while travelling or have actual and reasonable expenses refunded. Any use of Secretariat credit cards or reimbursement of travel expenses must be approved by the Executive Secretary in accordance with any travel policies or procedures in force at the time.
- 9.3. Further to Regulation 2.3 of the Financial Regulations, official travel should be planned well in advance to avoid incurring higher costs for airfares and other travel related costs.
- 9.4. Economy class shall be utilised for duty air travel, except that business class may be used for flights of nine hours or more, unless otherwise agreed by the Commission.
- 9.5. Subject to the above, business class may be utilised for duty land travel, but not for travel by sea or air.
- 9.6. On taking up an appointment in the Professional Category employees who are not ordinarily resident in Wellington shall be eligible for:
  - a) payment of economy class air fares (or equivalent) and travel allowance for themselves, their spouse or partner and dependants to Wellington;
  - b) an Installation Grant calculated on the basis of the prevailing United Nations rate;
  - c) payment of removal costs, including the shipment of personal effects and household goods from place of residence to Wellington, subject to a maximum volume of 30 cubic metres or one international standard shipping container; and
  - d) payment or reimbursement of sundry other expenses related to relocation, including insurance of goods in transit and excess baggage charges subject to the prevailing relevant United Nations rules. Such payments shall be subject to prior approval by the Executive Secretary.
- 9.7. Employees who, in the course of their duty, are required to use private motor vehicles for official travel purposes shall, with the prior authorisation of the Executive Secretary, be entitled to receive a reimbursement of the costs involved in line with the current New Zealand Inland Revenue mileage reimbursement rate. The costs associated with normal daily travel to and from place of work shall not be reimbursed.

## REGULATION 10

### *Separation from Service*

- 10.1. Employees may resign at any time upon giving three months' written notice or such lesser period as may be approved by the Executive Secretary or the Commission, as the case may require. Upon receiving the employee's resignation, the Commission may (at its election) decide to pay the employee in lieu of serving some or all of his or her notice period.
- 10.2. In the event of an employee resigning without giving the required notice, the Commission reserves the right to decide whether the amounts set out at paragraph 10.8 below or any other allowance shall be paid.
- 10.3. Appointment of employees may be terminated upon prior written notice at least three months in advance (or payment in lieu of some or all of that notice) by the Executive Secretary when he or she deems this to be for the benefit of the Commission due to restructuring of the Secretariat or if he or she considers that the employee does not give satisfactory service, fails to comply with the duties and obligations set out in these Regulations, or is incapacitated for service. Where an employee's appointment is being terminated by reason of not having given satisfactory service, prior to any termination notice being provided, the employee will be provided with a reasonable opportunity to improve the level of service provided.
- 10.4. Notwithstanding paragraph 10.3, appointment of employees may be terminated summarily by the Executive Secretary if the Executive Secretary is satisfied that the employee has committed a gross dereliction of his or her duties. For the purposes of these Regulations, a gross dereliction of



duties includes (but is not limited to) theft, bullying, violence in the workplace, harassment, intentional and/or serious breach of confidentiality or misappropriation of information. In the event of a separation from service due to a gross dereliction of duties, any benefits set out in paragraph 10.8 will be at the sole discretion of the Executive Secretary.

- 10.5. The Commission may terminate the appointment of the Executive Secretary subject to the terms and conditions set out in his or her instrument of appointment.
- 10.6. In the event of separation from service with the Secretariat by reason of redundancy employees shall be compensated at a rate of one month's base pay (less any tax or staff assessment applicable) for each year of service, beginning the second year (to a maximum of six months' base pay).
- 10.7. On separation, the employee must return all property belonging to the Commission in a satisfactory condition before receiving any final pay (including returning all confidential information and deleting any confidential digital information contained on employee-owned devices).
- 10.8. On separation from service, an employee shall, subject to paragraph 10.9 below, be entitled to the following:
  - a) payment of economy class air fares (or equivalent) to the employee's home country or former residence, for the employee, the employee's spouse or partner and the employee's dependants;
  - b) payment of removal costs, including the shipment of personal effects and household goods from place of residence in Wellington to the employee's home country or former residence, subject to a maximum volume of 30 cubic metres or one international shipping container;
  - c) a repatriation allowance generally consistent with United Nations practice.
- 10.9. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Regulations, at the discretion of the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Commission Chairperson (or, in the case of the Executive Secretary, the Commission), the right to the repatriation expenses provided for in paragraph 10.8 may be cancelled or reduced appropriately if:
  - a) less than one year has elapsed between the date of taking up the appointment and the date of separation from service;
  - b) the employee fails to provide the three months' advance notice as specified in paragraph 10.1;
  - c) the reason for separation from service was termination of employment due to gross dereliction of duty;
  - d) the employee has failed to return the Commission's property in accordance with clause 10.7;
  - e) more than six months has elapsed between the employee's separation from service and his or her return to his or her home country or former residence;
  - f) less than six months has elapsed since the employee last visited his or her home country or former residence on home leave at the expense of the Commission; or
  - g) the employee has applied for or received status as a permanent resident of New Zealand.
- 10.10. The separation payments in this Regulation (together with salary and entitlements to the termination date and annual leave payments owing) will constitute all benefits and entitlements that the employee is entitled to receive under these Regulations in respect of the separation from service.



## REGULATION 11

### *Temporary Personnel under Contract*

- 11.1. The Executive Secretary may contract temporary personnel necessary to discharge special duties in the service of the Commission. Such personnel shall be classified as additional help and may be paid on an hourly basis.
- 11.2. Persons in this category may include translators, interpreters, typists, and other persons contracted for meetings, as well as those whom the Executive Secretary contracts for a specific task. Whenever possible, persons resident in New Zealand shall be utilised in such cases.

## REGULATION 12

### *Health and Safety*

- 12.1. The Commission is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy working environment and will take reasonably practicable steps to ensure the safety of employees and other individuals affected by its work.
- 12.2. Each employee agrees to take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure:
  - a) their own safety while at work; and
  - b) that no action, or inaction of the employee while at work causes harm to any other person.
- 12.3. Each employee agrees to abide by all reasonable instructions and all policies of the Commission regarding health and safety, whether written or oral. This includes providing any relevant health information which the Commission may be required to provide to its insurers.
- 12.4. Each employee agrees to notify the Executive Secretary as soon as practicable, of anything in the workplace that may endanger the health and safety of the employee or any other person. Each employee agrees to notify the Executive Secretary as soon as possible of any accident, incident or near miss which occurs in the course of the employee's work for the Commission.

## REGULATION 13

### *Application and Amendment of Regulations*

- 13.1. Any doubts or disputes arising from application or interpretation of these Regulations shall be resolved by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Members of the Commission. In making any decision as to the application or interpretation of the Regulations, the Executive Secretary will take account of the application or interpretation proposed by any relevant employee. However, any decision made by the Executive Secretary in respect of the application or interpretation of these Regulations having consulted with the above parties, will be final.
- 13.2. Situations involving the Executive Secretary shall be resolved by the [Commission](#) Chairperson in consultation with Members of the Commission.
- 13.3. All matters not foreseen in these Regulations that materially affect the operation of the Secretariat or the working conditions of the employees shall be brought to the attention of the Commission by the Executive Secretary.
- 13.4. Subject to the provisions of the Convention, these Regulations may be amended by the Commission in accordance with its Rules of Procedure.



## Annex 1

### SPRFMO Staff Association and Staff Representative

#### 1. *Staff Association (SA) and Election of Staff Representative (SR)*

- 1.1. All SPRFMO employees<sup>5</sup> on permanent or at least one-year contract excluding the Executive Secretary (ES) may form a Staff Association (SA) and shall have the right to vote at the SA meetings. The SA guides and mandates the Staff Representative (SR) to take specific actions or present particular viewpoints to the ES.
- 1.2. Decisions are valid only if all members participate at the meeting. A decision should be reached by consensus; if that is not possible, decisions shall be accepted by a simple majority. Decisions can be taken by a show of hands unless requested otherwise by at least one staff member.
- 1.3. The SA elects the SR by secret ballot and by simple majority<sup>6</sup> for a term of 2 years starting January (if a SR is elected after January, his/her term still ends with the calendar year). Each staff member is eligible for the role and can be re-elected without restrictions. The SR can be voted out of office by simple majority at any time. If the SR resigns, a meeting shall be called within a month to elect a new SR.
- 1.4. The SR can call a Staff Meeting on his/her initiative. In addition, an extraordinary SA Meeting can be called upon request of at least half the SA members with an agenda circulated at least 3 working days before the meeting.

#### 2. *Mandate of the Staff Representative (SR)*

- 2.1. It is the role of the SR to ensure that staff interests are adequately presented in relevant decision-making processes. The SR has the role of contributing to management transparency by informing staff in a timely fashion of important developments and decisions.
- 2.2. Confidential and personal information cannot be disclosed without consent in writing of the individual(s) concerned. If in need of guidance, the SR can call a SA meeting. In the case of a conflict within the Secretariat that cannot be solved internally, the SR can call upon the FAC.

#### 3. *Rights of the Staff Representative (SR)*

- 3.1. To fulfil his/her duties the SR has a number of rights, namely;
  - a) Be informed about all issues (facts, events, plans, etc) regarding personnel matters and work situation in a timely and comprehensive fashion, limited to appropriate circumstances that may give rise to a conflict.
  - b) Advise the ES on staff preferences regarding work time regulations, work safety and health issues, review of Staff Rules, and other staff-related matters.
  - c) Participate in the FAC meetings when personnel matters and work situations are discussed.

---

<sup>5</sup> Regulation 3.1 SPRFMO Staff Regulations.

<sup>6</sup> If no candidate secures the required number of votes, then the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated and voting shall be continued until a candidate is elected.



- d) Be partially released from ordinary work duties in order to fulfil their duties relevant to his/her function (point in time and amount of time granted to be agreed upon by ES and SA but not to exceed 5% of annual work time).
- e) Be protected from reprimand/dismissal on the grounds of his/her activities in this function provided that the activities are not in violation of these Regulations and/or the Standards of Conduct for International Civil Service.



## Annex 2 SPRFMO Conflict Resolution Procedures

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The purpose of the SPRFMO Conflict Resolution Procedures is to inform employees about the processes to follow to resolve a potential conflict situation that may arise in the workplace.
- 1.2. The SPRFMO Conflict Resolution Procedures focuses on the conflict framework rather than being prescriptive on tailor-made resolutions for each potential conflict situation.
- 1.3. The flowchart below illustrates the conflict resolution procedures based on the relationship between the relevant parties and the solution mechanisms to manage and finally resolving a given potential conflict.

### 2. General Description

- 2.1. Informal resolution: Preventing conflict escalation by managing and resolving conflicts in the workplace quickly and constructively. Employees who are involved in conflict situations are encouraged first to seek an informal resolution<sup>7</sup>.
- 2.2. Formal resolution: Mediation is where an independent person helps resolve an employment relationship problem in a semi-formal and confidential environment. In the case mediation is needed the employees may voluntarily agree on using the Employment Mediation Services of the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) of New Zealand or by mutual arrangement, another mediator<sup>8</sup>.
- 2.3. The Executive Secretary (ES) ensures the effective functioning of the Secretariat (Art. 14 SPRFMO Convention). The ES supports staff at all levels in preventing, managing and resolving Secretariat conflicts.
- 2.4. The Staff Association (SA) and the Staff Representative (SR) mandates and rights are fully described in Annex 1.
- 2.5. The FAC functions are provided in Art 13 of the SPRFMO Convention particularly regarding matters “relating to the Executive Secretary and the staff of the Secretariat”.
- 2.6. The Commission Chairperson as per Regulation 13.2 resolves situations involving the ES in consultation with Members of the Commission.
- 2.7. The Commission supervises “the organisational, administrative, financial and other internal affairs of the Organisation, including the relations among constituent bodies” in accordance with Art 8 (I) of the SPRFMO Convention.

### 3. Timing in Conflict Resolution

- 3.1. With the objective of expediting the conflict resolution, a maximum of 15 days would be allocated to informal resolution, for the [Commission](#) Chairperson and the ES to resolve a potential conflict. Formal resolutions will be limited to 60 days if the conflict resolution involves a mediator.

### 4. Prevention and Training

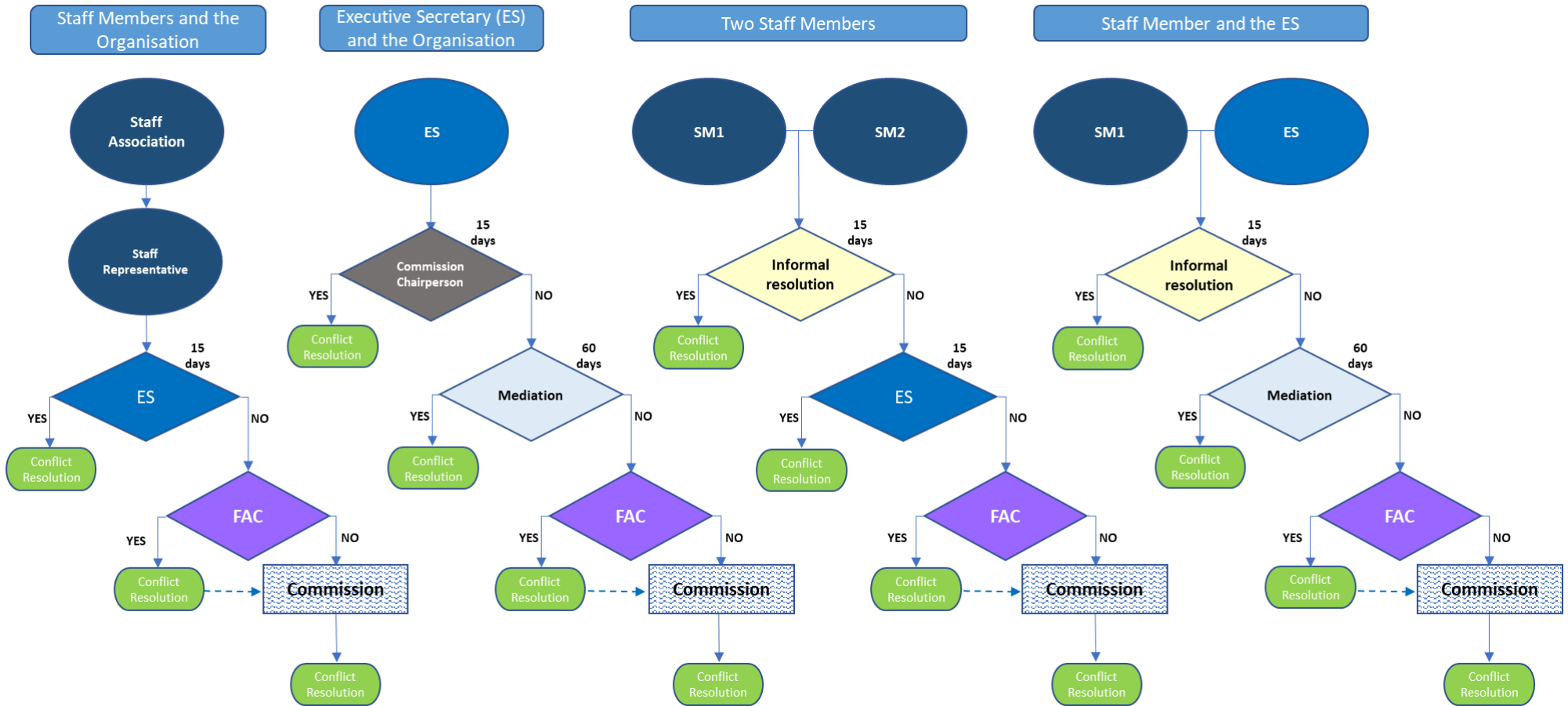
- 4.1. Proper training can assist all employees in preventing and solving conflicts in the workplace. SPRFMO therefore encourages the Secretariat to develop the ability of staff members to work effectively in a multicultural environment by building essential skills in communication, problem-solving, collaborative negotiation, teamwork, and mediation.

<sup>7</sup> such as informal discussions with the colleague concerned, if appropriate.

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.employment.govt.nz/resolving-problems/steps-to-resolve/mediation/>



### Conflict Resolution Procedures





---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 5f Policy for Secondments and Internships (COMM14-Prop 20\_rev1)

### *1. Purpose*

This policy provides administrative guidance for secondments and internships in the SPRFMO Secretariat. This policy is adopted under Article 8 (o) of the SPRFMO Convention.

The SPRFMO Commission recognises the mutual benefits of offering secondments and internships in the [SPRFMO](#)-Secretariat. Secondments and internships:

1. Enhance cooperation and contribute to disseminating the work of SPRFMO in different environments, including among Members and CNCPs.
2. Promote a better understanding for Members and CNCPs of SPRFMO, RFMOs and fisheries in a multilateral environment.
3. Expose talented students and employees to SPRFMO's work and provide them with an opportunity to further develop their skills.
4. Provide the Secretariat and SPRFMO in general with the opportunity to accomplish additional tasks and activities that may not be supported by regular resources, including meeting support.

### *2. Definitions*

1. An intern is a person who is completing, or has recently completed, a [post-secondary education course \(e.g., university or equivalent degree programme\)](#) who is undertaking an internship in the [SPRFMO](#)-Secretariat in accordance with the terms of this policy and those requirements as set out by the [SPRFMO](#)-Executive Secretary. An intern may be sponsored by a Sponsoring Organisation.
2. A secondee is a person employed by a national, regional or local public administration or education institution of a SPRFMO Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party (CNCP), who is seconded to the [SPRFMO](#)-Secretariat for a limited period of time, to use or develop their expertise in a particular area and contribute with his/her knowledge to the implementation of the tasks of the [SPRFMO](#)-Secretariat. A secondee is sponsored, fully or partially, by a Member or CNCP.
3. The sponsoring Member/CNCP is the Member or CNCP sponsoring the secondment to the [SPRFMO](#) Secretariat.
4. The sponsoring organisation is any organisation, public or private, sponsoring the placement of an Intern in the [SPRFMO](#)-Secretariat.

### *3. General Rules*

1. Prior to commencing in the Secretariat, secondees and interns will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement to ensure that the Commission and the Secretariat's confidential information remains secure, both for the duration of the internship or secondment, as applicable, and beyond.



2. Secondees and interns are responsible for obtaining their visa and any other legal requirements according to applicable domestic law of New Zealand.
3. It is expected that secondees and interns will have a working level of English, such that they can participate in the work of the Secretariat.
4. All rights to any work done by a secondees or interns in the performance of his/her duties in the [SPRFMO Secretariat](#) are the property of SPRFMO.
5. If a seconded or intern intends to publish, whether alone or with others, any text on a matter relating to the work of SPRFMO, he/she will inform the Executive Secretary and the Chairperson of the Commission in advance. The Executive Secretary and Chairperson will have the right to object to the publication if, in their reasonable judgement, the publication is liable seriously to prejudice the legitimate interests of the SPRFMO and/or any of its Members or CNCs.

#### *4. Placement of Interns in the SPRFMO Secretariat*

1. For the purposes of the Staff Regulations, an intern is classed as “temporary personnel” under Regulation 11 and in accordance with Regulation 5.2 will not be classified as an “employee” for the purposes of the Staff Regulations. Despite this classification, interns will observe the following Staff Regulations:
  - a) Regulations 3.1 – 3.7 with respect to duties, discretion and confidentiality;
  - b) Regulations 3.16 – 3.21 on the Relation with Members, CNCs and the media;
  - c) Regulation 4 with respect to hours of work;
  - d) Regulations 7.11 – 7.13 with respect to observance of public holidays;
  - e) [Regulation 10.7 with respect to returning all SPRFMO property on separation](#);
  - f) Regulation 12 with respect to health and safety.
2. Internships must be foreseen in the budget.
3. [Interns are not precluded from applying for roles in the Secretariat but an](#) Internship does not lead to a direct appointment as employee of the Organisation.
4. SPRFMO will provide a monthly stipend ~~of NZ\$ 2000~~ for interns [that is no less than the New Zealand minimum wage](#), except where alternative arrangements have been made between the Executive Secretary and the sponsoring organisation of the intern. SPRFMO will not be responsible for the coverage of travel costs to and from the place of residence and the location of the Secretariat.
5. The Executive Secretary will consult the Chairperson of the Commission prior to offering any internships. All internships will be advertised on the SPRFMO website for at least 45 days together with the duties and responsibilities of the intern, the conditions applicable to the post, including possible deadlines and other procedural requirements. Internships may be advertised either as general internships or for specific subject areas (for example, fisheries science/management, legal, data analysis, etc).
6. No more than two internships will be offered per year. In order to facilitate rotation, the maximum duration of the internship will not exceed ~~5-12~~ months.
7. The Executive Secretary will review the applications received within 15 days of the close of the advertisement period.
8. In considering the applications, the Executive Secretary will bear in mind the skills and experience of each applicant, the operational needs of the Secretariat and the overall benefits to the Commission. The Executive Secretary may decide not to appoint any intern.
9. The Executive Secretary will inform the Commission of the outcome of the application process, including the basis of the decisions.



10. The Executive Secretary will set out the specific details of the internship, including wage stipend, duration, hours of work and duties, in writing to the intern in accordance with this policy and any applicable Staff Regulations. The intern will be asked to record, in writing, their acceptance of these terms and commitment to this policy.
11. Interns will be included in any Public Liability provisions under the ~~SPRFMO~~ Secretariat's insurance policy.
12. ~~Prior to commencing in the Secretariat, interns will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement to ensure that the Commission and the Secretariat's confidential information remains secure, both for the duration of the internship and beyond.~~
13. At the end of the internship, interns will provide to the Executive Secretary a report assessing the outcomes and how the objectives of the internship were fulfilled.

### 5. *Secondments to the SPRFMO Secretariat*

1. Secondments may be undertaken in the ~~SPRFMO~~ Secretariat for a maximum of two years subject to the approval of the Commission. Any extension beyond that two-year period is subject to reconsideration and approval by the Commission. The total duration will not exceed 3 years. Secondees are not precluded from applying for roles in the Secretariat but a Secondment does not lead to a direct appointment as employee of the Organisation.
2. Secondees are not "employees" for the purposes of the Staff Regulations. However, secondees will observe the following Staff Regulations:
  - a) Regulations 3.1 – 3.7 with respect to duties, discretion and confidentiality;
  - b) Regulations 3.16 – 3.21 on the Relation with Members, CNCPs and the media;
  - c) Regulation 4 with respect to hours of work;
  - d) Regulations 7.11 – 7.13 with respect to observance of public holidays;
  - e) Regulation 10.7 with respect to returning all SPRFMO property on separation;
  - f) Regulation 12 with respect to health and safety.

Failure to comply with these obligations during the period of secondment will entitle the ~~SPRFMO Secretariat~~ Executive Secretary to terminate the secondment.

3. The ~~SPRFMO~~ Secretariat will not bear any costs from the secondment other than those related to the performance of their duties during their secondment (for example, official travel expenses). The sponsoring Member/CNCP will retain responsibility for the secondee's social security and pension as applicable in the national legislation and/or policies of the sponsoring Member/CNCP.
4. The secondee's personal and annual leave will continue to be the administrative responsibility of the sponsoring Member/CNCP.
5. Secondees will be included in any Public Liability provisions under the ~~SPRFMO~~ Secretariat's insurance policy. However, the secondee will be required to demonstrate that he/she has their own travel insurance and at least basic health insurance, including hospital cover prior to commencing his/her post in the Secretariat. The ~~SPRFMO~~ Secretariat is not liable for any expenses arising from a medical incident or accident.
6. Secondments need to be sponsored by a Member or CNCP. The formal intention and support will be provided by the Member or CNCP in writing to the ~~Secretariat~~ Executive Secretary.
7. After consulting with the Chairperson of the Commission, the Executive Secretary may also suggest Members/CNCPs to consider a specific secondment position to ensure the effective functioning of the Secretariat.



8. The Executive Secretary will, in consultation with the sponsoring Member/CNCP, devise a work plan that takes into account the operational needs of the ~~SPRFMO~~ Secretariat, the benefits to the Commission, the sponsoring Member/CNCP's objectives for the secondment and the secondee's academic background, skills, experience, interests and aspirations.
9. The secondee will go through a SPRFMO staff screening interview<sup>1</sup> and final interview by the Executive Secretary who will make the ultimate selection decision to recommend the secondee to the Commission.
10. Once approved by the Commission, the sponsoring Member/CNCP and the Secretariat will formalise the secondment via exchange of letters, or other suitable written means which should set out their mutual commitment to this policy. These communications will be circulated to Members of the Commission and CNCPs.
11. The secondment may be terminated at any time by either the Sponsoring Member/CNCP or the ~~SPRFMO Secretariat~~ Executive Secretary. In this event, the Commission will be notified.
12. At the end of the secondment, secondees will report back to the sponsoring Member/CNCP and the Executive Secretary on the outcomes of the work plan and how the experience fulfilled the objectives of the secondment.
13. At each annual meeting of the Commission, the Executive Secretary will provide an account of the tasks undertaken by the secondee, and an assessment<sup>2</sup> of the secondment in general. At the end of each secondment, the Executive Secretary will prepare and circulate an informative report to the Commission.

---

<sup>1</sup> A brief question and answer session typically conducted in a relatively informal manner.

<sup>2</sup> The Secondment assessment will be provided ensuring confidentiality of this document.



# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 6a Final Compliance Report 2024-25 (COMM14-WP10)

**Reporting period to which this report refers:** 2024/25 (01 October 2024 – 30 September 2025)

**Report Date:** 02 March 2026

**Summary:** This report summarises the results of the compliance assessment pertaining to 28 VMS events and 13 non-VMS issues of potential non-compliance with provisions of 7 CMMs identified in the following table. No compliance issues were identified in relation to the other CMMs.

### CMMs with Potential Compliance Issues Identified

| CMM         | Short Title                 | # of Issues | Table # |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------|
| CMM 01-2025 | <i>Trachurus murphyi</i>    | 1           | 1       |
| CMM 02-2025 | Data Standards              | 4           | 2       |
| CMM 05-2023 | Record of Vessels           | 1           | 3       |
| CMM 06-2023 | Commission VMS              | 28          | 4       |
| CMM 07-2025 | Port Inspection             | 2           | 5       |
| CMM 12-2023 | Transshipment and Transfers | 4           | 6       |
| CMM 18-2025 | Jumbo Flying Squid          | 1           | 7       |

The information summary tables on the following pages are arranged by CMM and identify any 2024/25 compliance issues along with the assigned 2023/24 Compliance Status from last year's 2025 Final Compliance Report (including any identified non-compliance).

A 2024/25 Compliance Status has been assigned by the CTC. As per [CMM10-2020](#), the Commission considered the Provisional Compliance Report provided by the CTC, and adopted a Final Compliance Report.

In accordance with [CMM10-2020](#) Paragraph 16 the Final Compliance Report shall include:

- a) a compliance status for each Member and CNCP with respect to the implementation of their obligations under the Convention and CMMs, and recommendations for any corrective action needed, based on compliance issues identified with respect to that Member or CNCP;
- b) suggestions for possible amendments or improvements to existing CMMs to address implementation or compliance difficulties experienced by Members and CNCPs;
- c) obstacles to implementation identified by Members and CNCPs including capacity building requirements;
- d) additional obligations that should be reviewed under the CMS;
- e) any other action the Commission shall deem appropriate to address non-compliance noted in the Final Compliance Report or to promote compliance with the Convention, CMMs and other obligations reviewed in the CMS.

The Final Compliance Report shall also contain an executive summary setting out any recommendations or observations from the Commission regarding the issues listed in paragraph 16 of this measure.



Table 1: CMM 01-2025 (*Trachurus murphyi*)

| Member/<br>CNC | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status               | 15. 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 01-2025 ( <i>Trachurus murphyi</i> )   | 2024/25<br>Compliance Status        |
|----------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| Ecuador        | Non-Compliant<br><br>(CMM 01-2024-Para 11/12) | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> (<i>Paragraph 13/14 – Late Submission of CJM Catches</i>)</p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified in respect to regular reporting of CJM Catches (Monthly / 15-day). An email summary of CJM catch information for 2024 (including the reporting periods during October - December 2024) were received on 16 January 2025. For calendar year 2025, a “nil report” was received for January to March, and a CJM catch report of 52t was received for April (on time) however no further catch reports were received from Ecuador for the remainder of the reporting period (i.e., May – September 2025). Ecuador’s Annual Implementation report identified a catch estimate of 122.5t for 2025 (as of 31 October).</p> <p><i>*Reference Note: CMM 01-2025 Para 1: This CMM applies... and with the express consent of Chile and Ecuador, to fisheries for Trachurus murphyi undertaken by Chile and Ecuador in areas under their national jurisdiction.</i></p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b></p> <p>Ecuador acknowledges the Secretariat’s observations regarding the timeliness of monthly and 15-day catch reports. The delayed submission of reports during part of the 2024/25 period was due to internal coordination and data consolidation processes. Ecuador wishes to clarify that the catch reports submitted correspond to artisanal fishing activities conducted within waters under national jurisdiction, reported pursuant to a domestic decision to apply the relevant conservation and management measures at the national level. In this regard, Ecuador notes that the submission of such information constitutes an additional and voluntary reporting effort, beyond the reporting obligations applicable to other Members, aimed at strengthening transparency and conservation outcomes. Ecuador confirms that reported catches were accurately reflected in the Annual Implementation Report, and notes that no additional fishing activity occurred beyond what was reported. Measures have been taken to strengthen internal reporting workflows to ensure timely submission of future catch and nil reports to the Secretariat. (<i>Status requested: Non-compliant – No further action</i>)</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> The CTC noted that there was a requirement to report the catch data pursuant to Ecuador’s express consent to apply CMM01 in waters under its national jurisdiction.</p> | Non-compliant,<br>No further action |



Table 2: CMM 02-2025 (Data Standards)

| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 02-2025 (Data Standards)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Cuba            | Non-Compliant<br>(Para 7)       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 7 - Late submission of the annual report to SC)</i></p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified in respect of paragraph 7 in that the annual SC report (or “Nil” report) from Cuba was received late. Members/CNCPs are required to submit at least 1-month before each SC Meeting an annual report of their fishing, research, management activities over the previous year. A nil report is required where there is no fishing inside the Convention Area. The 2025 SC meeting was held 08-13 September 2025. The due date for Annual Report to SC submission was 07 August 2025. The report from Cuba was received on 23 August 2025.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> Cuba resubmitted the nil SC report to the Secretariat.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> CTC noted that the information was received late and Cuba’s commitment to report on time in future.</p>   | Non-compliant,<br>No further action |
| Ecuador         | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 7 - Late submission of the annual report to SC)</i></p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified in respect of paragraph 7 in that the annual SC report (or “Nil” report) from Ecuador was received late. Members/CNCPs are required to submit at least 1-month before each SC Meeting an annual report of their fishing, research, management activities over the previous year. A nil report is required where there is no fishing inside the Convention Area. The 2025 SC meeting was held 08-13 September 2025. The due date for Annual Report to SC submission was 07 August 2025. The report from Ecuador was received on 27 August 2025.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b></p> <p>Ecuador notes that its annual report to the Scientific Committee was submitted after the prescribed deadline. The delay was primarily associated with the additional time required to compile and consolidate information related to artisanal fishing activities reported for the purposes of implementing CMM 01-2024/2025 within waters under Ecuador’s national jurisdiction. Ecuador notes that this information was incorporated as part of a voluntary and enhanced national reporting effort aimed at ensuring consistency and completeness across compliance-related submissions. The delay did not affect the accuracy or integrity of the information provided. Ecuador reiterates its commitment to submitting future annual or nil reports within the established timelines.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.</p> <p>The CTC noted that there was a requirement to submit the report.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further Action |



| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status     | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 02-2025 (Data Standards)  | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Faroe Islands   | Compliant                           | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 7 - Late submission of the annual report to SC)</i> There is a potential compliance issues identified in respect of paragraph 7 in that the annual SC report (or “Nil” report) from the Faroe Islands was received late. Members/CNCPs are required to submit at least 1-month before each SC Meeting an annual report of their fishing, research, management activities over the previous year. A “NIL” report is required where there is no fishing inside the Convention Area. The 2025 SC meeting was held 08-13 September 2025. The due date for Annual Report to SC submission was 07 August 2025. The report from the Faroe Islands was received on 22 August 2025.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> The Faroe Islands regret the possible compliance issue relating to paragraph 7, concerning the late submission of the annual report to the Scientific Committee. This delay was due to an oversight on our part, as the deadline was unfortunately missed during the summer vacation period. In this regard, I would also like to thank you for bringing the missed submission to my attention, thereby allowing us to submit the report, albeit late. We are committed to ensuring that this type of oversight does not occur again, and we will strengthen our internal routines to avoid similar issues in the future.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further Action |
| Liberia         | Non-Compliant<br><i>(Para 1(d))</i> | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Para 1(c)(d) – Late submission of the 2024 annual compilation report on Transshipment Activity)</i> There is a potential compliance issue regarding the late submission of the annual compilation report on Transshipment Activity for the 2024 calendar year. Summary submissions on all fisheries data, including landings and transshipment are required annually by 30 June (2025). The Secretariat circulated a reminder letter (G57-2025) in this regard to Members/CNCPs on 06 June 2025. No response was received from Liberia. On 24 July 2025 an email reminder was sent directly to Liberia. Receipt was acknowledged but the Annual Summary of 2024 Transshipment Activity was not received until 14 January 2026.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> Our FMC was undergoing a transitional period after government elections and leadership changes; therefore, exchange of information became almost impossible. We have gathered the information and are submitting here. We also have measures in place to prevent reoccurrence.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> CTC noted that Liberia’s reporting is expected to improve following the appointment of permanent staff and additional training.</p>  | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further Action |



Table 3: CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels)

| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels)  | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Liberia         | Non-Compliant<br>(Para 13)      | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Para 13 – Late notification of deletion of vessel from Registry)</i><br/>There is a potential compliance issue pursuant to Paragraph 13 obligations due to the Secretariat not receiving notification in a timely manner that the carrier vessel EVEREST BAY was no longer under Liberian flag. Liberia notified the Secretariat on 12 March 2025 that the authorisation for the EVEREST BAY had been ended. IMO GISIS information indicates that the vessel was flagged to Saint Kitts and Nevis and renamed ADEL in August 2024. Since then, the vessel has not been in the SPRFMO Area.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> <i>(No comments received in response to the initial draft compliance report).</i></p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> CTC noted Liberia’s explanation that late reporting was due to internal administrative issues and that internal improvements have been made.</p> | Priority<br>Non-Compliant       |

Table 4: CMM 06-2023 (VMS)

| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 06-2023 (VMS)<br><i>(Guide: Para 4- non-continuous data/gaps; Para 11- Data not forwarded hourly by FMC; Para 12- ALC issue; Annex 1-Para 5 – Pos’n not accurate/flying vessel;<br/>Annex 1- Para 7 – &gt;1 hr position reporting; Annex 3-Para 1b – update manual reports to Commission VMS )</i>   | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status        |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Chile           | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>Para 11 (1 event)</i><br/>There was 1 potential compliance issue pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). The VMS was recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)<br/>As per emails submitted on June 26 and on July 11, 2025; signed by mister Gonzalo Jimenez, representative of the Chilean Maritime Authority and responsible for the VMS in the country, the SPRFMO Secretariat was informed about malfunctioning problems with the VMS system derived from the service provider. Enclosed with these messages, the Secretary was provided with the respective VMS data and a letter from the provider with their apologies for the inconvenience that this situation might have caused. In this regard, considering that the compliance issue cannot be attributed to the Chilean vessel referred in your letter, as delegation, we do not see any compliance matter to be held accountable for. The respective emails and information recently referred to is also attached as part of the supporting documentation for this response.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.<br/>CTC noted the responsibility of the flag State to provide VMS information.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |



| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status                       | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 06-2023 (VMS)<br><i>(Guide: Para 4- non-continuous data/gaps; Para 11- Data not forwarded hourly by FMC; Para 12- ALC issue; Annex 1-Para 5 – Pos'n not accurate/flying vessel;<br/>Annex 1- Para 7 – &gt;1 hr position reporting; Annex 3-Para 1b – update manual reports to Commission VMS )</i>   | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status     |
|-----------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| China           | Non-Compliant<br><i>(Para 4, 11, 12, Annex 1 -P5)</i> | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> Paragraph 4 (7 events), Paragraph 11 (4 events), Paragraph 12 (1 event), and Annex 1-Para 5 (2 events).<br/>There were 14 potential compliance issues pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). The VMS was recovered where applicable.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)<br/>There are no additional comments, all the case replies have been promptly updated to the Secretariat.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Following review of situation for each event and noting VMS data was recovered, CTC assigned each event as NC – NFA.</p>  | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further Action |
| Cook Islands    | Compliant   | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> Paragraph 4 (1 event)</p> <p>There was 1 potential compliance issue pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). The VMS was recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)<br/>The missing data was recovered from the service provider and transmitted to the Secretariat on the 5th of November 2025. The Cooks considers this resolved, no issue detected.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.</p>   | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further action |
| European Union  | Non-Compliant<br><i>(Para 11)</i>                     | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> Paragraph 4 (2 events)</p> <p>There were 2 potential compliance issues pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). The VMS was recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)<br/>Our investigation found that one issue was due to a problem with the EC FLUX TL server which resulted in some messages receiving 'timeout' status, and the other issue was due to a change in certificates which created a communication problem between the FMC's internal systems. These issues were resolved promptly, and all missing position reports were provided to the SPRFMO Secretariat.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further action |



|                       |   |  |  |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| <p><b>Korea</b></p>   | <p>Non-Compliant<br/>(Para 11)</p>                | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>Paragraph 11 (1 event)</i></p> <p>There was 1 potential compliance issue pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). VMS Data has been recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)</p> <p>The issue stemmed from a technical issue. It was confirmed that our automatic transmission system had been overloaded due to the large volume of data being transmitted to multiple RFMOs. The missing data has been pushed to SPRFMO VMS.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Following review of situation and noting VMS data was recovered, CTC assigned status as NC-NFA</p>   | <p>Non-Compliant,<br/>No Further Action</p>        |
| <p><b>Liberia</b></p> | <p>Non-Compliant<br/>(Para 11)</p>                | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>Paragraph 12 (1 event), Annex 3 (1 Event)</i></p> <p>There were 2 potential compliance issue pertaining to VMS reporting requirements pertaining to the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). Vessel positional data for the gap has been partially recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)</p> <p>The VMS service provider attempted to update the firmware on the subject vessel however, the USB cable necessary for the update was not found on the ship. We were advised the necessary updates would be made that once the ship reached a convenient port. The vessel has been manually reporting its positions to the FMC.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Following review of the issue and noting VMS data has only partially provided, the CTC assigned a status of PNC and requested that Liberia provide the missing VMS Data from the manual reports.</p>   | <p>Priority Non-Compliant<br/>(Further Action)</p> |
| <p><b>Panama</b></p>  | <p>Non-Compliant<br/>(Para 4, 11, Annex 1-P5)</p> | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>Paragraph 4 (2 events), Paragraph 11 (3 events)</i></p> <p>There were 5 potential compliance issues pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). VMS Data has been recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)</p> <p>With reference to the five (5) potential compliance issues identified by the Secretariat during the 2024/25 reporting period under CMM 06-2023 (VMS), Panama clarifies that, in all cases, the VMS operated by the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) of ARAP continuously received the position reports transmitted by the vessels concerned, confirming the proper functioning of the onboard equipment. The data gaps identified in the Commission’s VMS did not result from vessel non-compliance or failures of onboard VMS units, but rather from technical or administrative transmission issues between interconnected systems and service providers. Once notified by the Secretariat, Panama immediately proceeded to retransmit the missing VMS positions, which were successfully uploaded into the Commission’s VMS, resulting in complete records and closure of each case. Panama respectfully requests that these matters be considered compliant and welcomes continued cooperation through early notifications to facilitate prompt resolution of any future transmission issues. Panama reiterates that it maintains strict VMS</p> | <p>Non-Compliant,<br/>No Further Action</p>        |



|         |                            |  |  |
|---------|----------------------------|--|--|
|         |                            | <p>monitoring controls and applies enforcement measures in accordance with national regulations where appropriate.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b> Following review of situation for each event and noting VMS data was recovered, CTC assigned each event as NC – NFA.</p>   |  |
| Peru    | Non-Compliant<br>(Para 12) | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> Paragraph 4 (1 event)<br/>           There was 1 potential compliance issue pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). VMS Data was not recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)<br/>           Regarding the Compliance issue related to CMM 06 (VMS), the response is elaborated by our competent area in the Excel file.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b><br/>           Following review of situation surrounding the event and noting Peru’s explanation, CTC assigned a NC – NFA.</p>       | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |
| Vanuatu | Non-Compliant<br>(Para 11) | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> Paragraph 11 (1 event)<br/>           There was 1 potential compliance issue pertaining to VMS reporting requirements during the 2024/25 Reporting period (reference CTC13-Doc10.1 VMS Issues Summary for details). VMS Data has been recovered.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b> (Refer to VMS Issues Summary Worksheet - CTC13-Doc10.1 RESTRICTED)<br/>           The vessels ceased updating simultaneously due to a synchronization bug in the shared Service Provider transmission gateway.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b><br/>           Following review of situation surrounding the event and noting Vanuatu’s explanation, CTC assigned a NC – NFA.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |



Table 5: CMM 07-2025 (Port Inspections)

| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 07-2025 (Port Inspections)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status        |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Ecuador         | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 26 – late submission of Inspection Report)</i><br/>           There is a potential compliance issue identified pertaining to paragraph 26 requirements of the Port Inspection Procedures pertaining to transmission of a port inspection report to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary later than 15 working days following the date of completion of the port inspection. The SPRFMO authorised jiggling vessel <i>JING YUAN 628</i> (CHN) arrived in port at Manta, Ecuador from the SPRFMO Convention Area on 10 July 2025. A port inspection was carried out and submitted via the FAO Global Information Exchange System (GIES) on 06 November 2025.</p> <p><i>Information - Port Inspection Number PIR-ECU-12978 MPCEIP-SRP-DCP-NO-2025-007: Date of Inspection: 2025-07-10; Purpose of the port visit: change of crew; Catch retained onboard: GIS Dosidicus gigas (Jumbo flying squid); Catch Area: SPRFMO - FAO Fishing Area 87; Product form: Whole/rounded - Not processed – Frozen; Quantity Declared: 80,400 kg</i></p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b><br/>           Regarding the port inspection of the vessel <i>Jing Yuan 628</i>, Ecuador notes that while the vessel is registered with SPRFMO as authorised to conduct fishing activities within the Convention Area, its port call to Manta was limited to logistical support and provisioning activities. During the inspection, it was verified on board that the fishing activity conducted concerned a species not covered by the SPRFMO Convention. In this context, Ecuador emphasizes that the inspection report transmitted to the Secretariat reflects Ecuador’s commitment to cooperation with SPRFMO, particularly in the initial stages of exercising its responsibilities as a Port State, including the use of the FAO Global Information Exchange System (GIES), which Ecuador fully supports. Accordingly, Ecuador notes that the circumstances of this inspection were outside the scope of paragraph 1(b) of the relevant CMM and reiterates its commitment to the timely transmission of port inspection reports and the continuous strengthening of internal procedures in line with SPRFMO requirements. <i>(Status requested: Compliant)</i></p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b><br/>           Ecuador revisited the port inspection information and confirmed that GIS was onboard.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |



| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 07-2025 (Port Inspections)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Peru            | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 26 – late submission of Inspection Reports)</i><br/>           There is a potential compliance issue identified pertaining to paragraph 26 requirements of the Port Inspection Procedures pertaining to transmission of a copy of the port inspection report to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary no later than 15 working days following the date of completion of the port inspection. The majority of the reports from port inspections that concluded within the 2024-25 reporting period (01 Oct 2024 – 30 Sept 2025) were received by the Secretariat outside of the 15 working day timeframe. Of the 19 port inspection reports received, 2 were within the 15 working day period. The remainder (~90%) were received between 34 and 103 calendar days after the inspection (average time to receive was 59 days after the port inspection took place).</p> <p><b>Comment</b><br/>           by<br/>           Notwithstanding the late submission of a group of port inspection forms, it should be noted that this did not compromise the integrity, traceability or quality of the information submitted, which was developed in the context of a process of adjusting and strengthening the control and registration procedures, associated with the implementation of new national provisions.</p> <p><b>CTC</b><br/>           Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Consideration/Comment:</b></p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further action |



Table 6: CMM 12-2023 (Transhipments and At-Sea Transfers)

| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 12-2023 (Transhipments and At-Sea Transfers)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance Status           |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| China           | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 3 – at-sea transfer of fuel with a vessel not authorised on SPRMO ROV)</i></p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified during the reporting period in respect to contravention of paragraph 3 regarding the at-sea transfer of fuel. During November 2024 and again during May to July 2025, China flagged fishing vessels (25) engaged in at-sea bunkering activity with the support vessel (<i>XIANG HAI/FENG HAI</i>) while it was no longer authorized on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels. While the vessel <i>XIANG HAI</i> had been previously authorized on the SPRFMO Record of vessels under the flag of Belize, that authorization was ended in October 2024 and in March 2025 the vessel (renamed <i>FENG HAI</i>) reflagged to Sierra Leone. SPRFMO Record of Vessel information indicates the 25 fishing vessels involved were owned by 3 companies as follows:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Fujian Pingtan County Ocean Fishery Group Co Ltd (15 vessels):<br/> - <i>FU YUAN YU 7601/7604/7606/7611/7612/7613/7614/7615/7616/7617/7618/7619/7882/7883/7887</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Fujian Juchangtai Fishery Group Co Ltd (8 vessels):<br/> - <i>FU YUAN YU 7641/7642/7643/7646/7703/7704/7711/7713</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Fuzhou Hong Long Ocean Fishing Co Ltd (2 vessels):<br/> - <i>FU YUAN YU 7888/7889</i></p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b></p> <p>The People’s Republic of China maintains a consistent and firm commitment to compliance with all SPRFMO Conservation and Management Measures. Whenever reliable information indicates potential non-compliance, we take timely and appropriate action in accordance with relevant procedures. Upon receiving the Secretariat’s potential non-compliance email dated on 28th Aug 2025, we immediately initiate an internal investigation to verify the alleged violations involving 25 vessels from three companies in relation to bunkering operations with the <i>FENG HAI</i> within the SPRFMO Convention Area. The investigation team conducted site visit to the three companies and thoroughly reviewed all the relevant documentation for the 25 vessels, with particular attention to bunkering records for the entire 2024 and 2025. In October 2025, the key findings are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The alleged bunkering activities between the <i>FENG HAI (XIANG HAI)</i> with <i>FU YUAN YU</i> vessels were confirmed.</li> <li>The bunkering that took place in November 2024 occurred because the <i>XIANG HAI</i> had been removed from the SPRFMO authorized vessel list in October 2024, the owners of the <i>FU YUAN YU</i> vessels were unaware of this change and had not verified the SPRFMO public vessel record, as bunkering services had previously been provided in August 2024 which <i>XIANG HAI</i> was an authorized vessel in the SPRFMO at that time.</li> <li>The owners of the <i>FU YUAN YU</i> vessels conducted bunkering with the <i>XIANG HAI</i> in 2025 without verifying its status, even after being informed of its re-flagging and renaming. This decision was based on their longstanding cooperation and a taken</li> </ol> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |



| Member/<br>CNC | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 12-2023 (Transshipments and At-Sea Transfers)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance Status           |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
|                |                                 | <p>for granted belief that the vessel was an authorized vessel in the SPRFMO, and under the mistaken assumption that applying for authorization was standard practice for all vessels operating in an RFMO area.</p> <p>This case reveals certain weaknesses in the three companies' compliance awareness and internal management mechanisms. In response, we have already taken the following actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upon learning of the case, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) already delivered a series of specialized training sessions (including SPRFMO compliance training; SPRFMO transshipment and transfer activities compliance training; SPRFMO observer compliance training) during September and October 2025 to reaffirm all relevant SPRFMO requirements.</li> <li>2. Severe penalties imposed on the three companies and 25 vessels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The three companies were fined a total of approximately RMB6,860,000</li> <li>➤ The following penalties were imposed on 25 vessels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All 25 vessels are mandated to return to port in China for rectification.</li> <li>b. - All 25 vessels suspend operations for six months.</li> <li>- Each of the 25-vessel master's has been fined RMB20,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Fujian Provincial Department of Ocean and Fisheries summoned the three companies, directing them to undertake rigorous compliance training, strengthen their internal management mechanisms and enhance team capacity for compliance. Additionally, the case also circulated throughout the provincial industry to serve as a warning and learning example.</li> </ol> <p>China reaffirms its full commitment to adhering to all SPRFMO CMMs and will continue to cooperate closely with the Commission to promote sustainable fisheries management.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b><br/>CTC noted the strong actions and follow up measures taken by China in response to the situation.</p> |  |
| Korea          | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 9 – Late Submission of Transshipment Data)</i></p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified in respect to the late submission of the Transshipment Operational Details related to the 22 January 2025 squid transshipment from the Korean flagged vessel <i>No.5 DONG IL</i>. The established deadline for submitting 1st quarter Transshipment operational details pertaining to Jumbo Flying Squid was 20 April 2025 and the information was submitted on 08 May 2025.</p>   | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |



| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 12-2023 (Transshipments and At-Sea Transfers)  | 2024/25<br>Compliance Status     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
|                 |                                 | <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b><br/>The late submission of the transshipment data was simply due to an administrative oversight. There was no transshipment of squid by Korean vessels during the preceding 4 years (2021-2024) and we were not submitting the transshipment data for quite a long time. We believe that it led to the late submission somehow.</p> <p><b>CTC</b><br/>Preliminary compliance status assigned as per the provisions of CMM 10-2020 Paragraph 11.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Consideration/Comment:</b></p>  |                                  |
| Korea           | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 2 – Transshipment with vessel not authorised on SPRMO ROV)</i></p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified in respect to paragraph 2 resulting from the 22 January 2025 transshipment by the Korean flagged vessel <i>No.5 DONG IL</i>, owned by KYUNG TAE CO. LTD, of 95,550 kgs Jumbo Flying Squid caught in SPRFMO Convention Area to the Panama flagged carrier vessel <i>KANO REEFER</i>, owned by MARINE GROWTH S.A., on 22 January 2025. While the <i>KANO REEFER</i> had previously been authorized on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels since December 2019, the vessel's authorisation end date was 08 December 2024. At the time of the transshipment, the carrier vessel was no longer authorised on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels and hence, unable to engage in the transshipment of SPRFMO Resources.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b><br/>As soon as we became aware of the incident during an inspection conducted at Busan port, we informed the flag State (Panama) of the carrier vessel concerned (<i>KANO REEFER</i>) and the Secretariat of the case. As for the fishing vessel (<i>No.5 DONG IL</i>), we first kept the catch under custody upon unloading and released it afterwards as we concluded that the fishing vessel/operator did not have any intention to misreport or hide certain information on purpose, based on the fact that the vessel operator did report to Korean FMC in accordance with Korea's relevant national regulation.</p> <p>Not all the RFMOs have the same or similar regulation (i.e. to apply the relevant regulations/reporting requirements for transshipment to any catch caught within the Convention Area regardless of where the transshipment takes place) and sometimes a Captain/vessel operator or even a government officer may not be fully familiar with such a requirement.</p> <p>Although we do not believe that this particular incident is a serious non-compliance case, developing an administrative system to prevent the recurrence of similar cases will be explored and a legal procedure is being considered against the vessel operator in accordance with Korea's relevant national law.</p> <p><b>CTC</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Consideration/Comment:</b></p> | Non-Compliant,<br>Further Action |



| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 12-2023 (Transhipments and At-Sea Transfers)  | 2024/25<br>Compliance Status           |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
|                 |                                 | <p>CTC noted that the legal procedure has not yet concluded and asked that Korea update on the outcome of the matter.</p>   |  |
| Panama          | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 2 – Transhipment involving SPRFMO Resources after Authorisation end date)</i></p> <p>There is a potential compliance issue identified in respect to paragraph 2 following the engagement of the carrier vessel <i>KANO REEFER</i>, owned by Marine Growth S.A., on 22 January 2025 for the at-sea transhipment of fish product, which included 95,550 kgs Jumbo Flying Squid caught in SPRFMO Convention Area, from the Korean flagged vessel <i>No.5 DONG IL</i>, owned by Kyung Tae Co Ltd after the carrier’s SPRFMO authorisation had ended. The <i>KANO REEFER</i> had previously been authorized on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels since December 2019; however, the vessel’s last authorisation end date was 08 December 2024. On 07 December 2024 Panama advised that the vessel would not be renewing their authorization for SPRFMO hence at the time of the transhipment the <i>KANO REEFER</i> was no longer SPRFMO authorised to engage in the transhipment of SPRFMO Resources.</p> <p><b>Comment by Member/CNCP:</b></p> <p>Further to the Secretariat’s assessment regarding the at-sea transshipment conducted on 22 January 2025 by the carrier vessel <i>KANO REEFER</i>, Panama informs that, upon receipt of the information arising from the landing inspection carried out by the competent authorities of the Republic of Korea, the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) proceeded to initiate the corresponding administrative sanctioning proceedings. Following the verification that the transshipment of SPRFMO-regulated resources was conducted after the expiration of the vessel’s authorization on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels on 08 December 2024, the case was processed in accordance with the applicable national legal framework. All procedural stages of the administrative process have now been duly completed.</p> <p>As established in Final Resolution DGIVC/RF/PSI/0001-2026 dated 8 January 2026 and duly notified through Edict No. 0005-2026 dated 12 January 2026 the administrative process resulted in the imposition of an administrative fine in the amount of USD \$50,000.00 (fifty thousand United States dollars). In addition to the pecuniary sanction imposed, the following complementary administrative measures were adopted, in view of the seriousness of the non-compliance identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Suspension of the International Service Fishing Licence, which authorizes the vessel to operate in areas regulated by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs).</li> <li>2) Formal communication to the Panama Maritime Authority (PMA) requesting the restriction of any procedure related to a change of ownership or the cancellation of the vessel’s registration.</li> </ol> <p>These measures described above were applied immediately as part of Panama’s preventive and deterrent approach adopted by the Republic of Panama and will only be lifted once full payment of the fine imposed has been made, which is currently pending, and following verification of full compliance with the conditions established in the sanctioning resolution.</p> | Non-Compliant,<br>No Further<br>Action |



| Member/<br>CNCP | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 12-2023 (Transshipments and At-Sea Transfers)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance Status |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
|                 |                                 | <p>The Republic of Panama reiterates its firm commitment to the effective implementation of the Conservation and Management Measures adopted by the SPRFMO, as well as to the principle of effective cooperation in matters of monitoring, control, and enforcement.</p> <p><b>CTC Consideration/Comment:</b><br/>CTC considered the information provided by Panama and the action taken.</p> |                              |



Table 7: CMM 18-2025 (Jumbo Flying Squid)

| Member/<br>CNC | 2023/24<br>Compliance<br>Status | 2024/25 Assessments - Potential Compliance Issues for CMM 18-2025 (Jumbo Flying Squid)   | 2024/25<br>Compliance<br>Status |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| China          | Compliant                       | <p><b>Secretariat Assessment:</b> <i>(Paragraph 17 – did not fully achieve minimum observer coverage)</i></p> <p>There was a potential compliance issue identified in respect of paragraph 17 that the minimum observer coverage target of 2% of fishing days for the Jumbo Flying Squid fleet was not fully achieved as of 01 September 2025.</p> <p><b>Comment</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Member/CNCP:</b></span><br/>           by <span style="float: right;">by</span><br/>           Based on the data submitted by the returned observers and the status of those still onboard at sea, the estimated coverage rate for the period from October 2024 to September 2025 is 1.7%. The main reasons for failing to meet the 2% standard are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Firstly, the round-trip travel time between the port and fishing grounds for observers takes about 90 days, which reduces the time they actually working on fishing vessels;</li> <li>➤ Secondly, certain unforeseen incidents have resulted in lower observed fishing days—for instance, an observer developed a sudden illness and had to terminate the observation mission early, thus he only working on the fishing vessel for one month;</li> <li>➤ Thirdly, uncertainties in estimating the next year’s total fishing days and the observer deployment process, such as the departure time of observers from the port and the transit time from carrier vessels to target fishing vessels after arriving at the fishing grounds, have led to deviations in the estimated number of deployed observers and their observation days.</li> </ul> <p>Improvement Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of observers to reduce emergencies and uncertainties during the deployment process.</li> <li>• Appropriately extend the duration of observers' service onboard the fishing vessels.</li> <li>• Enhance the direct communication mechanism between observer dispatch units and fishing vessels to ensure strict alignment between voyage plans and observation tasks, guaranteeing that observers arrive in the SPRFMO Convention Area at the scheduled time.</li> </ul> <p><b>CTC</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Consideration/Comment:</b></span><br/>           CTC noted that failing to meet minimum observer coverage levels undermines the effectiveness of the CMMs.</p> | Priority<br>Non-Compliant       |



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE FINAL COMPLIANCE REPORT (Assessing 2024/25)

In accordance with CMM 10-2020, Paragraph 17, below is the executive summary of the Commission.

### a) Compliance Status

- c. The Commission accepted the compliance status assigned by the CTC for each possible compliance issue identified in the provisional compliance report. Notations whether any specific further action is required have been made as applicable.

### b) Suggestions for possible amendments or improvements to existing CMMs to address implementation or compliance challenges

It was noted that 15 proposals were introduced at CTC to amend current CMMs and 3 proposals to create new CMMs. The key elements of each proposal were introduced at the CTC under agenda item 6 on Conservation and Management Measures. The proposals were referred to the Commission for further discussion and consideration. The CTC did not recommend any proposals to Commission for adoption. Proposals adopted by the Commission will be noted in the Commission report.

### c) Obstacles to Implementation (including capacity building) Identified by Members

The Commission noted that CMM 12 requires pre and post activity reporting for carrier vessels engaged in transshipment events but does not have similar requirements for support vessels engaged in other at-sea transfer activities (e.g. bunkering). This presents an obstacle to monitoring bunkering vessel activity and ensuring compliance with the requirement that SPRFMO authorised fishing vessels are only serviced by support vessels that are currently authorised on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels.

### d) Additional Obligations to be Monitored or Reviewed under the CMS

The Commission noted that some proposals, if adopted, would create additional obligations to be monitored or reviewed during the CMS process.

### e) Other Actions the Commission Deem Appropriate to address Non-Compliance

No working groups or intersessional work was identified from issues stemming directly from the 2024/25 Final Compliance Report.

### Other observations

The Commission tasked the CTC Chairperson to develop a CTC workplan in consultation with the Secretariat.

### Follow up actions for previous years



CTC13-Doc11 reported on the progress of follow-up actions respect to issues from previous years. Of the 3 follow up actions identified in the 2025 Final Compliance Report; all commitments were fulfilled. With respect to the single follow up action pertaining to other compliance related commitments, this was also fulfilled. There were no issues identified for carry forward to CTC14.



## 2026 Final Compliance Report

(Assessing the 2024/25 Reporting Period)

**Table 8** below displays the “Compliance Status” for each Members/CNCP versus each CMM as assigned in the previous tables.

(Note: where a Member/CNCP has 2 compliance issues within a single CMM, only the most serious compliance status as defined in Annex I of CMM 10-2020 is shown)

| Assessed CMM          | 01       | 02       | 03       | 03a      | 04       | 05       | 06       | 07       | 08       | 09       | 10       | 11       | 12       | 13       | 14       | 15       | 16       | 17       | 18       | 19       |  |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| Australia             |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Belize                |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          | n/a      |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Chile                 |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          | n/a      |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| China                 |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          | n/a      |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Cook Islands          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Cuba                  |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Ecuador               |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| European Union        |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Faroe Islands         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Korea                 |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| New Zealand           |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Panama                |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Peru                  |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Russian Federation    |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Chinese Taipei        |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Vanuatu               |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| USA                   |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Curacao               |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| Liberia               |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |  |
| <b>2026 Final CMS</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>0</b> |  |



Table 9: Prior Year - Summary of “Non-Compliance” (Final Compliance Reports)

| Assessed CMM | PRIOR YEARS – NON_COMPLIANT SUMMARY FROM FINAL CMS |         |         |          |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |          |          |          |          |         |         |         |         |         |     |
|--------------|--|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----|
|              | 01-2022  | 02-2022 | 03-2022 | 03a-2021 | 04-2020 | 05-2022 | 06-2020 | 07-2022 | 08-2019 | 09-2017 | 10-2020 | 11-2015 | 12-2020 | 13-2021 | 14a-2022 | 14b-2022 | 14c-2019 | 14d-2020 | 14e-2021 | 15-2016 | 16-2022 | 17-2022 | 18-2020 | 19-2021 |     |
| 2025         | 3  | 3       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 4       | 9       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1       | 3       | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0   |
| 2024         | 2  | 3       | 1       | 0        | 0       | 3       | 11      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 2       | 0       | 2       | n/c     | 0        | 1        | -        | n/a      | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | n/a |
| 2023         | 1  | 8       | 0       | 1        | 0       | 2       | 10/8    | 1       | 0       | 0       | 2       | 0       | 1       | 0       | 0        | 0        | -        | n/a      | 0        | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | n/a |
| 2022         | 0  | 1       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 5       | 0       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 4       | 0       | 1       | 1       | 0        | n/a      | -        | n/a      | n/a      | 0       | 0       | 0       | 1       | n/a     | n/a |
| 2021         | 0  | 8       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 3       | 1       | 0       | 0       | 1       | 7       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0        | 0        | 0        | n/a      | -        | 0       | 0       | 0       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a |
| 2020         | 1  | 1       | 0       | 0        | 0       | 4       | 1       | 3       | 0       | 1       | 5       | 2       | 2       | 0       | 0        | 0        | 0        | n/a      | -        | 0       | 0       | 2       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a |
| 2019         | 3  | 2       | 0       | n/a      | 3       | 6       | 4       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 7       | 0       | 4       | 0       | n/a      | 0        | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | -       | 0       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a     | n/a |
| 2018         | 5  | 4       | 2       | n/a      | 0       | 4       | 0       | 3       | 0       | 1       | 4       | 0       | 2       | 1       | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | -       | 0       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a     | n/a |
| 2017         | 4  | 4       | 0       | n/a      | 0       | 8       | n/a     | 4       | 0       | 2       | 5       | 0       | 6       | n/a     | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | -       | 0       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a     | n/a |
| 2016         | 9  | 9       | 2       | n/a      | 1       | 8       | n/a     | 6       | 0       | 6       | 8       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a     | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | n/a      | -       | n/a     | n/a     | n/a     | n/a     | n/a |




# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 6b SPRFMO 2026 Final IUU Vessel List (COMM14-WP18)

(Note: the SPRFMO 2026 IUU Vessel list contains 1 vessel)

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Vessel Name          | <b>XING FA</b> (effective 2025-12)  |
| Previous Name(s)     | FENG HAI (effective 2025-03); XIANG HAI (effective 2023-07); J SHORE (effective 2022-09); XING TONG YOU 59 (effective 2018-01); DONG CHENG YOU 10 (effective 2003-07)   |
| Flag                 | <b>SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE</b> (effective 2025-10-21)   |
| Previous Flag(s)     | Unknown (effective 2025-09); Sierra Leone (effective 2025-03); Unknown (effective 2024-10); Belize (effective 2023-07); Sierra Leone (effective 2022-09); China (effective 2018-01); China (effective 2003-07)  |
| Owner Name & Address | <b>GOLD CHARM INTERNATIONAL ENTERPRISE LTD</b> (IMO Company Number: 0357330)<br>Room 5201-03, 52nd Floor, The Centre, 99, Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, China.<br>(effective 2025-10-24 – Source: IMO GISIS)   |
| Prior Owner(s)       | HONGKONG QUN XUN SHIPPING LTD (IMO Company Number: 8550740)<br>Unit 3504, 35 <sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower, 200, Connaught Road West, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong, China, 999077<br>(effective 2025-03-13 – Source: IMO GISIS)<br>HONG KONG SHENGZHONGFA INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD<br>Unit 3504, 35/F West Tower Shin Tak Ctr 200 Coonaught Rd, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong<br>(Source: re: Vessel XIANG HAI -SPRFMO Record of Vessels)<br>REDBAY TRADE INTERNATIONAL CO LIMITED,<br>Trust Company Complex, Ajeltake Road, Ajeltake Island, Majuro, Marshall Islands, MH96960<br>(Source: re: Vessel J.SHORE- Certificate of De-registration – Sierra Leone) |
| Current Operator     | unknown   |
| Prior Operator(s)    | HONG KONG SHENGZHONGFA INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS CO LTD<br>(Source: SPRFMO Record of Vessels)   |
| Call sign            | S.T.P. RC- <b>S9Z6</b> (Previous: Sierra Leone RC- 9LU2933; Belize RC- V3JJ)  |
| IMO                  | <b>8550740</b>  |
| Other id             | MMSI: 668116259   |
| Image                | <p>Image Source: SPRFMO Record of Vessels</p>   |
| IUU Vsl List         | Date included in the IUU Vessel List: 02 March 2026   |
| Position             | Eastern quadrant of the SPRFMO Convention Area (various positions)  |



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Activities</b></p>    | <p>SPRFMO CMM 12 requires that the at-sea transfer of fuel, crew, gear or any other supplies between two vessels in the Convention Area shall only be undertaken between authorised vessels included in the Commission Record of Vessels. The bunkering vessel, <i>FENG HAI</i>, was flagged to Sierra Leone (SL) in March 2025. SL does not have Member or CNCP status in SPRFMO and its vessels are not found on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels. The vessel <i>FENG HAI</i> (SL) was previously authorised on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels, and operated in SPRFMO, as the Belize flagged vessel <i>XIANG HAI</i> (but was removed from the Belize Registry in October 2024). Following the end of its SPRFMO authorisation the bunkering vessel serviced SPRFMO fishing vessels during November 2024. In 2025, the vessel returned to the SPRFMO Convention area as the renamed/reflagged vessel <i>FENG HAI</i> (SL) and provided bunkering services to SPRFMO fishing vessels in the Convention Area during May - July 2025 without being authorised on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels.</p> |
| <p><b>Actions taken</b></p> | <p>Sierra Leone Maritime Administration: Notified the Secretariat on 2 Oct 2025 that the bunkering of fishing vessels was prohibited and that the <i>FENG HAI</i> had been ex officio cancelled from its registry. Sierra Leone - Ex Officio Cancellation of Registry Letter - Actions taken:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Ex officio cancelled from the Registry of the Republic of Sierra Leone;</li> <li>2) All certificates issued on behalf of the Flag State cease to be valid;</li> <li>3) The Owner has been fined (and paid) five thousand US dollars (USD \$5,000);</li> <li>4) The Ex Officio Cancellation of Registry enters into force as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2025; and</li> <li>5) The obligation remains with the Owner to apply for the “de-registration certificate” (<i>Certificate issued on 22 December 2025 at 08:35 UTC</i>).</li> </ol>  |
| <p><b>Outcome</b></p>       | <p>Placed on the Final IUU Vessel List</p>   |



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

**COMM14 – Report**  
**ANNEX 7a CMM 01-2026 *Trachurus murphyi***  
*(COMM14-Prop03\_rev1)*



## CMM 01-~~2025~~2026

### Conservation and Management Measure for *Trachurus murphyi* (supersedes CMM 01-~~2024~~2025)

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

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the outcomes of the stock assessment carried out in 2024, the advice of the Scientific Committee and the SC multi annual workplan including the Management Strategy Evaluation;

*BEARING IN MIND* the commitment to apply the precautionary approach and take decisions based on the best scientific and technical information available as set out in Article 3 of the Convention;

*RECOGNISING* that a primary function of the Commission is to adopt Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) to achieve the objective of the Convention, including, as appropriate, CMMs for particular fish stocks;

*AFFIRMING* its commitment to rebuilding the stock of *Trachurus murphyi* and ensuring its long-term conservation and sustainable management in accordance with the objective of the Convention;

*RECOGNISING* the need for effective monitoring and control and surveillance of fishing for *Trachurus murphyi* in the implementation of this measure pending the establishment of monitoring, control and surveillance measures pursuant to Article 27 of the Convention;

*NOTING* Article 4(1) regarding the need to ensure compatibility of conservation and management measures established for fishery resources that are identified as straddling areas under the national jurisdiction of a coastal State Contracting Party and the adjacent high seas of the Convention Area and acknowledge their duty to cooperate to this end;

*BEARING IN MIND* the Findings and Recommendations of the Review Panel, from 5 June 2018, convened pursuant to Article 17 and Annex II of the Convention, in relation to the Objection by the Republic of Ecuador and their statements on possible ways forward in relation to that objection;

*FURTHER BEARING IN MIND* the Findings and Recommendations of the Review Panel, from 1 July 2023, convened pursuant to Article 17 and Annex II of the Convention, in relation to the Objection by the Russian Federation;

*NOTING the advice that the Scientific Committee provided on jack mackerel (based on SPRFMO SC13-Report paragraphs 118-128);*

*CONSIDERING the Scientific Committee noted the stock of *Trachurus murphyi* is currently on the third tier of the harvest control rule (based on SPRFMO SC12 Report paragraph 136);*

*RECALLING* Articles 4(2), 20(3), 20(4) and 21(2) of the Convention;

*RECALLING* also Article 21(1) of the Convention;

*BEARING IN MIND that*, according to Article 8 of the Convention and to achieve the objective of the convention, the Commission is the body entitled to establish conservation and management measures;

*ADOPTS* the following CMM in accordance with Articles 8 and 21 of the Convention:



## General Provisions

1. This CMM applies to fisheries for *Trachurus murphyi* undertaken by vessels flagged to Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCPS) included on the Commission Record of Vessels (CMM 05-2023) in the Convention Area and, in accordance with Article 20(4)(a)(iii) of the Convention and with the express consent of Chile and Ecuador, to fisheries for *Trachurus murphyi* undertaken by Chile and Ecuador in areas under their national jurisdiction.
2. Only fishing vessels duly authorised pursuant to Article 25 of the Convention and in accordance with CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels) that are flagged to Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCPS) shall participate in the fishery for *Trachurus murphyi* in the Convention Area.
3. This CMM is not to be considered a precedent for future allocation decisions.
4. From 2026~~7~~, the Commission shall adopt a TAC based on the management procedure adopted through the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process.
5. If the stock declines substantially over this time, the Commission shall take all possible actions in accordance with Article 20(5) of the Convention.

## Catch Management

- ~~5.6.~~ In 2025~~6~~, the total catch of *Trachurus murphyi* in the area to which this CMM applies in accordance with paragraph 1 shall be limited to ~~1,561,030~~~~1,531,071~~~~1,501,112~~ 1,419,119 tonnes. Members and CNCPS are to share in this total catch in the tonnages set out in Table 1 of this CMM.
- ~~6.7.~~ Catches will be attributed to the flag State whose vessels have undertaken the fishing activities described in Article 1 (1)(g)(i) and (ii) of the Convention.
- ~~7.8.~~ In the event that a Member or CNCPS reaches 70% of its catch limit set out in Table 1, the Executive Secretary shall inform that Member or CNCPS of that fact, with a copy to all other Members and CNCPS. That Member or CNCPS shall close the fishery for its flagged vessels when the total catch of its flagged vessels is equivalent to 100% of its catch limit. Such Member or CNCPS shall notify promptly the Executive Secretary of the date of the closure.
- ~~8.9.~~ The provisions of this CMM are without prejudice to the right of Members and CNCPS to adopt measures limiting vessels flying their flag and fishing for *Trachurus murphyi* in the Convention Area to catches less than the limits set out in Table 1. In any such case, Members and CNCPS shall notify the Executive Secretary of the measures, when practicable, within 1 month of adoption. Upon receipt, the Executive Secretary shall circulate such measures to all Members and CNCPS without delay.
- ~~9.10.~~ By 31 December each year a Member or CNCPS may transfer to another Member or CNCPS all or part of its entitlement to catch up to the sum of the limit set out in Table 1 and any catch limit carried forward from the previous year, without prejudice to future agreements on the allocation of fishing opportunities, subject to the approval of the receiving Member or CNCPS. When receiving fishing entitlement by transfer, a Member or CNCPS may either allocate it domestically or endorse arrangements between owners participating in the transfer. Members and CNCPS receiving fishing entitlements by transfer who have consented to a total allowable catch that will apply throughout the range of the fishery resource under Article 20(4)(a)(iii) of the Convention may pursue those entitlements in the Convention Area and in their areas under their national jurisdiction. Before the transferred fishing takes place, the transferring Member or CNCPS shall notify the transfer to the Executive Secretary for circulation to Members and CNCPS without delay.
11. A Member or CNCPS may carry forward up to 15,000 tonnes of its unused catch limit, as allocated in Table 1, to the following year<sup>1</sup>. A Member or CNCPS that has elected to carry forward its unused catch limit shall notify the Secretariat of the intention to carry forward and the amount of catch limit to be

<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of this paragraph, catch limit carried forward from a given year (year 1) to the next year (year 2) may not be carried forward to any subsequent years ~~may not be subsequently carried forward to the year after the following year (year 3).~~ Catch history shall be attributed to the year in which fishing (catching) activities take place.



carried forward by 20 January of the year to which the unused catch limit will be carried forward. The Secretariat shall compile such information and provide a report to the Compliance Committee each year.

~~10-12.~~ Members and CNCPs agree, having regard to the advice of the Scientific Committee and its indication that catches of *Trachurus murphyi* in 202~~65~~ throughout the range of the stock should not exceed ~~1,674,975~~ ~~1,707,750~~ ~~1,642,200~~ ~~1,552,500~~ tonnes.

~~11-13.~~ The Executive Secretary shall inform Members and CNCPs when catches of *Trachurus murphyi* in the range of its distribution have reached 70% of the amount referred to in paragraph ~~11~~2. The Executive Secretary shall notify Members and CNCPs when the amount referred to in paragraph ~~11~~2 has been reached.

## Data Collection and Reporting

~~12-14.~~ Members and CNCPs participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery shall report in an electronic format the monthly catches of their flagged vessels to the Secretariat within 20 days of the end of the month, in accordance with CMM 02-202~~56~~6 (Data Standards) and using templates prepared by the Secretariat and available on the SPRFMO website.

~~13-15.~~ When total catches have reached 70% of the amount indicated in paragraph ~~11~~2, Members and CNCPs agree to implement a 15-day reporting period:

- a. for purposes of implementing this system, the calendar month shall be divided into 2 reporting periods, viz: day 1 to day 15 and day 16 to the end of the month;
- b. once the 15-day reporting has been activated, Members and CNCPs shall report their catches within 10 days of the end of each period, excepting the first report, which shall be made within 20 days of the end of the period.

~~14-16.~~ The Executive Secretary shall circulate monthly catches, aggregated by flag State, to all Members and CNCPs on a monthly basis. Once 15-day reporting has been activated the Executive Secretary shall circulate 15-day catches, aggregated by flag State, to all Members and CNCPs on a 15-day basis.

~~15-17.~~ Except as described in paragraphs ~~14~~3 and ~~14~~5 above, each Member and CNCP participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery shall collect, verify, and provide all required data to the Executive Secretary, in accordance with CMM 02-202~~65~~6 (Data Standards) and the templates available on the SPRFMO website, including an annual catch report.

~~16-18.~~ The Executive Secretary shall verify the annual catch reports submitted by Members and CNCPs against the submitted data (tow-by-tow in the case of trawlers, and set-by-set or trip-by-trip in the case of purse-seine fishing vessels). The Executive Secretary shall inform Members and CNCPs of the outcome of the verification exercise and any possible discrepancies encountered.

~~17-19.~~ Members and CNCPs participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fisheries shall implement a vessel monitoring system (VMS) in accordance with CMM 06-2023 (VMS) and other relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission.

~~18-20.~~ Each Member and CNCP participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery shall provide the Executive Secretary a list of vessels<sup>2</sup> they have authorised to fish in the fishery in accordance with Article 25 of the Convention and CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels) and other relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission. They shall also notify the Executive Secretary of the vessels that are actively fishing or engaged in transshipment in the Convention Area within 20 days of the end of each month. The Executive Secretary shall maintain lists of the vessels so notified and will make them available on the SPRFMO website.

~~19-21.~~ The Executive Secretary shall report annually to the Commission on the list of vessels having actively fished or been engaged in transshipment in the Convention Area during the previous year using data provided under CMM 02-202~~56~~6 (Data Standards).

<sup>2</sup> Fishing vessels as defined in Article 1 (1)(h) of the Convention.



~~20-22.~~ In order to facilitate the work of the Scientific Committee, Members and CNCs shall provide their annual national reports, in accordance with the existing guidelines for such reports, in advance of the 2025~~6~~ Scientific Committee meeting. Members and CNCs shall also provide observer data for the 2025~~4~~ fishing season to the Scientific Committee to the maximum extent possible. The reports shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary ~~at least one month before the 2025 Scientific Committee meeting by 30 June 2026~~ in order to ensure that the Scientific Committee has an adequate opportunity to consider the reports in its deliberations. Members should notify the Executive Secretary in the event they will not be submitting an annual report together with the reasons for not doing so.

~~21-23.~~ In accordance with Article 24(2) of the Convention, all Members and CNCs participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery shall provide a report describing their implementation of this CMM in accordance with the timelines specified in CMM 10-2020 (Compliance Monitoring Scheme). On the basis of submissions received the CTC shall develop a template to facilitate future reporting. The implementation reports will be made available on the SPRFMO website.

~~22-24.~~ The information collected under paragraphs 1~~34~~, 1~~76~~ and 2~~42~~, and any stock assessments and research in respect of *Trachurus murphyi* fisheries shall be submitted for review to the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee will conduct the necessary analysis and assessment, in accordance with its SC Multi-annual workplan (2025-~~2027~~) agreed by the Commission, in order to provide updated advice on stock status and recovery.

~~23-25.~~ Contracting Parties and CNCs, as port States, shall, subject to their national laws, facilitate access to their ports on a case-by-case basis to reefer vessels, supply vessels and vessels fishing for *Trachurus murphyi* in accordance with this CMM. Contracting Parties and CNCs shall implement measures to verify catches of *Trachurus murphyi* caught in the Convention Area that are landed or transhipped in its ports. When taking such measures, a Contracting Party or CNC shall not discriminate in form or fact against fishing, reefer or supply vessels of any Member or CNC. Nothing in this paragraph shall prejudice the rights, jurisdiction and duties of these Contracting Parties and CNCs under international law. In particular, nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect:

- a. the sovereignty of Contracting Parties and CNCs over their internal, archipelagic and territorial waters or their sovereign rights over their continental shelf and in their exclusive economic zone;
- b. the exercise by Contracting Parties and CNCs of their sovereignty over ports in their territory in accordance with international law, including their right to deny entry thereto as well as adopt more stringent port State measures than those provided for in this CMM and other relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission.

~~24-26.~~ Until the Commission adopts an Observer Programme in accordance with Article 28 of the Convention, all Members and CNCs participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery shall ensure a minimum of 10% scientific observer coverage of trips for trawlers and purse seiners flying their flag and ensure that such observers collect and report data as described in CMM 02-202~~65~~ (Data Standards). In the case of the flagged vessels of a Member or CNC undertaking no more than 2 trips in total, the 10% observer coverage shall be calculated by reference to active fishing days for trawlers and sets for purse seine vessels.

### Cooperation in Respect of Fisheries in Adjacent Areas Under National Jurisdiction

~~25-27.~~ Members and CNCs participating in *Trachurus murphyi* fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the area to which this CMM applies in accordance with paragraph 1, and Members and CNCs participating in *Trachurus murphyi* fisheries in the area to which this CMM applies, shall cooperate in ensuring compatibility in the conservation and management of the fisheries. Members and CNCs participating in *Trachurus murphyi* fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the area to which this CMM applies are invited to apply the measures set out in paragraphs 1~~34~~-2~~56~~, insofar as they are applicable, to vessels associated with the *Trachurus murphyi* fisheries in their areas under national jurisdiction. They are also requested to inform the Executive Secretary of the Conservation and Management Measures in effect for *Trachurus murphyi* in areas under their national jurisdiction.



~~26-28.~~ Acknowledging the duty to cooperate to promote and ensure that CMMs established for the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction are compatible, as required by Article 4 paragraph 2 and Article 8 (f) of the Convention, coastal State Contracting Parties participating in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery in areas under national jurisdiction that have not given their express consent under Article 20 paragraph 4 (a) (ii), will undertake their utmost efforts to restrain from authorising catches that exceed the difference between the amount agreed in paragraph 11 of this CMM and the total catch allocated in paragraph 6 of this CMM.

~~27-29.~~ Where, due to exceptional and unforeseen circumstances in the stock biomass in the inter-sessional period, coastal States that have not given their express consent under Article 20 paragraph 4 (a) (ii) establish domestic measures concerning catches of *Trachurus murphyi* in areas under their national jurisdiction that may result in exceeding such difference as indicated in paragraph ~~27~~28 above, they agree to:

- a. submit to the Secretariat, as a matter of urgency and no later than 15 days after their adoption, a report explaining to the Commission how the national measures concerning the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery in areas under their national jurisdiction are compatible with those adopted by the Commission, and how they have taken into account the requirements of Article 4 paragraph 2 (a), (b) and (c) of the Convention;
- b. report to the Secretariat any subsequent changes to the national measures, no later than 15 days after their adoption;
- c. cooperate in the coordination of the conservation measures they intend to apply with the Scientific Committee and the Commission to ensure that the intended measures do not undermine the effectiveness of the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

~~28-30.~~ At its next annual meeting, the Scientific Committee will assess the information received and provide advice to the Commission regarding the possible impact of the national measures adopted on the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery. The CTC will consider the information provided by the coastal State and whether the national measures it adopted are compatible with those established by the Commission and will advise the Commission accordingly. The Commission will consider measures to ensure compatible management, considering the advice of the Scientific Committee and the CTC.

~~29-31.~~ In case any Member or CNCP considers that the information presented by the coastal State has not taken into account the requirements of Article 4, 2 (a), (b) and (c) of the Convention, it may request a special meeting of the Commission in accordance with Article 7 paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Convention and Regulation 3 of the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure, except that such special meeting may take place by electronic means, under the same quorum provided for by the Rules of Procedure for special meetings.

### Special Requirements of Developing States

~~30-32.~~ In recognition of the special requirements of developing States, in particular small island developing States and territories and possessions in the region, Members and CNCPs are urged to provide financial, scientific and technical assistance, where available, to enhance the ability of those developing States and territories and possessions to implement this CMM.



## Review

~~31-33.~~ This Measure shall be reviewed by the Commission in 20~~67~~<sup>27</sup>. The review shall take into account the outcomes of the Management Strategy Evaluation update, the latest advice of the Scientific Committee and the CTC, and the extent to which this CMM, CMM 1.01 (Trachurus murphyi, 2013), CMM 2.01 (Trachurus murphyi, 2014), CMM 3.01 (Trachurus murphyi; 2015), CMM 4.01 (Trachurus murphyi, 2016), CMM 01-2017 (Trachurus murphyi), CMM 01-2018 (Trachurus murphyi), CMM 01-2019 (Trachurus murphyi), CMM 01-2020 (Trachurus murphyi), CMM 01-2021 (Trachurus murphyi), CMM 01-2022 (Trachurus murphyi), CMM 01-2023 (Trachurus murphyi) and CMM 01-2024 (Trachurus murphyi), and CMM 01-2025 (Trachurus murphyi), as well as the Interim Measures for pelagic fisheries of 2007, as amended in 2009, 2011 and 2012, have been complied with.

~~32-34.~~ Without prejudice to Members and CNCPs without an entitlement in Table 1 and the rights and obligations specified in Article 20(4)(c) and having regard to paragraph ~~124~~<sup>24</sup>, the percentages included in Table 2 will be used by the Commission as a basis for the allocation of Member and CNCPs' catch limits from 2024 to 2033 inclusive.



**Table 1:** Tonnages in 202~~65~~ fishery as referred to in paragraph 6.

| Member / CNCP      | Tonnage  |
|--------------------|--|
| Belize             | <u>1 775</u> [1,810] [ <u>1,741</u> ] <u>1 646</u>                           |
| Chile              | <u>1 105 484</u> [1,127,115] [ <u>1,083,852</u> ] <u>1 024 650</u>           |
| China              | <u>99 996</u> [101,953] [ <u>98,039</u> ] <u>92 684</u>                      |
| Cook Islands       | <u>1 707</u> [1,740] [ <u>1,673</u> ] <u>1 582</u>                           |
| Cuba               | <u>3 442</u> [3,509] [ <u>3,375</u> ] <u>3 190</u>                           |
| Ecuador            | <u>19 495</u> [19,877] [ <u>19,114</u> ] <u>18 070</u>                       |
| European Union     | <u>99 860</u> [101,814] [ <u>97,906</u> ] <u>92 558</u>                      |
| Faroe Islands      | <u>17 103</u> [17,438] [ <u>16,769</u> ] <u>15 853</u>                       |
| Korea              | <u>19 966</u> [20,356] [ <u>19,575</u> ] <u>18 506</u>                       |
| Panama             | <u>1 707</u> [1,740] [ <u>1,673</u> ] <u>1 582</u>                           |
| Peru (HS)          | <u>34 169</u> [34,838] [ <u>33,501</u> ] <u>31 671</u>                       |
| Russian Federation | <u>54 269</u> [55,331] [ <u>53,207</u> ] <u>50 301</u>                       |
| Vanuatu            | <u>72 098</u> [73,508] [ <u>70,687</u> ] <u>66 826</u>                       |
|                    |  |
| Total              | <u>1 531 071</u><br><u>[1,561,030]</u> [ <u>1,501,112</u> ] <u>1 419 119</u> |

**Table 2:** Percentages<sup>3</sup> related to the catches referred to in paragraph 1~~2~~.

| Member / CNCP      | %        |
|--------------------|----------|
| Belize             | 0.1060%  |
| Chile              | 66.0000% |
| China              | 5.97000% |
| Cook Islands       | 0.1019%  |
| Cuba               | 0.2055%  |
| Ecuador            | 1.1639%  |
| European Union     | 5.9619%  |
| Faroe Islands      | 1.0211%  |
| Korea              | 1.1920%  |
| Panama             | 0.1019%  |
| Peru (HS)          | 2.0400%  |
| Russian Federation | 3.2400%  |
| Vanuatu            | 4.3044%  |

<sup>3</sup> These percentages shall apply from 2024 to 2033 inclusive.



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 7b CMM 02-2026 Data Standards *(COMM14-Prop05\_rev3)*



## CMM 02X-20256

### Conservation and Management Measure on Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data

*(Supersedes CMM 02-20225)*

With regard to the fishing vessels flying their flag and fishing for non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Convention Area,

#### 1. Data on Fishing Activities and the Impacts of Fishing

Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (Members and CNCPs) are to develop, implement and improve systems to:

- a) ensure that for each calendar year, Members and CNCPs collate annual catch totals raised to “live” weight for all species/species groups caught during that year, and that these are collated as described in Annex 13. Members and CNCPs will provide by the 30 ~~September~~June, their previous year’s (January to December) annual catch totals raised to “live” weight for all species/ species groups caught; in exceptional cases, and only where a written request/notification is submitted to the Secretariat by 30 June explaining the need for an extension, the deadline will be extended to notifying Member/CNCP may submit provisional data by 30 June, and submit final data as soon as possible but not later than 30 September.
- b) ensure that data on fishing activities, including data to assess the impacts of fishing on non-target and associated or dependent species (including marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern), are collected from vessels according to the operational characteristics of each fishing method;
  - i. for trawling methods, Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 1;
  - ii. for purse seining methods, Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 2;
  - iii. for bottom long lining methods, Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 3;
  - iv. for jigging methods, Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 4;
  - v. for fishing activity data for alternative methods (CMM 16-2025 paragraph 4), Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 4a;
  - vi. for potting methods, Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 5;
  - vii. for hand/drop/dahn lining methods, Members and CNCPs are to collect the data described in Annex 6.
- c) ensure that data on landings and transshipment are collected from vessels according to Annexes 11 and 12 respectively;
- d) compile data on fishing activities and the impacts of fishing and provide these in a timely manner to the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) using the SPRFMO data submission templates. The data under this paragraph will be used for the assessment and monitoring of stocks. Members and CNCPs will provide by 30 June, their previous (January to December) year’s data on fishing activities and the impacts of fishing described in sections 1b) – 1c) above.

#### 2. Observer Data

- a) Implementation of observer programmes

Members and CNCPs are to develop and implement observer programmes consistent with CMM16-2025 (Observer Programme) to achieve the objectives in Article 28 of the Convention, and to collect



verified scientific data and additional information related to fishing activities in the Convention Area and its impacts on the ecosystem, and also to support the functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including the CTC.

b) Information and Data to be Collected

All national observer programmes or service providers accredited under the SPRFMO observer programme should, as well as those alternative programmes approved by virtue of CMM 16-2025 paragraph 4, through the relevant Member or CNCP, provide the information in Annex 7 (Parts A to P) collected by their observers when deployed at sea in the Convention Area. Observer information from such programmes on SPRFMO-managed species collected from landings, or from vessels while they are in port, may be collected and provided on a voluntary basis, by referring to Part Q of Annex 7.

c) Data Provision

Observer data should be provided to the Secretariat of the SPRFMO in a standardised format, to be included in the SPRFMO Observer Database. Specifications and standards for observer data submissions are on the SPRFMO website. ~~Until the Secretariat determines a change is needed, observer data will be submitted in Microsoft Excel format. Members and CNCPs will provide by 30 September, their previous (January to December) year's data.~~ Observer data shall be submitted in Microsoft Excel format, or in such other machine-readable format as the Secretariat may prescribe following consultation with the Scientific Committee. Members and CNCPs will provide by 30 June<sup>‡</sup>, their previous (January to December) year's data. [In exceptional cases, and only where a written request notification is submitted to the Secretariat by 30 June explaining the need for an extension, the deadline will be extended to notifying Member/CNCP shall submit available data by 30 June and any remaining data as soon as possible but not later than 30 September may submit provisional data by 30 June, and submit final data as soon as possible but not later than 30 September.]

d) Maintenance of Confidentiality

The Secretariat of the SPRFMO is to compile and disseminate accurate and complete observer data to ensure that the best scientific evidence is available, while maintaining confidentiality where appropriate. In doing so, the Secretariat is to follow the procedures specified in Section 6.

### 3. Historical Data

Members and CNCPs are to collate pre-2007 data on fishing activities in the Convention Area and provide these to the Secretariat of the SPRFMO wherever possible.

### 4. Data Verification

Members and CNCPs are to ensure that fishery data are verified through an appropriate system. Members and CNCPs are to develop, implement and improve mechanisms for verifying data, such as:

- a) position verification through vessel monitoring systems;
- b) implementation of the Observer Programme CMM (CMM16-2025 (Observer Programme));
- c) vessel trip, landing and transshipment reports;
- d) port sampling; and
- e) electronic monitoring.

### 5. Data Exchange

Members and CNCPs are to report all data required by this measure to the Secretariat in accordance with the specifications and format described in Annex 8 of this measure, using the templates created by the Secretariat

<sup>‡</sup> ~~If an observer returns to port after 31 May, the observer's data shall be submitted by 30 June of the following year.~~



and stored on the SPRFMO website.

## 6. Maintenance of Confidentiality

The Secretariat of the SPRFMO is to compile and disseminate accurate and complete statistical data to ensure that the best scientific evidence is available while maintaining confidentiality. Specifically, the Secretariat is to:

- a) compile and disseminate the following “public domain” data:
  - i. data on fishing activities, aggregated by flag State and month and 1 degree by 1 degree areas, except in those cases where such data describes the activities of [lessfewer](#) than 3 vessels (in which case a lower resolution will be used);
  - ii. data for vessels authorised by Members and CNCPs shall include current flag, name, registration number, international radio call sign, IHS-Fairplay (IMO) number, previous names, port of registry, previous flag, type of vessel, types of fishing methods, when built, where built, length, length type, moulded depth, beam, gross tonnage (and/ or gross register tonnage), power of main engine(s), hold capacity, vessel authorisation start and end dates, images provided pursuant to Paragraph 11 and Annex 1 of CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels);
  - iii. the occurrence of bottom fishing within a 20-minute block (without specifying flag, any vessel identification, or measure of fishing effort);
- b) operate comprehensive and robust processes to maintain the confidentiality of the non-public domain data that Members and CNCPs provide to it. These processes will be based on the ISO/IEC27002:2005 (updates ISO/IEC 17799:2005) international standard for information security management<sup>1</sup>. SPRFMO specific data security standards will be developed over time;
- c) compile and disseminate to Members and CNCPs or their designates non-public domain data (being any data not described in 6(a)):
  - i. in response to a written request from [the](#) Commission, for the purposes documented by the Commission; and
  - ii. in the absence of a written request from the Commission - only with the authorisation of the Participant(s) that originally provided that data.

These standards will be reviewed periodically to ensure that they are adequate for the current and foreseeable needs of the SPRFMO.

## 7. Annual Reports to the SPRFMO SC

In order to facilitate the work of the Scientific Committee, Members and CNCPs shall submit reports on an annual basis in order to keep the Scientific Committee informed, in a concise format, of their fishing, research, management activities over the previous year and include information pursuant to paragraph 46 of CMM16-2025 (Observer Programme). A “nil report” is still required in cases where there was no fishing inside the Convention Area. These reports should be prepared in accordance with the existing guidelines for such reports and shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary at least one month before each Scientific Committee meeting in order to ensure that the Scientific Committee has an adequate opportunity to consider the reports in its deliberations.

## 8. Review

This CMM shall be reviewed no later than the regular meeting of the Commission in ~~2025~~<sup>2028</sup> based on advice from ~~the 2024 meeting of~~ the Scientific Committee and following review by the Compliance and Technical Committee.

9. This measure replaces CMM 02-202~~25~~<sup>25</sup> (Data Standards).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.iso.org/standard/50297.html>



## ANNEX 1

### Standard for Trawl Fishing Activity Data

(Taking into account Annex 8)

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (tow by tow) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel call sign;
  - d) Registration number of vessel;
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/IMO number;
  - f) Tow start date and time (UTC format);
  - g) Tow end date and time (UTC format);
  - h) Tow start position (1/100th degree resolution for bottom fishing, 1/10th degree resolution for pelagic trawl- decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - i) Tow end position (1/100th degree resolution for bottom fishing, 1/10th degree resolution for pelagic trawl – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - j) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - k) Type of trawl, bottom or mid-water (use appropriate bottom or midwater trawl codes from the standard ISCCFG fishing gear standards attached at Annex 9);
    - l) Type of trawl: single, double or triple (S, D or T);
    - m) Net monitoring cable – Y/N
    - n) Height of net opening;
    - o) Width of net opening;
    - p) Gear depth at start of fishing;
    - q) Bottom depth at start of fishing;
    - r) Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern<sup>2</sup>) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown);
    - s) FAO species code and estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern;
    - t) FAO species code and estimation of the amount<sup>3</sup> of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa.

<sup>2</sup> Annex 14

<sup>3</sup> In weight for fish and benthic material; numbers for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern



ANNEX 2  
Standard for Purse Seine Fishing Activity Data  
(Taking into account Annex 8)

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel call sign;
  - d) Registration number of vessel;
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/IMO number;
  - f) Set start date and time (UTC format);
  - g) Set end date time (UTC format);
  - h) Set start position (1/10th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - i) Net length;
  - j) Net height;
  - k) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - l) Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern<sup>4</sup>) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown);
  - m) FAO species code and estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the set including target, bycatch and species of concern;
  - n) FAO species code and estimation of the amount<sup>5</sup> of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa.

<sup>4</sup> Annex 14

<sup>5</sup> In weight for fish and benthic material; numbers for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern



## ANNEX 3

## Standard for bottom long lining fishing activity data

*(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel call sign;
  - d) Registration number of vessel;
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/IMO number;
  - f) Set start date and time (UTC format);
  - g) Set end date and time (UTC format);
  - h) Set start position (1/100th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - i) Set end position (1/100th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - j) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - k) Number of hooks;
  - l) Bottom depth at start of set;
  - m) Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern<sup>6</sup>) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown);
  - n) FAO species code and estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the set including target, bycatch and species of concern;
  - o) FAO species code and estimation of the amount<sup>7</sup> of all living marine resources discarded by species to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, species of concern, and benthic taxa.

<sup>6</sup> Annex 14

<sup>7</sup> In weight for fish and benthic material; numbers for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern



ANNEX 4  
Standard for jigging fishing activity data  
(Taking into account Annex 8)

1. Data are to be collected on a daily basis
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel call sign;
  - d) Registration number of vessel;
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/IMO number;
  - f) Date of fishing activity (UTC date);
  - g) Position at start of drift (1/10th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - h) Position at end of drift (1/10th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - i) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - j) Echo Sounder (Yes/No);
  - k) Number of crew;
  - l) Number of single jig machines;
  - m) Number of double jig machines;
  - n) Number of jigs per line;
  - o) Maximum Operating depth;
  - p) Total deck light power (kW);
  - q) Total hours fished (h);
  - r) Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern<sup>8</sup>) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown);
  - s) FAO species code and estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the fishing event including target, bycatch and species of concern;
  - t) FAO species code and estimation of the amount<sup>9</sup> of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, species of concern, and benthic taxa.

<sup>8</sup> Annex 14

<sup>9</sup> In weight for fish and benthic material; numbers for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern



## ANNEX 4a

## Standard for fishing activity data for alternative methods (CMM 16-2025 paragraph 4)

*(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data shall be collected on a daily basis
2. For observers on board the following datafields shall be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel registration number;
  - d) Date of fishing activity (UTC date);
  - e) Position at the start of each set or fishing operation, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude;
  - f) Position at the end of each set or fishing operation, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude;
  - g) Target species (FAO species code);
  - h) Number of crew;
  - i) Number of jigs and number of hand lines;
  - j) Total fishing hours per set or fishing operation;
  - k) Estimated total catch (kg) of jumbo flying squid per set or fishing operation;
  - l) Identification and estimated total catch (kg) of any other species caught, if any, per set or fishing operation;
  - m) Size-frequency sampling of squid caught in each set or fishing operation;
  - n) Biological sampling of squid specimens per set or fishing operation.
3. For observers in port the following datafields shall be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel registration number;
  - d) Date of fishing activity (UTC date);
  - e) Referential position of the fishing area, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude, as declared by the skipper or master fisher;
  - f) Target species (FAO species code);
  - g) Number of crew;
  - h) Number of jigs and number of hand lines;
  - i) Total catch (kg);
  - j) In coordination with and subject to acceptance of the skipper or master fisher, samples of non-gutted squid specimens caught in the Convention properly selected and preserved will be purchased for biological sampling in the laboratory.
4. For the use of electronic logbook the following datafields shall be collected:



- a) Vessel flag;
- b) Vessel name;
- c) Vessel registration number;
- d) Position at the start of each set or fishing operation, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude;
- e) Position at the end of each set or fishing operation, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude;
- f) Target species (FAO species code);
- g) Number of crew;
- h) Number of jigs and number of hand lines;
- i) Total fishing hours per set or fishing operation;
- j) Estimated total catch (kg) of jumbo flying squid per set or fishing operation.



## ANNEX 5

## Standard for potting methods fishing activity data

*(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel call sign;
  - d) Registration number of vessel;
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/IMO number;
  - f) Set start date and time (UTC format);
  - g) Set end date and time (UTC format);
  - h) Start of set position (1/10th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - i) End of set position (1/10th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - j) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - k) Depth at start of set;
  - l) Depth at end of set;
  - m) Type of pots;
  - n) Total number of pots set;
  - o) Type of bait used;
  - p) Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern<sup>10</sup>) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown);
  - q) FAO species code and estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the set including target, bycatch and species of concern;
  - r) FAO species code and estimation of the amount<sup>11</sup> of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, species of concern, and benthic taxa.

<sup>10</sup> Annex 14

<sup>11</sup> In weight for fish and benthic material; numbers for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern



## ANNEX 6

## Standard for hand/drop/dahn lining fishing activity data

*(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (series by series) basis
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel call sign;
  - d) Registration number of vessel;
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/Lloyd's/IMO number;
  - f) Set start date and time (UTC format);
  - g) Set end date and time (UTC format);
  - h) Start of set position (1/100th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - i) End of set position (1/100th degree resolution – decimal format), latitude and longitude;
  - j) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - k) Depth at start of set;
  - l) Depth at end of set;
  - m) Total number of hooks in the set;
  - n) Number of hooks lost;
  - o) Type of hooks used;
  - p) Type of leader used;
  - q) Total number of line lifts in the set;
  - r) Type of bait used;
  - s) Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern<sup>12</sup>) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown);
  - t) FAO species code and estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the set including target, bycatch and species of concern;
  - u) FAO species code and estimation of the amount<sup>13</sup> of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, species of concern, and benthic taxa.

u

<sup>12</sup> Annex 14<sup>13</sup> In weight for fish and benthic material; numbers for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern



## ANNEX 7

## Standard for Observer Data

*A. Vessel & Observer Data to be Collected for Each Observer Trip*

1. Vessel and observer details are to be recorded only once for each observed trip, and must be reported in a way that links the vessel data to data required in Sections B, C, D and E.
2. The following vessel data are to be collected for each observed trip:
  - a) Current vessel flag;
  - b) Name of vessel;
  - c) Name of the Captain;
  - d) Name of the fishing master;
  - e) Registration number;
  - f) International radio call sign (if any);
  - g) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier) / Lloyd's / IMO number;
  - h) Previous Names (if known);
  - i) Port of registry;
  - j) Previous flag (if any);
  - k) Type of vessel (use appropriate ISSCFV codes, Annex 10);
  - l) Type of fishing method(s) (use appropriate ISSCFG codes, Annex 9);
  - m) Vessel length (m);
  - n) Vessel length type e.g. "LOA", "LBP";
  - o) Beam (m);
  - p) Gross Tonnage – GT (to be provided as the preferred unit of tonnage);
  - q) Gross register tonnage – GRT (to be provided if GT not available; may also be provided in addition to GT);
  - r) Power of main engine(s) (kilowatts);
  - s) Hold capacity (cubic metres);
  - t) Record of the equipment on board which may affect fishing power factors (navigational equipment, radar, sonar systems, weather fax or satellite weather receiver, sea-surface temperature image receiver, Doppler current monitor, radio direction finder), where practical;
  - u) Total number of crew (all staff, excluding observers).
3. The following observer data are to be collected for each observed trip:
  - a) Observer's name;  
Observer's organisation;  
Date observer embarked (UTC date);  
Port of embarkation;  
Date observer disembarked (UTC date);  
Port of disembarkation.



## B. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Trawl Fishing Activity

(Taking into account Annex 8)

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (tow by tow) basis for all observed trawls.
2. The following data are to be collected for each observed trawl tow:
  - a) Tow start date and time (the time gear starts fishing - UTC);
  - b)      Tow end date and time (the time haul back starts - UTC);
  - ~~b)c~~      Haul back end date and time (the time net is fully onboard) – UTC;
  - ~~e)d~~      Tow start position (Lat/Lon, nearest 1/100th degree for bottom fishing and 1/10th for pelagic trawl - decimal);
  - e)      Tow end position (Lat/Lon, nearest 1/100th degree for bottom fishing and 1/10th for pelagic trawl - decimal);
  - ~~d)f~~      Number of doors-up turns during tow;
  - ~~e)g~~      Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - ~~f)h~~      Type of trawl, bottom or mid-water (use appropriate bottom or midwater trawl codes from the standard ISCCFG fishing gear standards attached at Annex 9);
  - ~~g)i~~      Type of trawl: single, double or triple (S, D or T);
  - ~~h)j~~      Height of net opening;
  - ~~i)k~~      Width of net opening;
  - ~~j)l~~      Mesh size of the cod-end net (stretched mesh, mm);
  - ~~k)m~~      Mesh type (diamond, square, etc);
  - ~~l)n~~      Gear depth (of footrope) at start of fishing;
  - ~~m)o~~      Bottom (seabed) depth at start of fishing;
  - ~~n)p~~      Record any bycatch mitigation measures employed, as per below:
    - i. Tori lines – if so, record details as described in Section [NM](#);
    - ii. Bird baffler(s) – if so, record details as described in Section [PE](#);
    - iii. Offal management - if so, record as per below:
      - i. No discharge during shooting and hauling;
      - ii. Only liquid discharge;
      - iii. Waste batching  $\geq$  2 hours/other/none;
    - iv. Other – if so, record details;
  - ~~o)q~~      Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg);
  - ~~p)r~~      Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) discarded, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg), including all benthic taxa;
  - ~~q)s~~      If any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern were caught, report as per requirements described in Section [IH](#);
  - ~~r)t~~      If any benthic material, including VME Indicator Taxa<sup>14</sup>, was caught record as per the requirements described in Section [J](#).

<sup>14</sup> VME Indicator Taxa are defined in Annex 5 of CMM 03-2025 (Bottom Fishing)





*C. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Purse Seine Fishing Activity  
(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis for all observed purse-seine sets.
2. The following data are to be collected for each observed purse-seine set:
  - a) Total search time before this set, since the last set;
  - b) Set start date and time (the time gear starts fishing - UTC);
  - c) Set end date and time (the time haul back starts - UTC);
  - d) Set start position (Lat/Long, nearest 1/100th degree resolution);
  - e) Net length (m);
  - f) Net height (m);
  - g) Net mesh size (stretched mesh, mm) and mesh type (diamond, square, etc);
  - h) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - i) Record any bycatch mitigation measures employed, using types as described below and providing detail as required:
    - i. Tori lines – if so, record details as described in Section [NM](#);
    - ii. Bird baffler(s) – if so, record details as described in Section [PO](#);
    - iii. Offal management - if so, record as per below:
      - i. No discharge during shooting and hauling;
      - ii. Only liquid discharge;
      - iii. Waste batching  $\geq 2$  hours/other/none;
    - iv. Night setting, (when setting is restricted to between the times of nautical dusk and nautical dawn);
    - v. Line weighting – if so, record details as described in Section [ON](#);
    - vi. Other – if so, record details;
  - j) Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg);
  - k) Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) discarded, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg), including all benthic taxa;
  - l) If any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern were caught, report as per requirements described in Section [HH](#);
  - m) If any benthic material, including VME Indicator Taxa<sup>15</sup>, was caught record as per the requirements described in Section [JJ](#).

<sup>15</sup> VME Indicator Taxa are defined in Annex 5 of CMM 03-2025 (Bottom Fishing)



*D. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Bottom Long Line Fishing Activity  
(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis for all observed longline sets.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected for each set:
  - a) Set start date and time (UTC format);
  - b) Set end date and time (UTC format);
  - c) Set start position (Lat/Lon, nearest 1/100th degree – decimal format);
  - d) Set end position (Lat/Lon, nearest 1/100th degree – decimal format);
  - e) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - f) Total length of longline set (km);
  - g) Number of hooks for the set;
  - h) Bottom (seabed) depth at start of set;
  - i) Number of hooks actually observed (including for marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern caught) during the haul;
  - j) Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg);
  - k) Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) discarded, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg), including all benthic taxa;
  - l) If any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern were caught, report as per requirements described in Section [JH](#);
  - m) If any benthic material, including VME Indicator Taxa, was caught record as per the requirements described in Section [J](#);
  - n) Record any bycatch mitigation measures employed and bait type, using types as described below and providing detail as required:
    - i. Tori lines – if so, record details as described in Section [NM](#);
    - ii. Bird baffler(s) – if so, record details as described in Section [PO](#);
    - iii. Offal management - if so, record as per below:
      - i. No discharge during shooting and hauling;
      - ii. ~~Only liquid discharge~~[Discharge during shooting or hauling with batching of minimal interval of 2 hours](#);
      - iii. ~~Waste batching ≥ 2 hours/other/none~~[Discharge during shooting or hauling without batching of minimal interval of 2 hours](#);
    - iv. Night setting, (when setting is restricted to between the times of nautical dusk and nautical dawn);
    - v. Line weighting – if so, record details as described in Section [ON](#);
    - vi. Bait type – record if fish/squid/mixed; live/dead/mixed; frozen/thawed/mixed; synthetic;
    - vii. Other – if so, record details;
  - o) What haul mitigation was used? (bird deterrent curtains/other/none). If other, describe.



*E. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Jigging Fishing Activity  
(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. Data are to be collected on a daily basis for all observed squid jig effort.
2. The following data are to be collected for each observed day of squid jig effort:
  - a) Fishing start date and time (UTC);
  - b) Fishing end date and time (UTC);
  - c) Position at start of drift (1/10th degree - decimal) latitude and longitude;
  - d) Position at end of drift (1/10th degree - decimal) latitude and longitude;
  - e) Intended target species (FAO species code);
  - f) Blast freezing throughput (tonnes per hour);
  - g) Total deck light power (kW);
  - h) Number of hand jig lines;
  - i) Number of single jig machines;
  - j) Number of double jig machines;
  - k) Number of jigs per line;
  - l) Bycatch mitigation measures employed (if applicable);
  - m) Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg);
  - n) Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) discarded, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg), including all benthic taxa;
  - o) If any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern were caught, report as per requirements described in Section [14](#).



*F. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Fishing Activity for alternative methods (CMM 16-2025 paragraph 4)*

*(Taking into account Annex 8)*

1. The type of information and data to be collected from each vessel and trip will depend on whether there is an observer in port and whether the skipper of the boat has access to a digital logbook.
2. Members using alternative data for their vessels under 15 meters of length overall registered in the SPRFMO Record of Vessels fishing for jumbo flying squid shall respect the following requirements:
  - a) The catch data, fishing areas and number of fishers by trip shall be collected at the arrival of the vessel to the port by the observer in port designated by the relevant Member.
  - b) The data obtained with the use of digital logbooks shall expand and complement the information and data obtained through the observers in port, allowing for detailed information to be collected on the duration, geographical position, catch and effort per set or fishing operation even when there are no observers in port.
  - c) Fishers and skippers of fishing vessels under 15 meters of length overall authorized to fish for jumbo flying squid in the Convention area shall be instructed that, whenever they have carried out fishing operations for jumbo flying squid in the aforementioned area, they shall proceed to report to the observer in port as soon as they arrive to port, in order to proceed with the data collection and sampling of the catch of said vessel as a matter of priority.
3. Data to be collected by observers in port
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel registration number;
  - d) Date of fishing activity (UTC);
  - e) Referential position of the fishing area, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude, as declared by the skipper or master fisherman;
  - f) Target species (FAO species code);
  - g) Number of crew;
  - h) Number of jigs and number of hand lines;
  - i) Total catch (kg);
  - j) In coordination with and subject to acceptance of the skipper or master fisherman, samples of non-gutted squid specimens caught in the Convention properly selected and preserved will be purchased for biological sampling in the laboratory.
4. Data to be collected by observes on board or fishing master :
  - a) Vessel flag;
  - b) Vessel name;
  - c) Vessel registration number;
  - d) Position at the start of each set or fishing operation, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude;
  - e) Position at the end of each set or fishing operation, with resolution of 1/10th degree, decimal format, of latitude and longitude;
  - f) Target species (FAO species code);



- g) Number of crew;
- h) Number of jigs and number of hand lines;
- i) Total fishing hours per set or fishing operation;
- j) Estimated total catch (kg) of jumbo flying squid per set or fishing operation



### *G. Length-Frequency Data to Be Collected*

Representative and randomly sampled length-frequency data are to be collected for the target species and, time permitting, for other main by-catch species. Length data should be collected and recorded at the most precise level appropriate for the species (cm or mm and whether to the nearest unit or unit below) and the type of measurement used (total length, fork length, or standard length) should also be recorded. If possible, total weight of length-frequency samples for each species should be recorded, or estimated and the method of estimation recorded, and observers may be required to also determine sex of measured fish to generate length-frequency data stratified by sex.

#### 1. Commercial Sampling Protocol

- a) Fish species other than skates, rays and sharks:
  - i. Fish length should be measured, consistent with Section R, to the nearest cm for fish which attain a maximum length greater than 40 cm;
  - ii. Fish length should be measured, consistent with Section R, to the nearest mm for fish which attain a maximum length less than 40 cm;
- b) Squid:
  - i. Mantle length should be measured to the nearest cm;
- c) Skates and rays:
  - i. maximum disk width should be measured;
- d) Sharks
  - i. Appropriate length measurement to be used should be selected for each species (see Section R). As a default, total length should be measured;
- e) Marine mammals and reptiles (as possible)
  - i. Total length should be measured wherever possible.

#### 2. Scientific Sampling Protocol

For scientific sampling of species, length measurements may need to be made at a finer resolution than specified above.

Measurement standards for invertebrates (i.e. crabs/lobsters) will be developed as required in line with the development of the associated exploratory fishery.



## *H. Biological Sampling to be Conducted*

1. The following biological data should be collected for representative samples of the main target species and, time permitting, for other main by-catch species contributing to the catch:

- a) Species;
- b) Length (mm or cm). Measurement precision and type should be determined on a species-by-species basis consistent with that defined in Section G above;
- c) Type of length measurement used (i.e. total length, fork length, etc);
- d) Sex (male, female, immature, unsexed);
- e) Maturity stage (for sharks, report if pregnant, and how many (if any) eggs/pups found).

2. Observers should collect tissue, otolith and/or stomach samples according to pre-determined specific research programmes implemented by the Scientific Committee or other national scientific research.

3. Observers are to be briefed and provided with written length-frequency and biological sampling protocols, where appropriate, and priorities for the above sampling specific to each observer trip.

4. Members using an alternative data collection program for their vessels under 15 meters of length overall registered in the SPRFMO Record of Vessels fishing for jumbo flying squid shall respect the following requirements when undertaking biological samplings :

### 4.1 Sampling In Port

In ports, the Scientific entity designated by the relevant Member, in the extent possible, will ensure arrangements in order to buy part of the catch of those vessels that have caught jumbo flying squid in the Convention area, for the purpose of carrying out biological sampling in its laboratories. For this, the master fishers and/or crew fishers of the vessels participating in the program shall be instructed to differentiate the samples collected in the Convention area, in order to bring to port samples of complete specimens, selected and conserved under certain criteria, and a fair price shall be paid for that part of the catch.

#### 4.1.1. Biometric sampling (of size frequency)

A simple random sample of maximum 120 squids shall be collected and measured per fishing day (distributed among the different sets or fishing operations of that day), measuring and recording the dorsal mantle lengths.

#### 4.1.2. Biological sampling

To obtain biological data, from the large daily sample above, 10 female and 10 male squids shall be set aside by means of a stratified random sampling, so that the specimens cover the entire range of sizes in the large daily sample. Then, for each specimen, the following data will be determined and recorded:

- f) Mantle length (mm);
- g) Total weight (g);
- h) Eviscerated weight (g);
- i) Sex;
- j) Maturity stage;
- k) Evidence of copulation (females only).



*I. Data to be Collected on Incidental Captures of seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles) and other species of concern*

1. The following data are to be collected for all seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles) and other species of concern caught in fishing operations:

- a) Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible, or accompanied by photographs if identification is difficult) and size;
- b) Count of the number of each species caught per tow or set;
- c) Fate of bycaught animal(s) (retained or released/discarded);
- d) If released, life status (vigorous, alive, lethargic, dead) upon release;
- e) If dead, then collect adequate information or samples<sup>16</sup> for onshore identification in accordance with pre-determined sampling protocols. Where this is not possible, observers may be required to collect sub-samples of identifying parts, as specified in biological sampling protocols;
- f) Record the type of interaction (hook/line entanglement/warp strike/net capture/other). If other, describe.

2. Record sex of each individual for taxa where this is feasible from external observation, e.g. pinnipeds, small cetaceans or elasmobranchii species of concern.

3. Record the length of each individual (cm), with record of the type of length measurement used. Measurement precision and type should be determined on a species-by-species basis.

4. Record the life-history stage of each individual where this is feasible (i.e., juvenile/adult).

<sup>16</sup> Options include: return of carcasses for necropsy, photographs taken using appropriate protocols or tissue or feather samples for genetic determination.



### *J. Detection of Fishing in Association with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems*

1. For all bottom fishing events, including trawl, bottom line, and potting, the following data are to be collected for all benthic taxa caught:
  - a) Species (or accompanied by a photograph where identification to genus or species level is difficult);
  - b) An estimate of the quantity (to the nearest 0.1 kg) of each listed benthic taxon caught in the fishing event;
  - c) The method of weight estimation (e.g., visual estimate, weighed in full, accurate count of bins multiplied by number of bins) (note this information is not collected by the SPRFMO Secretariat but should be available upon request);
  - d) Where possible, and particularly for new or scarce benthic species which do not appear in ID guides, whole samples should be collected and suitably preserved for identification on shore;
  - e) Wherever possible, observers should collect samples and images according to pre-determined specific research programmes implemented by the Scientific Committee or other national scientific research.
2. For all bottom fishing events, the following data are to be collected for all taxa identified as VME indicators as defined in Annex 5 of CMM 03-2025(Bottom Fishing):
  - a) An estimate of the quantity (to the nearest 0.1 kg) of each VME indicator taxon caught in the fishing event;
  - b) Wherever possible, a photograph of a representative sample of each VME indicator taxa caught in the fishing event, archived by the Member or CNCP through the SPRFMO Observer Programme in a way that allows the photograph to be linked to the specific weight record for the fishing event;
  - c) Wherever possible, a photograph of the entire quantity of each VME indicator taxa caught in the fishing event, archived by the Member or CNCP through the SPRFMO Observer Programme in a way that allows the photograph to be linked to the specific weight record for the fishing event.
3. For each observed trawl, the following data are to be collected for all taxa identified as VME indicators in Annex 5 of CMM 03-2025 (Bottom Fishing) using the appropriate VME Encounter template:
  - a) A record of whether the weight of any of the VME indicator taxa in the trawl catch exceeded taxa-specific weight thresholds as defined in Annex 6A of CMM 03-2025 (Bottom Fishing);
  - b) A record of whether three or more VME indicator taxa in the trawl catch exceeded taxa-specific weight thresholds as defined in Annex 6B of CMM 03-2025 (Bottom Fishing).



### *K. Data to be Collected for all Tag Recoveries*

1. The following data are to be collected for all recovered fish, seabird, mammal or reptile tags if the organism is dead, to be retained, or alive:

- a) Observer name;
- b) Vessel name;
- c) Vessel call sign;
- d) Vessel flag;
- e) Collect, label (with all details below) and store the actual tags for later return to the tagging agency;
- f) Species from which tag recovered;
- g) Tag colour and type (spaghetti, archival);
- h) Tag numbers (the tag number is to be provided for all tags when multiple tags were attached to one fish. If only one tag was recorded, a statement is required that specifies whether or not the other tag was missing). If the organism is alive and to be released, tag information should be collected in accordance with pre-determined sampling protocols;
- i) Date and time of capture (UTC);
- j) Location of capture (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1/10th degree);
- k) Animal length/size (cm or mm) with description of what measurement was taken (such as total length, fork length, etc). Length measurements should be collected according to the criteria defined in Section G above;
- l) Sex (F=female, M=male, I=indeterminate, D=not examined);
- m) Whether the tags were found during a period of fishing that was being observed (Y/N);
- n) Reward information (e.g. name and address where to send reward).

(It is recognised that some of the data recorded here duplicates data that already exists in the previous categories of information. This is necessary because tag recovery information may be sent separately to other observer data.)



### *L. Hierarchies for Observer Data Collection*

1. Recognising that observers may not be able to collect all of the data described in these standards on each trip, a hierarchy of priorities is to be implemented for collection of observer data. Trip-specific or programme-specific observer task priorities may be developed in response to specific research programme requirements, in which case such priorities should be followed by observers.
2. In the absence of trip- or programme-specific priorities, the following generalised priorities should be followed by observers:
  - a) Fishing Operation Information
    - i. All vessel and tow / set / effort information;
  - b) Reporting of Catches
    - i. Record time, weight of catch sampled versus total catch or effort (e.g. number of hooks), and total numbers of each species caught;
    - ii. Identification and counts of seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles), sensitive benthic species and vulnerable species;
    - iii. Record numbers or weights of each species retained or discarded;
    - iv. Record instances of depredation, where appropriate;
  - c) Biological Sampling
    - i. Check for presence of tags;
    - ii. Length-frequency data for target species;
    - iii. Basic biological data (sex, maturity) for target species;
    - iv. Length-frequency data for main by-catch species;
    - v. Otoliths (and stomach samples, if being collected) for target species;
    - vi. Basic biological data for by-catch species;
    - vii. Biological samples of by-catch species (if being collected);
    - viii. Take photos;
  - d) The reporting of catches and biological sampling procedures should be prioritised among species groups as follows:

| Species   | Priority<br>(1 highest) |
|---|-------------------------|
| Primary target species (such as jack mackerel, for pelagic fisheries, orange roughy for demersal fisheries, and squid where targeted)             | 1                       |
| Seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles) or other species of concern   | 2                       |
| All sharks  | 3                       |
| Other species typically within top 5 in the fishery (such as blue mackerel for pelagic fisheries, and oreos and alfonsino for demersal fisheries) | 4                       |
| All other species   | 5                       |

The allocation of observer effort among these activities will depend on the type of operation and setting. The size of sub-samples relative to unobserved quantities (e.g. number of hooks examined for species composition relative to the number of hooks set) should be explicitly recorded as per CMM 16-2025 (Observer Programme).



### *M. Coding Specifications to be Used for Recording Observer Data*

1. Unless otherwise specified, observer data are to be provided in accordance with the same coding specifications as specified in Annex 8 of the SPRFMO Data Standards.
2. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is to be used to describe times.
3. Decimal degrees are to be used to describe locations.
4. The following coding schemes are to be used:
  - a) Species are to be described using the FAO species codes<sup>17</sup>;
  - b) Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG - 29 July 1980) codes (Annex 9);
  - c) Types of fishing vessel are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes (Annex 10).
5. Metric units of measure are to be used, specifically:
  - a) Kilograms are to be used to describe catch weight;
  - b) Metres are to be used to describe height, width, depth, beam or length;
  - c) Cubic metres are to be used to describe volume;
  - d) Kilowatts are to be used to describe engine power.

<sup>17</sup> FAO species code means the 3-alpha code as described in [www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp](http://www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp)



N. Bird scaring line description form

**General Bird Scaring Line Description:**

Trip Number  Bird scaring line position

Bird scaring line equipment code

Distance between streamers (m)

Streamer length min /max (m)

Attached height above water (m)

Streamer colours

Streamer material

Backbone length (m)

Bird scaring line aerial coverage length (m)

Bird scaring line design: (Design shown is)

Bird scaring line material

Towed object

Additional Comments

**Summary of Inputed Values:**

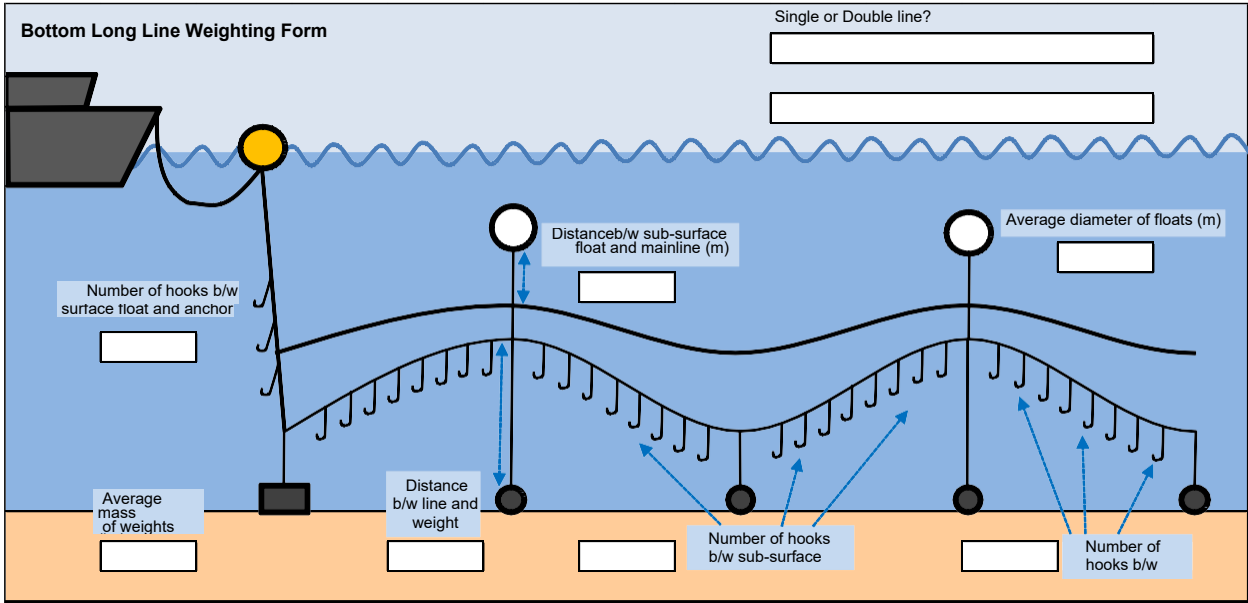
|                                  |  |                            |  |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| Trip Number                      |  | Distance between streamers |  |
| Bird scaring line equipment code |  | Streamer length (min)      |  |
| Bird scaring line position       |  | Streamer length (max)      |  |
| Backbone length                  |  | Streamer colour            |  |
| Aerial coverage length           |  | Streamer material          |  |
| Attached height above water      |  | Number of streamers        |  |
| Bird scaring line material       |  | Towed object               |  |
| Bird scaring line design         |  | Additional comments        |  |

**Bird Scaring Line Codes/ List Options:**

| Position       | Design | Towed Object                     | Material              | Colour                        |
|----------------|--------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Port Side      | Single | F = Inverted funnel/plastic cone | T = Plastic tubing    | P = Pink                      |
| Starboard Side | Paired | L = Length of thick line         | S = Plastic strapping | R = Red                       |
| Stern          |        | K = Knot or loop of thick line   | O = Other             | C = Carrot (Orange)           |
|                |        | B = Buoy                         |                       | Y = Yellow                    |
|                |        | N = Netted buoy                  |                       | G = Green                     |
|                |        | S = Sack or bag                  |                       | B = Blue                      |
|                |        | W = Weight                       |                       | W = Brown                     |
|                |        | Z = No towed object              |                       | F = Faded colour (any colour) |
|                |        | O = Other                        |                       | O = Other                     |



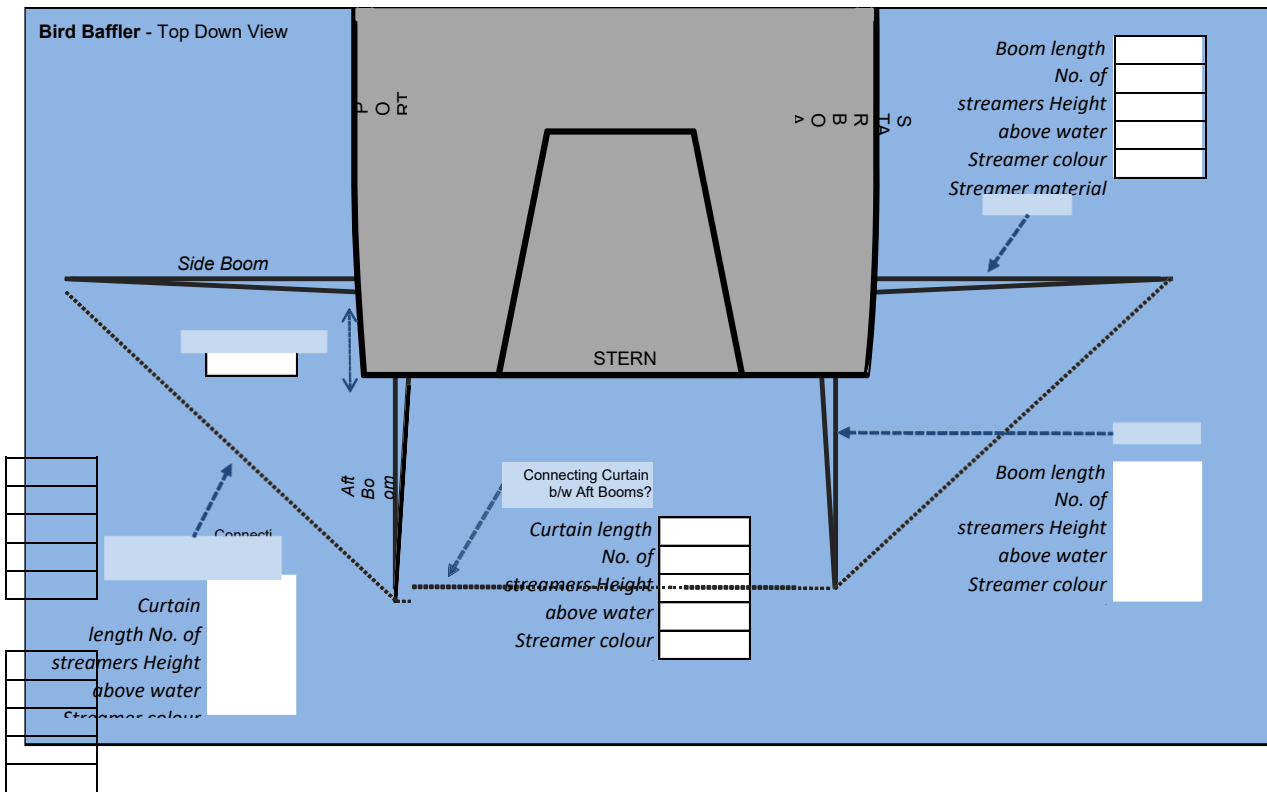
O. External line weighting description form



| Summary of Inputed Values:                  |                      |  |                      |
|---|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Single or Double line?                      | <input type="text"/> | Number of hooks b/w surface float & anchor | <input type="text"/> |
| Avg mass of weights                         | <input type="text"/> | Number of hooks b/w sub-surface floats     | <input type="text"/> |
| Distance b/w sub-surface float and mainline | <input type="text"/> | Number of hooks b/w weights                | <input type="text"/> |
| Distance b/w line and weight                | <input type="text"/> | Additional comments                        | <input type="text"/> |



P. Bird baffler description form



| Summary of Inputted Values   |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distance from stern</li> </ul>  |   |
| <b>Side Boom</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boom length</li> <li>Number of streamers</li> <li>Avg. distance b/w streamers</li> <li>Height above water</li> <li>Streamer colour</li> <li>Streamer material</li> </ul>           | <b>Aft Boom</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boom length</li> <li>Number of streamers</li> <li>Avg. distance b/w streamers</li> <li>Height above water</li> <li>Streamer colour</li> <li>Streamer material</li> </ul>       |
| <b>Side-Aft Curtain</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curtain length</li> <li>Number of streamers</li> <li>Avg. distance b/w streamers</li> <li>Height above water</li> <li>Streamer colour</li> <li>Streamer material</li> </ul> | <b>Aft Curtain</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curtain length</li> <li>Number of streamers</li> <li>Avg. distance b/w streamers</li> <li>Height above water</li> <li>Streamer colour</li> <li>Streamer material</li> </ul> |



*Q. Standard for Observer Data collected during a Landing  
or while a vessel is in port*

With regards to fishing vessels flying their flag, and landing unprocessed (i.e. whole and no part of the fish having been removed) SPRFMO managed species, and where these landings are observed, Members and CNCPs may collect and provide the following information:

1. The following vessel data for each observed landing:
  - f) Current vessel flag;
  - g) Name of vessel;
  - h) Fishing vessel registration number;
  - i) International radio call sign (if any);
  - j) Unique Vessel Identifier / IMO number;
  - k) Type of vessel (use appropriate ISSCFV codes, Annex 10);
  - l) Type of fishing method(s) (use appropriate ISSCFG codes, Annex 9).
2. The following observer data for each observed landing:
  - a) Observer's name;
  - b) Observer's organisation;
  - c) Country of landing (standard ISO 3-alpha country codes);
  - d) Port/Point of landing.
3. The following data for each observed landing:
  - a) Landing Date and time (UTC format);
  - b) First day of trip – to the extent practicable;
  - c) Last day of trip – to the extent practicable;
  - d) Indicative fishing area (decimal Lat/Long, nearest 1/10th degree – to the extent practicable);
  - e) Main target species (FAO species code);
  - f) Landed state by species (FAO species code);
  - g) Landed (live) weight by species (kilograms) for the landing event being observed.

In addition, the collection of Length-Frequency data, Biological data and/or Tag recovery data should follow the standards described in parts E and F respectively of this Annex for those species observed during landings or while a vessel is in port.

Members and CNCPs should note that Annex 7 Parts I (Incidental capture) and J (VMEs) are not considered relevant for observed landings. However, the standards described in Parts K (Tag recovery), L (Hierarchies) and M (Coding specifications) should still be followed when possible.



## R. Standard for length measurements

Total length should be used for the following fish species:

- Groupers, seabasses (Serranidae);
- Oreodories (Oreosomatidae);
- Grenadiers, rattails (Macrouridae);
- Hake (Merluccidae);
- Hapuka (*Polyprion* spp);
- Cusk eels, brotulas (Ophidiidae);
- Moras (Moridae);
- Pelagic armourheads (*Pseudopentaceros* spp);
- Rockfishes, rockcods, and thornyheads (*Sebastidae* spp);
- Scorpionfishes (Scorpaenidae);
- Slimeheads (Trachichthyidae);
- Antarctic toothfishes (*Dissostichus* spp);
- Any shark or chimaera species not otherwise listed (see FAO technical report 474 on measuring sharks).

Fork length should be used for the following fish species:

- Amberjacks (*Seriola* spp);
- Barracouta (Gempylidae);
- Bluenose warehou (*Hyperoglyphe antarctica*);
- Alfonsinos, etc. (Berycidae);
- Driftfishes (Nomeidae);
- Cardinalfishes, etc. (Apogonidae);
- Chilean Jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*);
- Chub Mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*);
- Morwongs (*Nemadactylus* spp);
- Emperors (Lethrinidae);
- Pomfrets, ocean breams (Bramidae);
- Snappers (Lutjanidae);
- Snake mackerels (Gempylidae);
- Other warehou (all).

Standard Length should be used for:

- Orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*).

Mantle length should be used for:

Squid (all including *Dosidicus gigas*).



## ANNEX 8

### Specifications for the exchange of data

1. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is to be used to describe times, using the following submission format:

YYYY-MON-DDThh:mm:ss

Where:

YYYY- represents a 4-digit year e.g. "2007"

MON- represents a 3-character month abbreviation

e.g."APR" DD- represents a 2-digit day e.g. "05"

T- is a space separator

hh- represents hours based on the 24hr clock (length = 2 digits) e.g. "16"

mm- represents minutes (length = 2 digits) e.g. "05"

ss- represents seconds (length = 2 digits) e.g. "00"

Example

2003-JUL-17T13:10:00 1.10pm (1310h), 17 July 2003

2. Decimal degrees (WGS84) are to be used to describe locations

The following standard should be used for the submission of latitudinal/ longitudinal information:

- Northern latitudes and eastern longitudes should be indicated by the use of [un-signed] positive decimal degree values
- Southern latitudes and western longitudes should be indicated by the use of negative decimal degree values

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Latitude  | Degrees: represented as positive (unsigned) or negative numbers from 0 to 89.99<br>e.g. If value = 83.2, this means 83.2° N<br>e.g. if value = -83.2, this means 83.2° S  |
| Longitude | Degrees: represented as positive (unsigned) or negative numbers from 0 to 179.99<br>e.g. If value = 83.2, this means 83.2° E<br>e.g. if value = -83.2, this means 83.2° W |



3. The following coding schemes are to be used:

3. The Secretariat shall maintain and periodically update the FAO species code, ISSCFG gear codes (Annex 9), ISSCFV vessel codes (Annex 10), and ASFIS species reference lists, in line with official updates published by FAO and CWP. Such updates will be automatically reflected in the SPRFMO data submission templates and communicated to Members and CNCPs at least three months in advance of their implementation. Where a code is deprecated or revised by FAO, the Secretariat will provide transitional guidance to ensure data consistency across reporting years.

- a) Species are to be described using the FAO species codes<sup>18</sup>;
- b) Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG—~~29 July 1980~~) codes<sup>19</sup> - Annex 9;
- c) Types of fishing vessel are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes<sup>20</sup> - Annex 10.

4. Metric units of measure are to be used, specifically:

- a) Kilograms are to be used to describe catch weight;
- b) Metres are to be used to describe height, width, depth, beam or length;
- c) Cubic metres are to be used to describe volume;
- d) Kilowatts are to be used to describe engine power.

<sup>18</sup> FAO species code means the 3-alpha code as described in [www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp](http://www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp)

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp/handbook/M> - see "Annex M.I"

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp/handbook/L> - see "Annex L.II"



## ANNEX 9

## ISSCFG Codes

International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG) (29 July 1980)

| Gear Categories<br>Abbreviation Code | Standard<br>Abbreviations | ISSCFG |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| SURROUNDING NETS                     |                           | 01.0.0 |
| With purse lines (purse seines)      | PS                        | 01.1.0 |
| - one boat operated purse seines     | PS1                       | 01.1.1 |
| - two boats operated purse seines    | PS2                       | 01.1.2 |
| Without purse lines (lampara)        | LA                        | 01.2.0 |
| SEINE NETS                           |                           | 02.0.0 |
| Beach seines                         | SB                        | 02.1.0 |
| Boat or vessel seines                | SV                        | 02.2.0 |
| - Danish seines                      | SDN                       | 02.2.1 |
| - Scottish seines                    | SSC                       | 02.2.2 |
| - pair seines                        | SPR                       | 02.2.3 |
| Seine nets (not specified)           | SX                        | 02.9.0 |
| TRAWLS                               |                           | 03.0.0 |
| Bottom trawls                        |                           | 03.1.0 |
| - beam trawls                        | TBB                       | 03.1.1 |
| - otter trawls <sup>21</sup>         | OTB                       | 03.1.2 |
| - pair trawls                        | PTB                       | 03.1.3 |
| - nephrops trawls                    | TBN                       | 03.1.4 |
| - shrimp trawls                      | TBS                       | 03.1.5 |
| - bottom trawls (not specified)      | TB                        | 03.1.9 |
| Midwater trawls                      |                           | 03.2.0 |
| - otter trawls <sup>21</sup>         | OTM                       | 03.2.1 |
| - pair trawls                        | PTM                       | 03.2.2 |
| - shrimp trawls                      | TMS                       | 03.2.3 |
| - midwater trawls (not specified)    | TM                        | 03.2.9 |
| Otter twin trawls                    | OTT                       | 03.3.0 |
| Otter trawls (not specified)         | OT                        | 03.4.9 |
| Pair trawls (not specified)          | PT                        | 03.5.9 |
| Other trawls (not specified)         | TX                        | 03.9.0 |
| DREDGES                              |                           | 04.0.0 |
| Boat dredges                         | DRB                       | 04.1.0 |
| Hand dredges                         | DRH                       | 04.2.0 |
| LIFT NETS                            |                           | 05.0.0 |
| Portable lift nets                   | LNP                       | 05.1.0 |
| Boat-operated lift nets              | LNB                       | 05.2.0 |
| Shore-operated stationary lift nets  | LNS                       | 05.3.0 |
| Lift nets (not specified)            | LN                        | 05.9.0 |
| FALLING GEAR                         |                           | 06.0.0 |
| Cast nets                            | FCN                       | 06.1.0 |
| Falling gear (not specified)         | FG                        | 06.9.0 |

<sup>21</sup> Fisheries agencies may indicate side and stern bottom, and side and stern midwater trawls, as OTB-1 and OTB-2, and OTM-1 and OTM-2, respectively



| Gear Categories<br>Abbreviation Code                   | Standard<br>Abbreviations | ISSCFG |
|--|---------------------------|--------|
| GILLNETS AND ENTANGLING NETS                           |                           | 07.0.0 |
| Set gillnets (anchored)                                | GNS                       | 07.1.0 |
| Driftnets  | GND                       | 07.2.0 |
| Encircling gillnets                                    | GNC                       | 07.3.0 |
| Fixed gillnets (on stakes)                             | GNF                       | 07.4.0 |
| Trammel nets   | GTR                       | 07.5.0 |
| Combined gillnets-trammel nets                         | GTN                       | 07.6.0 |
| Gillnets and entangling nets (not specified)           | GEN                       | 07.9.0 |
| Gillnets (not specified)                               | GN                        | 07.9.1 |
| TRAPS  |                           | 08.0.0 |
| Stationary uncovered pound nets                        | FPN                       | 08.1.0 |
| Pots   | FPO                       | 08.2.0 |
| Fyke nets  | FYK                       | 08.3.0 |
| Stow nets  | FSN                       | 08.4.0 |
| Barriers, fences, weirs, etc.                          | FWR                       | 08.5.0 |
| Aerial traps   | FAR                       | 08.6.0 |
| Traps (not specified)                                  | FIX                       | 08.9.0 |
| HOOKS AND LINES  |                           | 09.0.0 |
| Handlines and pole-lines (hand-operated) <sup>22</sup> | LHP                       | 09.1.0 |
| Handlines and pole-lines (mechanized) <sup>23</sup>    | LHM                       | 09.2.0 |
| Set longlines  | LLS                       | 09.3.0 |
| Drifting longlines                                     | LLD                       | 09.4.0 |
| Longlines (not specified)                              | LL                        | 09.5.0 |
| Trolling lines   | LTL                       | 09.6.0 |
| Hooks and lines (not specified)                        | LX                        | 09.9.0 |
| GRAPPLING AND WOUNDING                                 |                           | 10.0.0 |
| Harpoons   | HAR                       | 10.1.0 |
| HARVESTING MACHINES                                    |                           | 11.0.0 |
| Pumps  | HMP                       | 11.1.0 |
| Mechanised dredges                                     | HMD                       | 11.2.0 |
| Harvesting machines (not specified)                    | HMX                       | 11.9.0 |
| MISCELLANEOUS GEAR <sup>24</sup>                       | MIS                       | 20.0.0 |
| RECREATIONAL FISHING GEAR                              | RG                        | 25.0.0 |
| GEAR NOT KNOW OR NOT SPECIFIED                         | NK                        | 99.0.0 |

<sup>22</sup> Including jigging lines

<sup>23</sup> Code LDV for dory-operated line gears will be maintained for historical data purposes

<sup>24</sup> This item includes: hand and landing nets, drive-in-nets, gathering by hand with simple hand implements with or without diving equipment, poisons and explosives, trained animals, electrical fishing



## ANNEX 10

### ISSCFV Codes

#### International Standard Statistical Classification of Fishery Vessels by Vessel Types

(approved by CWP 12, 1984)

| Vessel Type                     |                         | Standard Abbreviation | Code   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| TRAWLERS                        |                         | TO                    | 01.0.0 |
|                                 | Side trawlers           | TS                    | 01.1.0 |
|                                 | Side trawlers wet-fish  | TSW                   | 01.1.1 |
|                                 | Side trawlers freezer   | TSF                   | 01.1.2 |
|                                 | Sterntrawlers           | TT                    | 01.2.0 |
|                                 | Sterntrawlers wet-fish  | TTW                   | 01.2.1 |
|                                 | Sterntrawlers freezer   | TTF                   | 01.2.2 |
|                                 | Sterntrawlers factory   | TTP                   | 01.2.3 |
|                                 | Outrigger trawlers      | TU                    | 01.3.0 |
|                                 | Trawler nei             | TOX                   | 01.9.0 |
| SEINERS                         |                         | SO                    | 02.0.0 |
|                                 | Purse seiners           | SP                    | 02.1.0 |
|                                 | North American type     | SPA                   | 02.1.1 |
|                                 | European type           | SPE                   | 02.1.2 |
|                                 | Tuna purse seiners      | SPT                   | 02.1.3 |
|                                 | Seiner netters          | SN                    | 02.2.0 |
|                                 | Seiner nei              | SOX                   | 02.9.0 |
| DREDGERS                        |                         | DO                    | 03.0.0 |
|                                 | Using boat dredge       | DB                    | 03.1.0 |
|                                 | Using mechanical dredge | DM                    | 03.2.0 |
|                                 | Dredgers nei            | DOX                   | 03.9.0 |
| LIFT NETTERS                    |                         | NO                    | 04.0.0 |
|                                 | Using boat operated net | NB                    | 04.1.0 |
|                                 | Lift netters nei        | BOX                   | 04.9.0 |
| GILL NETTERS                    |                         | GO                    | 05.0.0 |
| TRAP SETTERS                    |                         | WO                    | 06.0.0 |
|                                 | Potvessels              | WOP                   | 06.1.0 |
|                                 | Trap setters nei        | WOX                   | 06.9.0 |
| LINERS                          |                         | LO                    | 07.0.0 |
|                                 | Handliners              | LH                    | 07.1.0 |
|                                 | Longliners              | LL                    | 07.2.0 |
|                                 | Tuna longliners         | LLT                   | 07.2.1 |
|                                 | Pole and line vessels   | LP                    | 07.3.0 |
|                                 | Japanese type           | LPJ                   | 07.3.1 |
|                                 | American type           | LPA                   | 07.3.2 |
|                                 | Trollers                | LT                    | 07.4.0 |
|                                 | Liners nei              | LOX                   | 07.9.0 |
| VESSELS USING PUMPS FOR FISHING |                         | PO                    | 08.0.0 |
| MOTHERSHIPS                     |                         | HO                    | 11.0.0 |
|                                 | Salted-fish motherships | HSS                   | 11.1.0 |



| Vessel Type                   |  | Standard Abbreviation | Code   |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--------|
|                               | Factory motherships                            | HSF                   | 11.2.0 |
|                               | Tuna motherships                               | HST                   | 11.3.0 |
|                               | Motherships for two-boat purse seining seining | HSP                   | 11.4.0 |
|                               | Motherships nei                                | HOX                   | 11.9.0 |
| FISH CARRIERS                 |  | FO                    | 12.0.0 |
| HOSPITAL SHIPS                |  | KO                    | 13.0.0 |
| PROTECTION AND SURVEY VESSELS |  | BO                    | 14.0.0 |
| FISHERY RESEARCH VESSELS      |  | ZO                    | 15.0.0 |
| FISHERY TRAINING VESSELS      |  | CO                    | 16.0.0 |
| NON-FISHING VESSELS nei       |  | VOX                   | 99.0.0 |

Source: CWP Handbook of Fishery Statistical Standards (p.206). FAO, Rome. 2004



## ANNEX 11

### Standard for Landings Data: Fishing and Reefer Vessels

With regard to the fishing vessels flying their flag that directly harvested non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Convention Area, Members and CNCPs are to:

1. Collect data on an individual landings basis
2. Collect the following fields of data:
  - a) Current vessel flag;
  - b) Name of vessel;
  - c) Registration number of vessel;
  - d) International radio call sign (if any);
  - e) Unique Vessel Identifier / IMO number;
  - f) Date entered Convention Area;
  - g) Date exited Convention Area;
  - h) Landing date;
  - i) Area catch taken (FAO area<sup>25</sup>);
  - j) Country of landing (standard ISO 3-alpha country codes);
  - k) Port/ point of landing;
  - l) Landed state<sup>26</sup> by species (FAO species code);
  - m) Landed (live) weight by species;
  - n) Containers –type by species (if applicable);
  - o) Containers –number by species (if applicable);
  - p) Containers –total content weight for all containers by species (if applicable);
  - q) Port of previous landing;
  - r) Date of arrival at previous port;
  - s) Verification (if applicable):
    - i. Name of observer;
    - ii. Authority.

<sup>25</sup> FAO statistical area codes

<sup>26</sup> Landed state: This means the “state” in which the fish was landed. States may include “live” (fish has not been processed and no part of the fish has been removed), or other states, for example headed and gutted, filleted, etc.



With regard to reefer vessels flying their flag and transporting non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Convention Area, Members and CNCPs are to:

1. Collect data on an individual unloading (landing) basis
2. Collect the following fields of data:

#### VESSEL

- a) Current flag State;
- b) Name of vessel;
- c) Registration number of vessel;
- d) Radio call sign (If any);
- e) Unique Vessel Identifier / IMO number;
- f) Name of charter party or owner;

#### GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE UNLOADING (LANDING)

- a) Country of landing (using 3 alpha ISO codes);
- b) Port/point of landing;
- c) Landing date;
- d) Port of previous destination if in Convention Area;

#### LANDING DESCRIPTION SPLIT BY SPECIES, FOR EACH SPECIES

- a) Landed state<sup>27</sup>;
- b) Containers – Type;
- c) Containers – Number;
- d) Containers – Total Content weight for all containers;

#### TRANSHIPMENT (IF WITHIN THE CONVENTION AREA).

- a) Name(s) of fishing vessel(s) (delivering);
- b) IMO number/Lloyd number (if allocated);
- c) Total net weight(s) of product transhipped by species by vessel(s);
- d) Date(s) of transhipment activities by vessel(s);

#### VERIFICATION (IF APPLICABLE)

- a) Name of observer;
- b) Port authority.

<sup>27</sup> Landed state: This means the “state” in which the fish was landed. States may include “live” (fish has not been processed and no part of the fish has been removed), or other states for example headed and gutted, filleted, etc.



## ANNEX 12

### Standard for Transshipment Data

*(Taking into account Annex 8)*

With regard to the fishing vessels flying their flag and fishing for non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Convention Area, Members and CNCPs are to:

1. Collect data on an individual transshipment basis
2. Collect the following fields of data:

#### DETAILS OF TRANSHIPPING VESSEL (DELIVERING)

- a) Name of vessel;
- b) Registration number;
- c) Radio call sign;
- d) Vessel flag State;
- e) Unique Vessel Identifier / IMO number;
- f) Master of transshipping vessel;

#### DETAILS OF REEFER VESSEL (RECEIVING)

- a) Name of vessel;
- b) Registration number;
- c) Radio call sign;
- d) Vessel flag State;
- e) Unique Vessel Identifier / IMO number;
- f) Master of reefer vessel;

#### TRANSHIPMENT OPERATION

- a) Date and time of commencement of transshipment (UTC);
- b) Date and time of completion of transshipment (UTC);
- c) Position (nearest 1/10th degree) at commencement of transshipment (decimal);
- d) Position (nearest 1/10th degree) at completion of transshipment (decimal);
- e) Description of product type by species (e.g. whole, frozen fish in 20 kg cartons);
- f) Number of cartons, net weight (kg) of product, by species;
- g) Total net weight of product transhipped (kg);
- h) Hold numbers in reefer vessel in which product is stowed;
- i) Destination port of reefer vessel;
- j) Arrival date estimate;
- k) Landing date estimate;

#### VERIFICATION (IF APPLICABLE)

- a) Name of observer;
- b) Authority.



## ANNEX 13

### Standard for Annual Catch Data

Part A – for all fisheries other than the jumbo flying squid fishery

Annual catch summaries should list all species/groups caught in the Convention Area during the Calendar year.

For a calendar year and for each distinct combination of Sea Type, FAO statistical area, and FAO species/group name (for that calendar year), and stock unit (as specified in a relevant CMM) provide the following data:

- a) Calendar year;
- b) Sea Type (either “HS” – High Seas - or “EEZ” – Exclusive Economic Zone);
- c) FAO Statistical Area (e.g. FAO87);
- d) Species/ group name (e.g. orange roughy);
- e) Species/ group code (FAO species code<sup>28</sup>, e.g. ORY);
- f) Stock unit (as specified in relevant CMM);
- g) Fishing method (use appropriate ISSCFG code, Annex 9);
- h) Annual catch total – tonnes raised to “live” weight.

Part B – pertaining to the jumbo flying squid fishery

- a) Participant
- b) Calendar year;
- c) Month
- d) Sea Type (either “HS” – High Seas - or “EEZ” – Exclusive Economic Zone);
- e) FAO Statistical Area (e.g. FAO87);
- f) Fishing method (use appropriate ISSCFG code, Annex 9);
- g) Species/ group code (FAO species code<sup>29</sup>, e.g. GIS);
- h) Catch Total (tonnes "live" weight- t)
- i) Number of vessels
- j) Number of days fished

<sup>28</sup> FAO species code means the 3-alpha code as described in [www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp](http://www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp)

<sup>29</sup> FAO species code means the 3-alpha code as described in [www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp](http://www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp)



## ANNEX 14

### Definition of “other species of concern”

As advised by the Scientific Committee and informed by Appendix 1 of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (a.k.a. CMS or Bonn Convention), the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, Appendix 1 and 2 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), “other species of concern” are defined, as of January 2017, as:

| Scientific name                | English name           | 3-alpha code <sup>30</sup> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> | Oceanic whitetip shark | OCS                        |
| <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>  | Great white shark      | WSH                        |
| <i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>      | Basking shark          | BSK                        |
| <i>Lamna nasus</i>             | Porbeagle shark        | POR                        |
| <i>Manta</i> spp.              | Manta rays             | MNT                        |
| <i>Mobula</i> spp.             | Mobula nei             | RMV                        |
| <i>Rhincodon typus</i>         | Whale shark            | RHN                        |

Other species may be added by agreement of the Members based on the advice of the Scientific Committee.



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 7c CMM 03a-2026 Deepwater Species *(COMM14-Prop08\_rev1)*



## CMM 03a-202~~65~~ Conservation and Management Measure for Deepwater Species in the SPRFMO Convention Area

(Supersedes CMM 03a-202~~53~~)

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

ADOPTS the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) in accordance with Articles 8, 20, 21 and 22 of the Convention:

### Objective

1. The objective of this CMM together with CMM 03-202~~65~~ (Bottom Fishing) is, through the application of the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of deep sea fishery resources, including target fish stocks as well as non-target or associated and dependent species, and, in doing so, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources occur, including inter alia the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems.

### Interpretation

2. For the purposes of this CMM, the definitions applicable in CMM 03-202~~65~~ (Bottom Fishing) have the same meaning in this CMM.
3. For the purposes of this CMM, nine orange roughy 'Fishery Management Areas' are established: Northwest Challenger, North Lord Howe Rise, Central Lord Howe Rise, West Norfolk, Three Kings, South Tasman Rise, North Louisville, Central Louisville and South Louisville. The coordinates and a map are provided in Annex 1.

### Application

4. All activities conducted under this CMM must be conducted in accordance with CMM 03-202~~65~~ (Bottom Fishing).
5. This CMM together with CMM 03-2025 (Bottom Fishing) are adopted as cautious preliminary conservation and management measures consistent with Article 22(1) of the Convention.

### Catch Limits and Monitoring for Deep Sea Fish Stocks

6. The following precautionary catch limits are set by the Commission on the basis of the advice of the Scientific Committee:
  - a) The total catch of orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) in the Louisville Ridge<sup>1</sup> in the 202~~63~~, 202~~74~~, 202~~85~~ fishing years shall be limited to 581 tonnes in each fishing year as follows:
    - i. 305 tonnes for the Central Louisville stock<sup>2</sup>;
    - ii. 116 tonnes for the North Louisville stock<sup>3</sup>;
    - iii. 160 tonnes for the South Louisville stock<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> "Louisville Ridge" means all areas within the Evaluated Area to the east of 178°E.

<sup>2</sup> "Central Louisville stock" means the stock that is located in the "Central Louisville" FMA, as specified in Annex 1.

<sup>3</sup> "North Louisville stock" means the stock that is located in the "North Louisville" FMA, as specified in Annex 1.

<sup>4</sup> "South Louisville stock" means the stock that is located in the "South Louisville" FMA, as specified in Annex 1.



- b) The total catch of orange roughy in the Tasman Sea<sup>5</sup> in the 202~~6~~3, 202~~7~~4, 202~~8~~5 fishing years shall be limited to 378 tonnes in each fishing year as follows.
- i. 160 tonnes for the Northwest Challenger stock<sup>6</sup>;
  - ii. 174 tonnes for the Lord Howe Rise stock<sup>7</sup>;
  - iii. 44 tonnes for the West Norfolk Ridge stock<sup>8</sup>.
7. Members and CNCPs agree, having regard to the Scientific Committee's advice, that the total catch of orange roughy throughout its range in the South Tasman Rise<sup>9</sup> should not exceed 0 tonnes.
8. The total catch of orange roughy in the portion of the South Tasman Rise occurring in the Convention Area<sup>10</sup> shall be 0 tonnes, until otherwise decided by the Commission, based on advice from the Scientific Committee.
9. Consistent with the report of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Committee, Members and CNCPs acknowledged that to maintain the Southwest Challenger Plateau orange roughy stock at or above 34% B<sub>0</sub> for the next five years, the estimated annual yield was calculated to be 942 tonnes.
10. The total catch of orange roughy in Westpac Bank<sup>11</sup> shall be limited to 177 tonnes (20% of the Total Allowable Commercial Catch, TACC) in the 202~~6~~6, 202~~7~~5 and 202~~8~~6 fishing years, and New Zealand vessels must account for catch from the Westpac Bank against the TACC for the Southwest Challenger Plateau orange roughy stock. **Given the Scientific Committee's assumptions about this stock, from 2027, the total catch of orange roughy in the Westpac Bank shall be limited to 16% of the Southwest Challenger Plateau TACC until such time as the Scientific Committee provides the Commission with advice on the stock structure of these populations<sup>12</sup>.**
11. Until the Scientific Committee recommends precautionary catch limits, the catch of all other target and non-target fish species in the Evaluated Area shall be limited to a level that does not exceed the annual average catch levels of that Member or CNCP over the period 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2006 as shown in Table 3.
12. The Scientific Committee should provide regular advice on the status of bottom fishing target species and non-target species to enable the Commission to continue meeting the objectives of the Convention and this CMM. The Scientific Committee may provide advice on the revision or subdivision of the catch limits set out in this section.
13. The Scientific Committee shall review its advice on bottom fishing target species and non-target species no later than every five (5) years, or a shorter period as determined by the Commission. The advice on bottom fishing target species and non-target species, or elements of the advice, may be reviewed together or separately, as determined by the Commission.

<sup>5</sup> "Tasman Sea" means all areas within the Evaluated Area to the west of 178°E, excluding the "Westpac Bank" and the "South Tasman Rise".

<sup>6</sup> "Northwest Challenger stock" means the stock that is located in the "Northwest Challenger" FMA, as specified in Annex 1.

<sup>7</sup> "Lord Howe Rise stock" means the stock that is located in the "N. Lord Howe" and "C. Lord Howe" FMAs, as specified in Annex 1.

<sup>8</sup> "West Norfolk Ridge stock" means the stock that is located in the "West Norfolk Ridge" FMA, as specified in Annex 1.

<sup>9</sup> "South Tasman Rise" means that part of the Australian EEZ and the high seas area adjacent to the Australian EEZ within and bounded by a line beginning at the point of latitude 46°26'07" S, longitude 146°30 E; and running:

- (i) from there east along that meridian to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 150°00 E;
- (ii) from there south along that meridian to its intersection with the parallel of 48°30 S; and
- (iii) from there west along that parallel to its intersection with the meridian of longitude 146°30 E; and
- (iv) from there north along that meridian to the point where the line began.

<sup>10</sup> "the portion of the South Tasman Rise occurring in the Convention Area" that is located in the "South Tasman Rise" FMA, as specified in Annex 1

<sup>11</sup> "Westpac Bank" means the high seas area adjacent to the New Zealand EEZ that is located in the "Westpac Bank FMA", as specified in Annex 1.

<sup>12</sup> Depending on the outcome of SC14 consideration in 2026, COMM15 may reconsider the proportion of catch for Westpac Bank as part of the Southwest Challenger Plateau.



14. In 2026~~3~~, 2027~~4~~, 2028~~5~~ (and 2026 for the Westpac Bank) Members and CNCPs are to share in the total catch of orange roughy, as specified in paragraphs 6, 8 and 10, in the tonnages set out in Table 1 of this CMM.
15. Without prejudice to Members and CNCPs without an entitlement in Table 1 and the rights and obligations specified in Article 20(4)(c) of the Convention and having regard to paragraphs 6, 8 and 10, the percentages included in Table 2 shall be used by the Commission as a basis for the allocation of Member and CNCPs' catch limits from 2026~~3~~ to 2028~~5~~ inclusive.
16. By 31 December each year, a Member or CNCP may transfer to another Member or CNCP all or part of its entitlement to catch up to the limit set out in Table 1, without prejudice to future agreements on the allocation of fishing opportunities, subject to the approval of the receiving Member or CNCP. When receiving fishing entitlement by transfer, a Member or CNCP may allocate it on the basis of domestic legislation. Before the transferred fishing takes place, the transferring Member or CNCP shall notify the transfer to the Executive Secretary for circulation to Members and CNCPs without delay. Such transfers shall only occur within, and not across, the catch limits and areas defined in paragraphs 6, 8 and 10.
17. Where a Member or CNCP has reached 70% of their limit set out in Table 1, that Member or CNCP shall monitor catch daily and ensure there is no further fishing effort<sup>13</sup> by fishing vessels flying its flag once the catch limit has been reached. Members and CNCPs shall notify the Secretariat as soon as practicable of the catch limit being reached.
18. For the stocks referred to in paragraph 6(b)(i) and paragraph 6(b)(ii), in addition to the requirements of paragraph 17:
  - a) Members and CNCPs shall monitor and report catch weekly to the Secretariat. Such reporting shall specify catch per stock;
  - b) Where 50% of the catch limit of either of those stocks has been reached, the Secretariat shall notify all Members and CNCPs as soon as practicable and Members and CNCPs shall monitor and report catch daily to the Secretariat for the stock concerned;
  - c) Where 65% of the catch limit for either of those stocks has been reached, the Secretariat shall notify all Members and CNCPs as soon as practicable and Members and CNCPs shall ensure that within 24 hours of receiving notification there is no further fishing effort by fishing vessels flying its flag for that stock for the remainder of the fishing year;
  - d) Where 90% of the catch limit of either of those stocks has been reached prior to the 24 hour notification to cease effort, Members and CNCPs shall ensure that within 4 hours of receiving notification there is no further fishing effort by fishing vessels flying its flag for that stock for the remainder of the fishing year.
19. For the stock referred to in paragraph 6(b)(iii), in addition to the requirements of paragraph 17:
  - a) Members and CNCPs shall monitor and report catch daily to the Secretariat;
  - b) Where 50% of the catch limit for that stock has been reached, the Secretariat shall notify Members and CNCPs as soon as practicable, and Members and CNCPs shall ensure that within 24 hours of receiving notification there is no further fishing effort by fishing vessels flying its flag for that stock for the remainder of the fishing year;
  - c) Where 65% of the catch limit of that stock has been reached prior to the 24 hour notification to cease effort, Members and CNCPs shall ensure that within 4 hours of receiving notification there is no further fishing effort by fishing vessels flying its flag for that stock for the remainder of the fishing year.

---

<sup>13</sup> No tows will begin after the catch limit is reached.



20. If a Member or CNCP's catch is below their allocated<sup>14</sup> or revised<sup>15</sup> catch limit for orange roughy in an area for which a catch limit has been set in a given year, that Member or CNCP may carry forward the undercatch amount<sup>16</sup>. The total carry forward amount shall not exceed 100% of their allocated catch limit from the year/prior. Members will notify the Secretariat when the catch limit has been fully caught and that they intend to begin fishing the carry forward allocation.
21. If a Member or CNCP has exceeded their allocated or revised catch limit for orange roughy in an area for which a catch limit has been set in a given year, the full amount of their catch above the allocated or revised catch limit (whichever results in a greater deduction) shall be deducted from their allocated catch limit for the following fishing year.
22. Unless otherwise notified by Members or CNCPs to the Secretariat by 10 December each year, under caught orange roughy allocation will automatically be carried forward to the following year's allocation for all areas. Members and CNCPs shall notify the Secretariat if they have excess orange roughy catch for a defined area to confirm the revised catch limit for the next fishing year.
23. As soon as practicable following the annual meeting of the Commission, Members and CNCPs shall notify the Secretariat of any revised catch limits. The Secretariat shall circulate notifications to all Members and CNCPs, and reflect revised catch limits in monthly catch reports.
24. If, on the basis of advice from the Scientific Committee, the Commission agrees to reduce the total catch for an area, the carry-forward provision in paragraph 20 shall not apply, unless decided otherwise by the Commission. The overcatch provision, specified in paragraph 21, shall still apply.
25. If the Commission agrees to reduce the orange roughy catch limit of one or more Members or CNCPs for an area for which a catch limit has been set, the carry forward provision in paragraph 20 shall not apply unless decided otherwise by the Commission, taking into account the circumstances of the reduction. The overcatch provision, specified in paragraph 21, shall still apply.
26. For the purposes of monitoring catch levels, catches shall be attributed to the flag State of the vessels that have undertaken the fishing described in Article 1(1)(g)(i) and (ii) of the Convention.
27. Members and CNCPs shall notify the Secretariat no less than 72 hours in advance of commencing fishing activities if their flagged vessels intend to fish in the Tasman Sea or Westpac Bank areas.
28. Members and CNCPs shall report, in an electronic format, the monthly catches of their flagged vessels participating in bottom fishing to the Secretariat within 20 days of the end of each month, consistent with the SPRFMO Data submission templates.
29. For the stocks referred to in paragraph 6(b)(i) and paragraph 6(b)(ii), Members and CNCPs shall report, in an electronic format, the weekly catches<sup>17</sup> of their flagged vessels participating in bottom fishing to the Secretariat by 1pm Monday (NZST) each week that catch is recorded, consistent with the SPRFMO Data submission templates. Following notification by the Secretariat that 65% of the catch limit for a stock has been reached, Members and CNCPs shall report, in an electronic format, the daily catches<sup>18</sup> of their flagged vessels participating in bottom fishing to the Secretariat by 1pm (NZST) each day that catch is recorded, consistent with the SPRFMO Data submission templates.

---

<sup>14</sup> The allocated catch limit is the limit specified in Table 1.

<sup>15</sup> The revised catch limit is the limit determined following the application of the carry forward provision in this paragraph or the overcatch provision in paragraph 21, as applicable.

<sup>16</sup> The undercatch amount is defined as the difference between actual catch and the allocated or revised catch limit (whichever results in lesser carry forward).

<sup>17</sup> Weekly catch is catch taken from 0000hrs Monday New Zealand standard time (NZST) to 2359hrs Sunday (NZST).

<sup>18</sup> Daily catch is catch taken from 0000hrs to 2359hrs each day (NZST).



30. For the stock referred to in paragraph 6(b)(iii) Members and CNCPs shall report, in an electronic format, the daily catches of their flagged vessels participating in bottom fishing to the Secretariat by 1pm (NZST) each day that catch is recorded, consistent with the SPRFMO Data submission templates.
31. The Executive Secretary shall circulate monthly catch reports from data provided in accordance with paragraphs 28, 29 and 30, aggregated by flag State and month, to all Members and CNCPs as soon as possible, once collated.
32. The Executive Secretary shall verify the annual catch reports submitted by Members and CNCPs against the submitted data. The Executive Secretary shall inform Members and CNCPs of the outcome of the verification exercise and any possible discrepancies encountered.
33. The provisions of this CMM are not necessarily to be considered precedents for future allocation or other decisions in accordance with Article 21 of the Convention relating to participation in bottom fisheries in the Convention Area and adjacent areas of national jurisdiction in the circumstances provided for in Article 20(4)(ii) and (iii) with the consent of the relevant coastal State Member or Members.

### Transfer of Allocation

34. Australia or New Zealand may transfer between each other (by mutual agreement) all<sup>19</sup> or part of their entitlement to catch up to the limits set out in Table 1 and Table 3, without prejudice to future agreements on the allocation of fishing opportunities. Before the transferred fishing takes place, the transferring Member or CNCP shall notify the transfer to the Executive Secretary for circulation to Members and CNCPs without delay.

### Review

35. Notwithstanding that the Commission may alter the catch limits prescribed in paragraphs 6, 8 and 10, this CMM shall be reviewed no later than the annual meeting of the Commission in 2026.

**Table 1:** Tonnages of orange roughy in 2023, 2024, 2025 (and 2026 for Westpac Bank) as referred to in paragraph 14.

|   | Tonnages  |             |
|---|-----------|-------------|
|   | Australia | New Zealand |
| Tasman Sea  | 76        | 302         |
| Louisville Ridge  | 58        | 523         |
| Westpac Bank <sup>20</sup>  | 9         | 168         |
| Portion of the South Tasman Rise occurring in the Convention Area | 0         | 0           |

<sup>19</sup> All or part of carried forward catch can also be transferred to the other Member.

<sup>20</sup> In 2023 and 2024 the catch allocation was 245 tonnes for New Zealand.



**Table 2:** Percentages referred to in paragraph 15 related to the catches of orange roughy referred to in paragraphs 6, 8 and 10.

|   | Percentages % |             |
|---|---------------|-------------|
|   | Australia     | New Zealand |
| Tasman Sea  | 20            | 80          |
| Louisville Ridge  | 10            | 90          |
| Westpac Bank  | 5             | 95          |
| Portion of the South Tasman Rise occurring in the Convention Area | 75            | 25          |

**Table 3:** Tonnages of all other target and non-target fish species in the Evaluated Area as referred to in paragraph 11.

| All other target and non-target fish species <sup>21</sup> |             |
|--|-------------|
| Australia  | New Zealand |
| 211  | 762         |

<sup>21</sup> Noting that the tonnages in Table 3 correspond to the evaluated area defined in paragraph 4 of CMM 03-2025 (Bottom fishing).



ANNEX 1: Coordinates for Each Fishery Management Area (FMA)

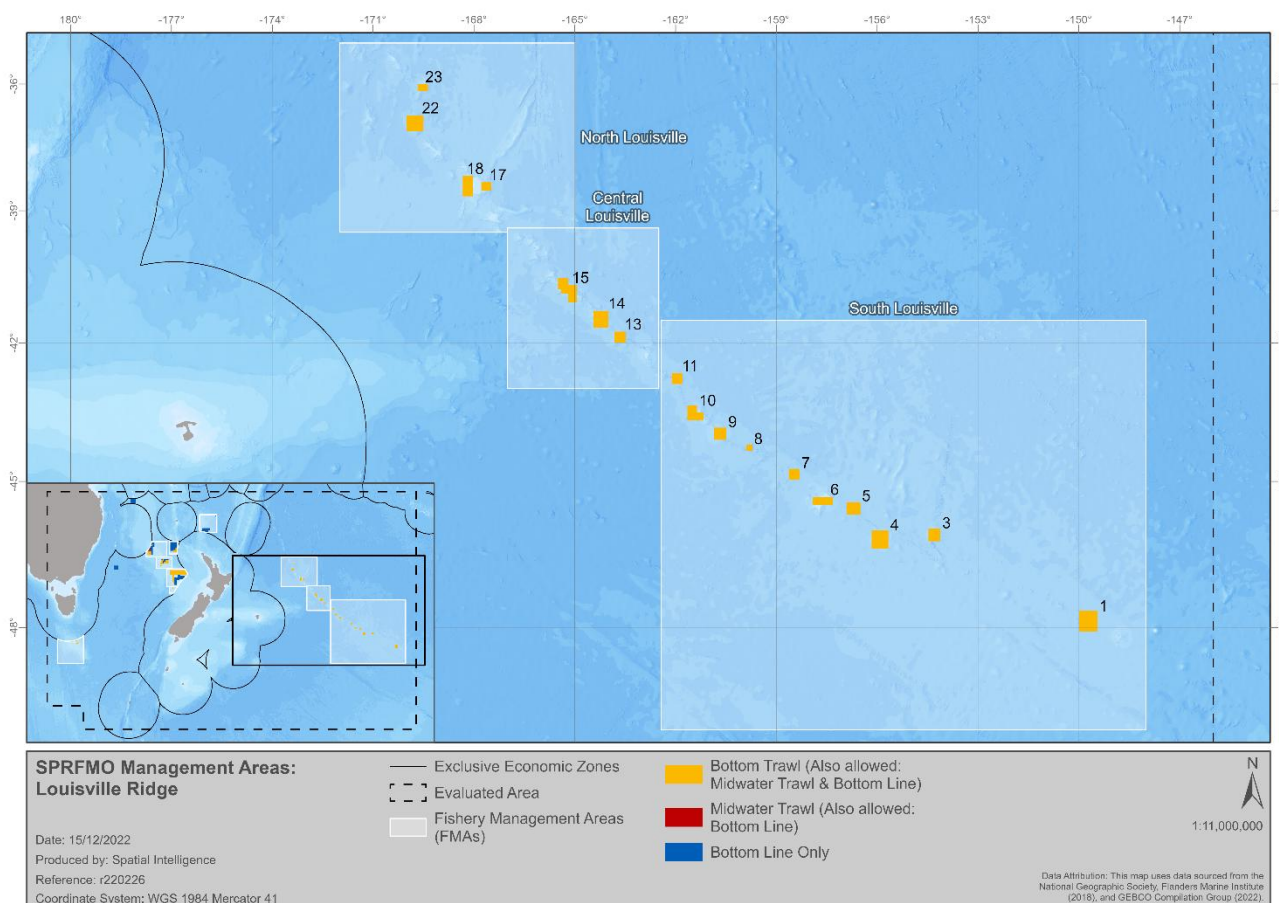
| FMA                    | Point Order | Latitude DDM | Longitude DDM | EEZ Direction                                     |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| Central Lord Howe Rise | 1           | 35°00.000'S  | 164°00.000'E  |   |
| Central Lord Howe Rise | 2           | 35°00.000'S  | 167°00.000'E  |   |
| Central Lord Howe Rise | 3           | 36°45.000'S  | 167°00.000'E  |   |
| Central Lord Howe Rise | 4           | 36°45.000'S  | 164°00.000'E  |   |
| Central Louisville     | 1           | 39°24.000'S  | 167°00.000'W  |   |
| Central Louisville     | 2           | 39°24.000'S  | 162°30.000'W  |   |
| Central Louisville     | 3           | 43°00.000'S  | 162°30.000'W  |   |
| Central Louisville     | 4           | 43°00.000'S  | 167°00.000'W  |   |
| North Lord Howe Rise   | 1           | 32°30.000'S  | 163°06.980'E  | Start on the Australian EEZ                       |
| North Lord Howe Rise   | 2           | 32°30.000'S  | 166°00.000'E  |   |
| North Lord Howe Rise   | 3           | 35°00.000'S  | 166°00.000'E  |   |
| North Lord Howe Rise   | 4           | 35°00.000'S  | 162°00.000'E  |   |
| North Lord Howe Rise   | 5           | 34°13.064'S  | 162°00.000'E  | North along the Australian EEZ to the start point |
| North Louisville       | 1           | 35°00.000'S  | 172°00.000'W  |   |
| North Louisville       | 2           | 35°00.000'S  | 165°00.000'W  |   |
| North Louisville       | 3           | 39°24.000'S  | 165°00.000'W  |   |
| North Louisville       | 4           | 39°24.000'S  | 167°00.000'W  |   |
| North Louisville       | 5           | 39°30.000'S  | 167°00.000'W  |   |
| North Louisville       | 6           | 39°30.000'S  | 172°00.000'W  |   |

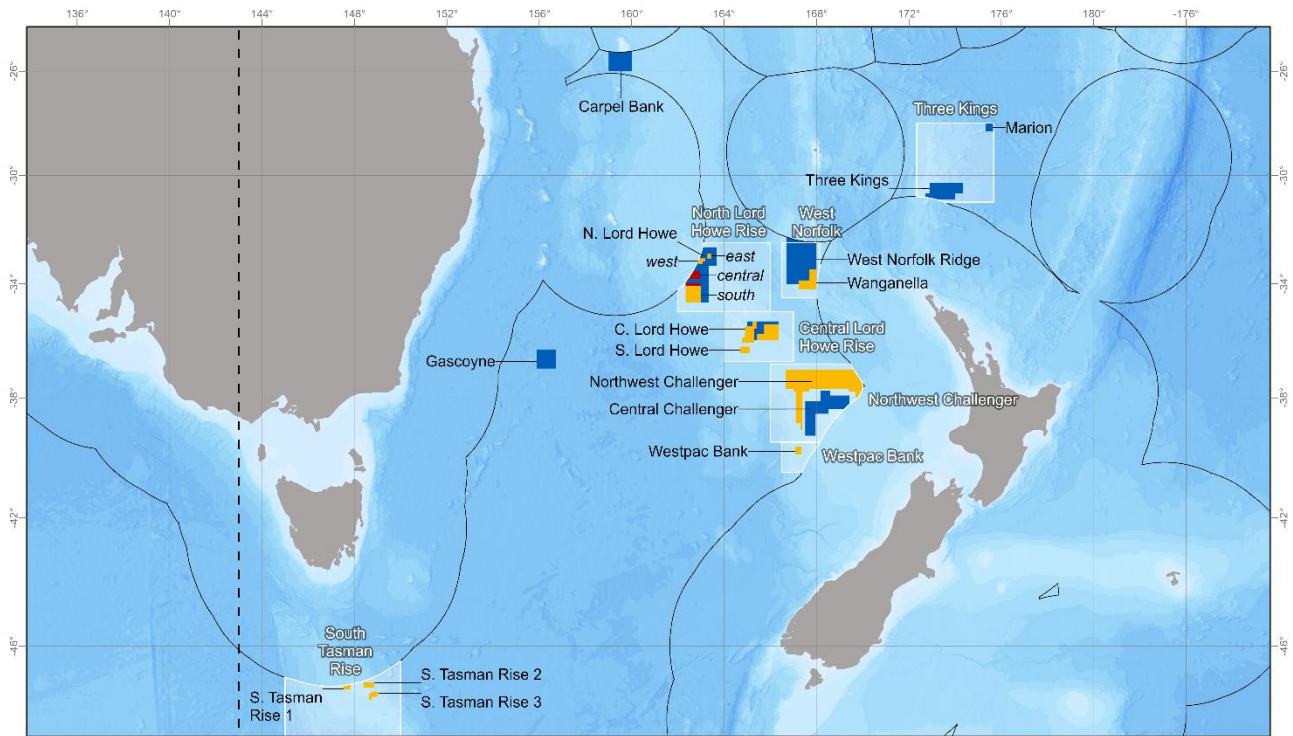


| FMA                  | Point Order | Latitude DDM | Longitude DDM | EEZ Direction                                    |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| Northwest Challenger | 1           | 36°50.000'S  | 166°00.000'E  |  |
| Northwest Challenger | 2           | 36°50.000'S  | 169°28.474'E  | South-east along the New Zealand EEZ             |
| Northwest Challenger | 3           | 37°29.902'S  | 170°00.000'E  | Due south to a point on the New Zealand EEZ      |
| Northwest Challenger | 4           | 37°41.589'S  | 170°00.000'E  | South-west along the New Zealand EEZ             |
| Northwest Challenger | 5           | 39°30.000'S  | 168°08.799'E  |  |
| Northwest Challenger | 6           | 39°30.000'S  | 166°00.000'E  |  |
| South Louisville     | 1           | 41°30.000'S  | 162°26.000'W  |  |
| South Louisville     | 2           | 41°30.000'S  | 148°00.000'W  |  |
| South Louisville     | 3           | 50°00.000'S  | 148°00.000'W  |  |
| South Louisville     | 4           | 50°00.000'S  | 162°26.000'W  |  |
| South Tasman Rise    | 1           | 46°25.979'S  | 150°00.000'E  | Start on the Australian EEZ                      |
| South Tasman Rise    | 2           | 50°00.000'S  | 150°00.000'E  |  |
| South Tasman Rise    | 3           | 50°00.000'S  | 145°00.000'E  |  |
| South Tasman Rise    | 4           | 46°55.906'S  | 145°00.000'E  | East along the Australian EEZ to the start point |
| Three Kings          | 1           | 28°00.000'S  | 172°20.000'E  |  |
| Three Kings          | 2           | 28°00.000'S  | 175°40.000'E  |  |
| Three Kings          | 3           | 31°00.000'S  | 175°40.000'E  |  |
| Three Kings          | 4           | 31°00.000'S  | 173°32.686'E  | West along the New Zealand EEZ                   |
| Three Kings          | 5           | 30°47.558'S  | 172°20.000'E  |  |
| West Norfolk         | 1           | 34°30.000'S  | 168°01.318'E  | Start on the New Zealand EEZ                     |



| FMA          | Point Order | Latitude DDM | Longitude DDM | EEZ Direction                                      |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--|
| West Norfolk | 2           | 34°30.000'S  | 166°30.000'E  |  |
| West Norfolk | 3           | 32°30.000'S  | 166°30.000'E  |  |
| West Norfolk | 4           | 32°30.000'S  | 168°10.000'E  |  |
| West Norfolk | 5           | 33°19.412'S  | 168°10.000'E  | South along the New Zealand EEZ to the start point |
| Westpac Bank | 1           | 39°31.000'S  | 166°30.000'E  |  |
| Westpac Bank | 2           | 39°31.000'S  | 168°08.176'E  | South-west along the New Zealand EEZ               |
| Westpac Bank | 3           | 40°30.000'S  | 167°21.903'E  |  |
| Westpac Bank | 4           | 40°30.000'S  | 166°30.000'E  |  |





**SPRFMO Management Areas:  
Tasman Sea**

Date: 16/12/2022  
 Produced by: Spatial Intelligence  
 Reference: r220226  
 Coordinate System: WGS 1984 Mercator 41

- Exclusive Economic Zones
- - - Evaluated Area
- Fishery Management Areas (FMAs)

- Bottom Trawl (Also allowed: Midwater Trawl & Bottom Line)
- Midwater Trawl (Also allowed: Bottom Line)
- Bottom Line Only

N  
 1:16,000,000

Data Attribution: This map uses data sourced from the National Geographic Society, Flemish Marine Institute (2018), and GEBCO Compilation Group (2022).



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 7d CMM 05-2026 Record of Vessels (COMM14-Prop09\_rev2)



## CMM 05-202~~32~~<sup>63</sup>

### Conservation and Management Measure for the Commission Record of Vessels Authorised to Fish in the Convention Area

(Supersedes CMM 05-202~~32~~)

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

*RECALLING* Article 27 (1)(a) of the Convention regarding the establishment of appropriate procedures for effective monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing and to ensure compliance with this Convention and the Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) adopted by the Commission, including the establishment and maintenance of a Commission record of vessels authorised to fish in the Convention Area;

*CONSIDERING* that according to Article 1 (1)(h) of the Convention, “fishing vessel” means any vessel used or intended for fishing, including fish processing vessels, support ships, carrier vessels and any other vessel directly engaged in fishing operations;

*NOTING* that Article 19(2)(b) of the Convention stresses the need to avoid adverse impacts on, and ensure access to fisheries by, subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers and women fish workers when establishing CMMs for fishery resources covered by the Convention.

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the provisions of Articles 23 and 25 of the Convention, regarding Data collection, compilation and exchange and flag State duties;

*ADOPTS* the following CMM in accordance with Articles 8 and 27 of the Convention:

1. The appropriate government authorities of Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCP) shall only authorise fishing vessels flying their flag to fish in the Convention Area where they are able to exercise effectively their responsibilities in respect of such vessels under the Convention, including relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission, and in accordance with relevant international law.
2. Each Member and CNCP will take into account the history of fishing vessels and operators with respect to their compliance (or non-compliance) with relevant CMMs when considering whether or not to authorise a particular fishing vessel flying its flag to fish in the Convention Area. Members and CNCPs shall ensure that no authorisation to fish in the Convention Area is issued to or maintained for a vessel included on any Regional Fisheries Management Organisation Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) vessel list or on the IUU vessel list of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources.
3. Each Member or CNCP shall take necessary measures to ensure that vessels flying their flag and authorised to fish in the Convention Area have a sufficient level of ownership by citizens, residents or legal entities within its jurisdiction to allow enforcement action to be effectively taken against them.
4. Each Member and CNCP shall maintain a register of fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag and authorised to fish in the Convention Area.
5. Members and CNCPs shall collect and include for each vessel on its register of fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag and authorised to fish in the Convention Area, the data described in Annex 1 of this Measure.
6. For vessels not previously on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels, Members and CNCPs shall inform the Executive Secretary of the vessels flying their flag authorised to fish in the Convention Area at least 15 days previous to the first entry of such vessels in the Convention Area for the purposes of fishing for SPRFMO fishery resources. In doing so, Members or CNCP shall provide the Executive Secretary the vessel’s details, including the information required by Annex 1 of this Measure in order for the vessel to be validly included on the Commission Record of Vessels.



7. Members and CNCPs shall ensure that the vessel data specified in Annex 1 for the vessels flying their flag authorised to fish in the Convention Area is updated. Any modification regarding the vessel data shall be notified by the relevant Member or CNCP to the Executive Secretary within 15 days after such modification.
8. Members and CNCPs shall inform the Executive Secretary when authorisations to fish in the Convention area are revoked, relinquished or otherwise no longer valid. This information shall be submitted immediately or in any case in no more than 3 days of the date of any such change.
9. An authorisation entry on the SPRFMO Record of Vessels shall cease to be a valid entry when there is a change in any of the following details until the required information is updated:
  - a) Vessel flag State;
  - b) International Radio call sign (if any);
  - c) Flag authorisation start date;
  - d) Flag authorisation end date;
  - e) ~~UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)~~/IMO number (if issued).
10. Where a notification indicates a change of vessel flag, the Secretariat shall inform the previous flag State on the Record of Vessels of the notification within 5 days of receiving such notification in order to confirm the vessel flag has changed.
11. The Commission Record of Vessels shall include all the fishing vessels on Member's and CNCP's records authorised to fish in the Convention Area, including the data submitted by Members and CNCPs according to Annex 1 of this Measure.
12. The Executive Secretary shall maintain the Commission Record of Vessels authorised to fish in the Convention Area. The Executive Secretary shall only include a vessel on the Commission Record of Vessels (authorised to fish in the Convention Area) once the mandatory information required by Annex I has been submitted<sup>1</sup>. A summary of the Record of Vessels shall be publicly available on the SPRFMO website, according to the provision of paragraph 6 of CMM 02-2022 (Data Standards).
13. The Record of Vessels shall indicate which of the authorised vessels have been actively fishing for each year. To this end, each Member and CNCP participating in fishing activities in the Convention Area shall notify the Executive Secretary of the vessels that are actively fishing or engaged in transshipment in the Convention Area. In the case of vessels involved in the *Trachurus murphyi* fishery, this information shall be submitted within 20 days of the end of each month. For vessels involved in other fisheries within the Convention Area, this information shall be submitted on annual basis, within 30 days of the end of the year. The Executive Secretary shall maintain lists of the vessels so notified and will make them available on the SPRFMO website.
14. When a previously authorised vessel is no longer authorised by the Member or CNCP to fish within the Convention Area, such vessel shall not be deleted from the Record of Vessels, but labelled as "not currently authorised".
15. The Commission will review this CMM as required, to consider amendments to this measure to improve its effectiveness and to take into account, among others, the developments of the FAO Global Record initiative as relevant.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Executive Secretary shall provide advice to the relevant Member and CNCP within two business days if the minimum information requirements have not been met.



## ANNEX 1

### Standard for Vessel Data

1. Members and CNCPs shall collect data on a disaggregated (vessel by vessel) basis.
2. The following fields of data shall be collected, included on Members' and CNCPs' authorised vessel records, and informed to the Executive Secretary, pursuant to paragraphs 6 and 7 of this measure.
  - a) Current vessel flag (using the codes indicated in Annex 2);
  - b) Name of vessel;
  - c) Registration number;
  - d) International radio call sign (if any);
  - e) UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)/IMO number (if issued)<sup>2</sup>;
  - f) Previous Names (if known);
  - g) Port of registry;
  - h) Previous flag (if any, and using the codes indicated in Annex 2);
  - i) Type of vessel (Use appropriate ISSCFV codes, Annex 10 of CMM 02-2022 (Data Standards));
  - j) Type of fishing method(s) (Use appropriate ISSCFG codes, Annex 9 of CMM 02-2022 (Data Standards));
  - k) Length;
  - l) Length type e.g., "LOA", "LBP";
  - m) Gross Tonnage – GT (to be provided as the preferred unit of tonnage);
  - n) Gross Register Tonnage – GRT (to be provided if GT not available; may also be provided in addition to GT);
  - o) Power of main engine(s) (kW);
  - p) Hold capacity (m<sup>3</sup>; if applicable);
  - q) Freezer type (if applicable);
  - r) Number of freezers units (if applicable);
  - s) Freezing capacity (if applicable);
  - t) Vessel communication types and numbers (e.g., INMARSAT A, B and C numbers, TSACOM, VSAT, STARLINK, among others)<sup>3,4</sup>;
  - u) VMS system details (brand, model, features and identification);
  - v) Name of owner(s);
  - w) Address of owner(s);
  - x) Date of inclusion into the SPRFMO Record;
  - y) Flag authorisation end date;
  - z) Flag authorisation start date;
  - aa) Good quality high resolution digital photographs of the vessel of appropriate brightness and contrast, no older than 5 years at the time the vessel is first authorised, which shall consist of at least:

<sup>2</sup> Effective 1 January 2020, Members and CNCPs shall ensure that all fishing vessels flying their flag that are authorised to fish in the Convention Area have IMO numbers issued to them. Artisanal fishing vessels from coastal developing States of no more than 15 metres in length fishing for jumbo flying squid will not be required to provide such information if not qualified to be issued one. Under that circumstance, these artisanal vessels must comply with international accepted identification and marking requirements, to identify the flag State, followed by the vessel's national registration or authorisation number (separated by a hyphen) as it appears in its flag State national registration certificate, and provide the information as an alternative of this requirement. The flag State shall notify the Secretariat of the vessels to which this derogation applies at least 15 days before their first entering into the Convention area. Unless otherwise decided by the Commission, this derogation will expire on 1 January 2028. For those purposes, the Members that are subject to this derogation shall submit to the Secretariat no later than 30 June 2026 an action plan that reflects the steps to be adopted in order that artisanal fishing vessels from coastal developing States of no more than 15 metres in length fishing for jumbo flying squid obtain the IMO number.

<sup>3</sup> The Vessel Communication types and numbers shall be compatible with those of the Secretariat

<sup>4</sup> Artisanal fishing vessels from coastal developing States of no more than 15 metres in length, if not capable of having an INMARSAT system on board, shall comply with the communications and safety of human life on board requirements established for the high seas by its flag State, and provide the information as an alternative of this requirement. Unless otherwise decided by the Commission, this derogation will expire on 1 January 2028.



- i. one photograph showing the starboard side of the vessel displaying its full overall length and complete structural features;
- ii. one photograph showing the port side of the vessel displaying its full overall length and complete structural features;
- iii. one photograph showing the stern taken directly from astern, including any superstructure.

Photos shall be updated when changes to the vessel characteristics are made (e.g., modified hull, superstructure, external markings). Photos shall be submitted in one of the following file formats: jpeg, png, or tiff.

3. Each Member and CNCP shall, to the extent practicable, also provide to the Executive Secretary at the same time as submitting information in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Annex, the following additional information:
  - a) External markings (such as vessel name and international radio call sign);
  - b) Types of fish processing lines (if applicable);
  - c) When built;
  - d) Where built;
  - e) Moulded depth;
  - f) Beam;
  - g) Electronic equipment on board (i.e., radio, echo sounder, radar, net sonde);
  - h) Name of license owner(s) (if different from vessel owner);
  - i) Address of license owner(s) (if different from vessel owner);
  - j) Name of operator(s) (if different from vessel owner);
  - k) Address of operator(s) (if different from vessel owner);
  - l) Name of vessel master;
  - m) Nationality of vessel master;
  - n) Name of fishing master;
  - o) Nationality of fishing master.
4. When Members and CNCPs provide the data indicated in paragraph 2 of this Annex, they shall do so in accordance with the specifications and format prescribed in Annex 8 of CMM 02-2022 (Data Standards).



## ANNEX 2

### Flag codes

|                |     |                    |     |
|----------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Australia      | AUS | Italy              | ITA |
| Austria        | AUT | Korea              | KOR |
| Belgium        | BEL | Latvia             | LVA |
| Belize         | BLZ | Liberia            | LBR |
| Bulgaria       | BGR | Lithuania          | LTU |
| Chile          | CHL | Luxembourg         | LUX |
| China          | CHN | Malta              | MLT |
| Colombia       | COL | Netherlands        | NLD |
| Cook Islands   | COK | New Zealand        | NZL |
| Croatia        | HRV | Panama             | PAN |
| Cuba           | CUB | Peru               | PER |
| Curaçao        | CUW | Poland             | POL |
| Cyprus         | CYP | Portugal           | PRT |
| Czech Republic | CZE | Romania            | ROU |
| Denmark        | DNK | Russian Federation | RUS |
| Ecuador        | ECU | Slovakia           | SVK |
| Estonia        | EST | Slovenia           | SVN |
| Faroe Islands  | FRO | Spain              | ESP |
| Finland        | FIN | Sweden             | SWE |
| France         | FRA | Chinese Taipei     | TWN |
| Germany        | DEU | United Kingdom     | GBR |
| Greece         | GRC | United States      | USA |
| Hungary        | HUN | Vanuatu            | VUT |
| Ireland        | IRL |                    |     |



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 7e CMM 07-2026 Port Inspections *(COMM14-Prop10\_rev3)*



## CMM 07-202~~5~~6

### Conservation and Management Measure on Minimum Standards of Inspection in Port

(Supersedes CMM 07-202~~5~~5)

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

*DEEPLY CONCERNED* about Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the SPRFMO Area and its detrimental effect upon fish stocks, marine ecosystems and the livelihoods of legitimate fishers in particular in developing States;

*CONSCIOUS* of the role of the port State in the adoption of effective measures to promote the sustainable use and the long-term conservation of living marine resources;

*RECOGNISING* that measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing should build on the primary responsibility of flag States and use all available jurisdiction in accordance with international law, including port State measures, coastal State measures, market related measures and measures to ensure that nationals do not support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

*RECOGNISING* that port State measures provide a powerful and cost-effective means of preventing, deterring and eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

*AWARE OF* the need for increasing coordination at the regional and interregional levels to combat IUU fishing through port State measures;

*BEARING IN MIND* that, in the exercise of their sovereignty over ports located in their territory, Member and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) may adopt more stringent measures, in accordance with international law;

*RECALLING* the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982;

*RECALLING* the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks of 4 December 1995, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas of 24 November 1993 ~~and~~, the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of 22 November 2009;

*RECALLING* Article 27 of the SPRFMO Convention, which calls on Members to address IUU fishing activities and to establish appropriate cooperative procedures for effective monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing and to ensure compliance with the Convention;

*BEARING IN MIND* Article 12 of the FAO Agreement on Port ~~States Measure and~~ State Measures on levels and priorities for inspections, as well as the need to take into account the specifics of the fleets operating in the SPRFMO Convention, the number of catches, the frequency and mode of port landings, and the status of the stocks, amongst others, in order to determine the level of port inspections sufficient to achieve the objective of preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing;

*ADOPTS* the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) in accordance with Articles 8 and 20 of the Convention:



## Scope

With a view to monitor compliance with SPRFMO CMMs, each Member and Cooperating non-Contracting Party (CNCP), in its capacity as a port State, shall apply this CMM for an effective scheme of port inspections in respect of:

- a. all fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus* spp., caught in the SPRFMO Convention Area and/or fish products originating from such species, hereinafter referred to as 'fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus* spp.'; and
1. b. foreign fishing vessels carrying SPRFMO-managed species caught in the SPRFMO Convention Area and/or fish products originating from such species that have not been previously landed or transhipped at port, or at sea following the applicable SPRFMO procedures, hereinafter referred to as "foreign fishing vessels".

Without prejudice to specifically applicable provisions of other SPRFMO CMMs, and except as otherwise provided in this CMM, this CMM shall apply to all fishing vessels outlined in paragraph 1 above.

2. With the exception of fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus* spp., each Member and CNCP may, in its capacity as a port State, decide not to apply this CMM to:
  3. a. foreign fishing vessels chartered by its nationals operating under its authority. Chartered fishing vessels shall be subject to measures by the port State which are as effective as measures applied in relation to vessels entitled to fly its flag.
  - b. vessels of a neighboring State that are engaged in artisanal fishing for subsistence, provided that the port State and the flag State cooperate to ensure that such vessels do not engage in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing.

4. Each Member and CNCP may, in its capacity as a port State, decide not to apply this CMM to container vessels that are not carrying fish or, if carrying fish, only fish that have been previously landed, provided that there are no clear grounds for suspecting that such vessels have engaged in fishing related activities in support of IUU fishing
- 5.

6. Members and CNCPs shall take necessary action to inform fishing vessels entitled to fly their flag of this and other relevant SPRFMO CMMs.

7. ~~Each Member and CNCP shall encourage~~ Vessels entitled to fly its the flag of Members and CNCPs are encouraged to land, tranship, package and process fish, and use other port services, in ports of States that are acting in accordance with, or in a manner consistent with this CMM.

- 6.8. Each Member and CNCP shall ensure that measures applied to vessels entitled to fly its flag are at least as effective in preventing, deterring, and eliminating IUU fishing and fishing related activities in support of such fishing as measures applied to vessels referred to in paragraph 1.

## Points of Contact

- 7.9. Each Member and CNCP shall designate a point of contact for the purposes of receiving notifications pursuant to paragraph ~~12~~14. Each Member and CNCP shall designate a point of contact for the purpose of receiving inspection reports pursuant to paragraph ~~283~~635(b) of this CMM. It shall transmit the name and contact information for its points of contact to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary no later than 30 days following the entry into force of this CMM. Any subsequent changes shall be notified to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary at least 14 days before such changes take effect. The SPRFMO Executive Secretary shall promptly notify Members and CNCPs of any such change.

The SPRFMO Executive Secretary shall establish and maintain a register of points of contact based on the lists submitted by the Members and CNCPs. The register and any subsequent changes shall be published promptly on the SPRFMO website.



## Designated Ports

Each Member and CNCP shall designate its ports to which the fishing vessels outlined in paragraph 1 above may request entry pursuant to this CMM.

Each Member and CNCP shall, to the greatest extent possible, ensure that it has sufficient capacity to conduct inspections in every designated port pursuant to this CMM.

~~8-10.~~ Each Member and CNCP shall provide to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary ~~within 30 days from the date of entry into force of this CMM~~ a list of designated ports. Any subsequent changes to this list shall be notified to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary at least 30 days before the change takes effect.

~~9-11.~~ The SPRFMO Executive Secretary shall establish and maintain a register of designated ports ~~10-12.~~ based on the lists submitted by the port Members and CNCPs. The register and any subsequent change shall be published promptly on the SPRFMO website.

## ~~15-13.~~ Prior Notification

~~12-14.~~ Each Member and CNCP, in its capacity as a port State shall, except as provided for under paragraph ~~13-15~~ of this CMM, require fishing vessels outlined in paragraph 1 seeking to use its ports for any purposes to submit as a minimum the information in the Port Call Request Template located in Annex 1<sup>1</sup> to its point of contact identified in paragraph ~~68~~, at least 48 hours before the estimated time of arrival at the port. Each Member and CNCP, in its capacity as a port State may also request additional information as it may require to determine whether the vessel has engaged in IUU fishing, or related activities. Members and CNCPs, in their capacity as port States, shall promptly inform the Secretariat of any request received to use their ports under this CMM.

~~13-15.~~ Each Member and CNCP, in its capacity as a port State may prescribe a longer or shorter notification period than specified in paragraph ~~12-14~~, taking into account, *inter alia*, the type of fishery product, the distance between the fishing grounds and its ports. In such a case, the port State shall inform the SPRFMO Executive Secretary, who shall publish the information promptly on the SPRFMO website.

~~In case a Member or CNCP denies the use of its port, it shall promptly notify the flag Member or CNCP, the SPRFMO Secretariat and, as appropriate, relevant coastal States, and other relevant international organisations of its decision.~~

## ~~14-16.~~ Port entry, authorisation or denial

After receiving the relevant information pursuant to paragraph ~~12-14~~, as well as such other information as it may require to determine whether the vessel requesting entry into its port has engaged in IUU fishing ~~or fishing related activities in support of such fishing, including in support of a vessel engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing,~~ the Member or CNCP, in its capacity as a port State shall decide whether to authorise or deny the entry of the vessel into its port. ~~In case the port State decides to authorise the entry of the vessel into its port, the following provisions on port inspection shall apply. Where a vessel has been denied entry, the port State shall report this to the Members and CNCPs, and shall communicate this decision without delay to the vessel or to its representative.~~

<sup>1</sup> In circumstances where a vessel has also fished outside the Convention Area for *Dissostichus spp.* Members and CNCPs may authorise fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus spp.* seeking entry to their port to alternatively submit the CCAMLR Conservation Measure 10-03 (2024) Part A Port Inspection Report on Port Entry Information, provided it includes the information required by Annex 1



In case the port Member or CNCP decides to authorise the entry of the vessel into its port, the master of the vessel or the vessel's representative shall be required to present the authorisation for entry to the competent authorities of the port Member or CNCP upon the vessel's arrival at port.

Without prejudice to paragraph ~~2928~~, a Member or CNCP shall deny that vessel entry into its ports if :

- ~~17.~~ a. ~~It finds that the vessel is listed on a list of vessels having engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such activities adopted by any relevant regional fisheries management organisation in accordance with the rules and procedures of such organization and in conformity with international law;~~
- ~~18.~~ b. ~~it finds that the vessel does not have a valid and applicable authorisation to engage in fishing or fishing related activities required by its flag State;~~
- ~~c. it finds that the vessel does not have a valid and applicable authorisation to engage in fishing or fishing related activities required by a coastal State in respect of areas under the national jurisdiction of that State;~~
- ~~d. it receives clear evidence that the fish on board was taken in contravention of applicable requirements of a coastal State in respect of areas under the national jurisdiction of that State;~~  
~~or~~  
~~it does not receive confirmation, after request, from the flag State within a reasonable period of time that the fish on board was taken in accordance with applicable requirements of SPRFMO CMMs or requirements of any other relevant regional fisheries management organization; or~~
- ~~e. it has reasonable grounds to believe that the vessel was otherwise engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing, including in support of a vessel referred to in paragraph ~~1716~~, unless the vessel can establish:~~
  - ~~i. that it was acting in a manner consistent with relevant conservation and management measures; or~~
  - ~~ii. in the case of provision of personnel, fuel, gear and other supplies at sea, that the~~
- ~~19.~~ ~~vessel that was provisioned was not, at the time of provisioning, a vessel referred to in paragraph ~~1716~~.~~

~~20.~~ Notwithstanding paragraph ~~1918~~, a Member or CNCP may allow entry into its ports of a fishing vessel referred to in that paragraph exclusively for the purpose of inspecting it and taking other appropriate actions in conformity with international law aimed at preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing and fishing related activities in support of such fishing.

~~21.~~ Where a vessel referred to in paragraph ~~1918~~ is in port for any reason ~~and/or in case the relevant port Member or CNCP does not receive confirmation, after request, from the flag State within a reasonable period of time that the fish on board was taken in accordance with applicable requirements of SPRFMO CMMs or requirements of any other relevant regional fisheries management organization~~, a Member or CNCP shall deny such vessel the use of its ports for landing, transshipping, packaging, and processing of fish and for other port services including, inter alia, bunkering, maintenance and dry-docking. Denial of such use of ports shall be in conformity with international law.

Notwithstanding paragraph 19, a Party shall not deny a vessel referred to in that paragraph the use of port services:



- a. essential to the safety or health of the crew or the safety of the vessel, provided these needs are duly proven; or
- b. where appropriate, for the scrapping of the vessel.

When a Member or CNCP has denied the use of its port in accordance with paragraph ~~19~~18, it shall promptly notify the flag State and, as appropriate, ~~the relevant coastal States~~Members and CNCPs and the SPRFMO Executive Secretary, and other relevant international organisations of its decision.

- ~~22.~~ A Member or CNCP shall withdraw its denial of the use of its port pursuant to paragraph ~~19~~18 in respect of a vessel only if there is sufficient proof that the grounds on which use was denied were inadequate or erroneous or that such grounds no longer apply.
- ~~23.~~ Where a Member or CNCP has withdrawn its denial pursuant to paragraph ~~24~~23, it shall promptly notify those to whom a notification was issued pursuant to paragraph ~~23~~22.

## ~~20.~~ Port Inspections

Inspections shall be carried out by the competent authority of the port Members and CNCPs.

- ~~15-25.~~ Each member and CNCP shall inspect all fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus* spp. that enter its ports for landing or transshipment.<sup>2</sup>

~~16-26.~~ Each year Members and CNCPs shall inspect at least ~~55~~20% of landing and transshipment ~~17-27.~~ operations in their designated ports made by notified foreign fishing vessels.

~~18-28.~~ Port Members and CNCPs shall, in accordance with their domestic law, inspect foreign fishing vessels when:

- a. there is a request from other Members and CNCPs or relevant regional fisheries management organisations (RFMO's) that a particular vessel be inspected, particularly where such requests are supported by evidence of IUU fishing by the vessel in question, and there are clear grounds for suspecting that a vessel has engaged in IUU fishing;
- b. a vessel has failed to provide complete information as required in paragraph ~~12~~14;
- c. the vessel has been denied entry or use of a port in accordance with this or other RFMO's provisions.

~~19.~~

## Use of Ports

~~Without prejudice to paragraph 18, when a Member or CNCP has sufficient proof that a vessel seeking entry into its port does not have a valid fishing authorisation, or there is clear evidence that the vessel has fished in contravention of the applicable SPRFMO obligations, or has engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing, in particular the inclusion of a vessel on a list of vessels having engaged in such fishing or fishing related activities adopted by a relevant RFMO in accordance with the rules and procedures of such organisation and in conformity with international law, the Member or CNCP shall deny that vessel entry into its ports.~~

~~Notwithstanding paragraph 19, a Member or CNCP may allow entry into its ports of a fishing vessel referred to in that paragraph exclusively for the purpose of inspecting it and taking other appropriate actions in conformity with international law aimed at preventing, deterring and eliminating IUU fishing and fishing related activities in support of such fishing.~~

<sup>2</sup> Excluding by-catches of *Dissostichus* spp. by trawlers fishing outside the Convention Area. A by-catch shall be defined as no more than 5% of total catch of all species and no more than 50 tonnes for an entire fishing trip by a vessel.



~~Where a vessel referred to in paragraphs 19 or 20 is in port for any reason, a Member or CNCP shall deny such vessel the use of its ports for landing, transshipping, packaging, and processing of fish and for other port services including, *inter alia*, bunkering, maintenance and dry docking. Denial of such use of ports shall be in conformity with international law.~~

## Inspection Procedure

~~21.~~ Each Member and CNCP shall ensure that as a minimum standard its inspectors carry out the functions set forth in the Port State Inspection Standards in Annex 2.

Each port State inspector shall carry an approved identity card issued by the Member or CNCP that identifies the inspector as authorised to carry out the inspection. In accordance with domestic laws, ~~22-29.~~ port States inspectors may examine all relevant areas, decks and rooms of the fishing vessel, its license, gear, equipment, records (both physical and electronic), facilities, fish and fish products and any ~~23-30.~~ documents necessary to verify compliance with the Convention and Conservation and Management Measures in force. They may take copies (physical or electronic) of any documents considered relevant, and they may also question the master and any other person on the vessel being inspected.

Inspections shall involve the monitoring of the landing or transshipment and include a cross-check between the estimated quantities by species notified in the prior notification message in ~~24-31.~~ paragraph ~~1214~~ above and held on board the fishing vessel. Inspections shall be carried out in such a way that the fishing vessel suffers the minimum interference and inconvenience, and that degradation of the quality of the catch is avoided to the extent practicable.

On completion of the inspection, the port State inspector shall provide the master of the vessel ~~25-32.~~ a copy of the inspection report containing the findings of the inspection, to be signed by the inspector and the master. The master's signature shall serve only as acknowledgement of the receipt of a copy of the report. The master shall be given the opportunity to add any comments or objection to the report, and to contact the competent authority of the flag Member or CNCP.

~~26-33.~~ The port Member or CNCP, in its capacity as a port State shall transmit ~~a copy by electronic means the results of the inspection including all data fields required by Annex 3 report to the inspected vessel's flag State, to the State of which the vessel's master is a national,~~ to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary,<sup>3</sup> ~~and as appropriate, to the FAO and to other relevant States, relevant international organizations and other regional fisheries management organisations as appropriate,~~ no later than 15<sup>4</sup> working days following the date of completion of the inspection ~~using the Format for Port Inspection Reports in Annex 3.~~ If the inspection report cannot be transmitted within 15 working days, the port State shall notify the SPRFMO Executive Secretary within the 15 working day time period the reasons for the ~~27-34.~~ delay and when the report will be submitted. The Executive Secretary shall promptly convey the report to the authorities of the fishing vessel inspected ~~and to the State of which the vessel's master is a national, and shall ensure it is made electronically available to all Members and CNCPs.~~

~~28-35.~~ Members and CNCPs shall take necessary action to ensure that masters facilitate safe access to the fishing vessel, cooperate with the competent authority of the port State, facilitate the inspection and communication and not obstruct, intimidate or interfere, or cause other persons to obstruct, intimidate or interfere with port State inspectors in the execution of their duties.

## Procedure in the Event of Infringements

If the information collected during the inspection provides evidence that a foreign fishing vessel

<sup>3</sup> Members and CNCPs may elect not to submit to the Executive Secretary inspection reports relating to fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus* spp. entitled to fly their flag, if they determine that all fishing activity occurred in waters under their national jurisdiction.

<sup>4</sup> The time frames in paragraph ~~26-33~~ were amended at COMM03 as recommended by CTC02.



has committed a breach of the SPRFMO CMMs, the inspector shall:

- a. record the breach in the inspection report;
- b. transmit electronically the inspection report and the evidence collected to the port State competent authorities, which shall forward ~~a copy of the inspection report and evidence to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary and to the flag Member or CNCP point of contact~~ as soon as possible and no later than 5 working days; a copy of the inspection report and evidence to:
  - i. the SPRFMO Executive Secretary; and
  - ii. the flag Member or CNCP point of contact.
- c. to the extent practicable, ensure safekeeping of the evidence pertaining to such alleged breach.

If the breach falls within the legal jurisdiction of the Member or CNCP, in its capacity as a port State, the port State may take action in accordance with its domestic laws. The port State shall promptly notify the action taken to the competent authority of the flag Member or CNCP and to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary, who shall promptly publish this information in a secured part of the SPRFMO website.

Other infringements shall be referred to the point of contact of flag Member or CNCP. Upon receiving the copy of the inspection report, the flag Member or CNCP shall promptly investigate the alleged infringement and notify the SPRFMO Executive Secretary of the status of the investigation and of any enforcement action that may have been taken within 90 days of such receipt. If the flag Member or CNCP cannot provide the SPRFMO Executive Secretary this status report within 90 days of such receipt, the flag Member or CNCP should notify the SPRFMO Executive Secretary within the 90-day time period the reasons for the delay and when the status report will be submitted. The SPRFMO Executive Secretary shall promptly publish this information in a secured part of the SPRFMO website.

The authorities of the fishing vessel, subsequent to the process referred to in paragraph ~~303837~~, can authorise the competent authority of the port State to undertake the investigation. The competent authority of the port State on accepting to undertake the investigation shall report the findings of the investigation to the authorities of the fishing vessel and the SPRFMO Executive Secretary within 90 days. Enforcement action will remain the responsibility of the authorities of the fishing vessel as applicable.

#### Should the Port Member and CNPC actions following inspection provide evidence

Where, following an inspection, there are clear grounds for believing that ~~the inspected~~ vessel has engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities ~~as referred to in CMM 04-2025 (IUU Vessel List)~~ support of such fishing, the inspecting Member or CNCP, ~~in its capacity as a port State~~ shall:

- a. promptly ~~report the case to~~ notify the flag ~~Member or CNCP and notify as soon as possible~~ State and the SPRFMO Executive Secretary, ~~along with its supporting evidence, for the purpose of inclusion of;~~ and
- b. deny the vessel the use of its port for landing, transshipping, packaging and processing of fish that have not been previously landed and for other port services, including, inter alia, refuelling and resupplying, maintenance and drydocking, if these actions have not already been taken in respect of the vessel, in a manner consistent with this CMM.

Notwithstanding paragraph 4039, a Member or CNCP shall not deny a vessel referred to in that paragraph the use of port services essential for the safety or health of the ~~draft IUU list~~ crew or the safety of the vessel.

Nothing in this CMM shall prevent a Member or CNCP from taking measures that are in conformity with international law in addition to those specified in paragraphs ~~4039~~ and ~~4140~~, including such measures as the flag Member or CNCP of the vessel has expressly requested or to which it



has consented.

### **Information on recourse in the port Member or CNCP**

Each Member or CNCP shall maintain the relevant information available to the public and provide such information, upon written request, to the owner, operator, master or representative of a vessel with regard to any recourse established in accordance with its national laws and regulations concerning port State measures taken by that Member or CNCP pursuant to paragraphs ~~16-17-33-34~~, including information pertaining to the public services or judicial institutions available for this purpose, as well as information on whether there is any right to seek compensation in accordance with its national laws and regulations in the event of any loss or damage suffered as a consequence of any alleged unlawful action by the Member or CNCP.

The Member or CNCP shall inform the flag State, the owner, operator, master or representative, as appropriate, of the outcome of any such recourse. Where other Members, CNCPs, States or international organisations have been informed of the prior decision pursuant to paragraphs ~~17-34~~ 16-33, the Member or CNCP shall inform them of any change in its decision.

### **Training of inspectors**

Each Member and CNCP shall ensure that its inspectors are properly trained taking into account the guidelines for the training of inspectors in Annex 4. Members States and CNCPs shall seek to cooperate in this regard.

### **Requirements of developing Members and CNCPs**

~~33-45.~~ Members and CNCPs shall give full recognition to the special requirements of developing Members and CNCPs in relation to a port inspection scheme consistent with this CMM. Members and CNCPs shall, either directly or through the SPRFMO, provide assistance to developing Members and CNCPs in order to, *inter alia*:

- a. Develop their capacity including by providing technical assistance and establishing an appropriate funding mechanism to support and strengthen the development and implementation of an effective system of port inspection at national, regional or international levels and to ensure that a disproportionate burden resulting from the implementation of this CMM is not unnecessarily transferred to them;
- b. Facilitate their participation in meetings and/or training programmes of relevant regional and international organisations that promote the effective development and implementation of a system of port inspection, including monitoring, control and surveillance, enforcement and legal proceedings for infractions and dispute settlements pursuant to this CMM; and

~~34-46.~~ c. Either directly or through the SPRFMO, assess the special requirements of developing Members and CNCPs concerning the implementation of this CMM.

### **General Provisions**

~~35-47.~~ Nothing in this CMM affects the entry of vessels to port in accordance with international law for reasons of *force majeure* or distress or prevents a port State from permitting entry into port to a vessel exclusively for the purpose of rendering assistance to persons, ships or aircraft in danger or distress.

Nothing in this CMM shall prejudice the rights, jurisdiction and duties of Members and CNCPs under international law. In particular, nothing in this CMM shall be construed to affect the exercise by Members and CNCPs of their authority over their ports in accordance with international law, including their right to deny entry thereto as well as to adopt more stringent measures than those provided for in this CMM.

This CMM shall be interpreted and applied in conformity with international law,



taking into account applicable international rules and standards, including those established through the International Maritime Organization, as well as other international instruments.

Members and CNCPs shall fulfil in good faith the obligations assumed pursuant to this CMM and shall exercise the rights recognised herein in a manner that would not constitute an abuse of right.

Members and CNCPs, in their capacity as port States shall, to the greatest extent possible:

- a. Integrate or coordinate fisheries related port State measures with the broader system of port State controls;  
~~37-49.~~
- b. Integrate port State measures with other measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing and fishing related activities in support of such fishing, taking into account as appropriate the 2001 FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing; and  
~~38-50.~~
- c. Take measures to exchange information among relevant national agencies and to coordinate the activities of such agencies in the implementation of this CMM.

In the implementation of this CMM and with due regard to appropriate confidentiality requirements, Members and CNCPs shall cooperate and exchange information with the SPRFMO Secretariat, relevant States, international organisations, RFMOs and other entities, including, as appropriate, by:

- a. Requesting information from, and providing information to, relevant information systems; and  
~~39-51.~~
- b. Requesting and providing cooperation to promote the effective implementation of this recommendation.

In order to facilitate the implementation of this CMM, Members and CNCPs shall, to the extent possible, ensure that national information systems allow for the direct electronic exchange of information on port State measures between them and with the SPRFMO Secretariat, with due regard to appropriate confidentiality requirements.  
~~40-52.~~

Members and CNCPs, in their capacity as port States, are encouraged to enter into bilateral agreements/arrangements that allow for joint inspections and an inspector exchange programme designed to promote cooperation, share information, and educate each party's inspectors on inspection strategies and methodologies which promote compliance with SPRFMO CMMs. A description of such programmes should be provided to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary who should publish it on the SPRFMO website.  
~~41-53.~~  
~~42-54.~~

Each Member or CNCP, in its capacity as a port State may, in accordance with its domestic laws and regulations, invite officials from the flag Member or CNCP to observe or take part in the inspection of a vessel of that flag based on appropriate agreements or arrangements. Flag Members and CNCPs shall consider and act on reports of infringements from inspectors of a port State on a similar basis as the reports from their own inspectors, in accordance with their domestic laws. Members and CNCPs shall collaborate, in accordance with their domestic laws, in order to facilitate judicial or other proceedings arising from inspection reports as set out in this CMM.  
~~43.~~

The SPRFMO Commission shall review this CMM no later than 2027 and consider revisions to improve its effectiveness, take into account developments in other RFMOs and the FAO Port State Measures Agreement, and consider the revision of the port call request and inspection report templates. The Secretariat will report annually on the implementation of this CMM.  
~~44.~~  
~~55.~~

### ~~Entry into force~~

~~Paragraph 16, which relates to the inspection of fishing vessels carrying *Dissostichus spp.*, enters into force 1 January 2026.~~



## ANNEX 1

### Port Call Request Template

Port call information:

| Port of call | Last port | Date of last port call |
|--------------|-----------|------------------------|
|              |           |                        |

Vessel Identification:

| Vessel Name    | Vessel flag                | IMO number      | Call sign               | External markings          |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
|                |                            |                 |                         |                            |
| Type of vessel | Vessel contact information | Vessel owner(s) | RFMO ID (if applicable) | Certificate of registry ID |
|                |                            |                 |                         |                            |

VMS:

| VMS operational? | VMS Reporting to National FMC? | VMS Reporting to SPRFMO? |
|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                  |                                |                          |
| Type             |                                |                          |

Vessel dimensions:

| Length | Beam | Draft (Moulded depth) |
|--------|------|-----------------------|
|        |      |                       |

Vessel master name and nationality:

| Vessel master name | Vessel master nationality |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
|                    |                           |

Relevant transhipment authorisation(s):

| Identifier | Issued by | Valid dates |
|------------|-----------|-------------|
|            |           |             |
|            |           |             |



## Transshipment information (concerning donor vessels):

| Date | Location (Lat/Long) | Donor vessel name | Flag State of donor vessel | IMO number | Species | Product state | FAO Area of capture | Quantity (kilograms) |
|------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|      |                     |                   |                            |            |         |               |                     |                      |
|      |                     |                   |                            |            |         |               |                     |                      |
|      |                     |                   |                            |            |         |               |                     |                      |
|      |                     |                   |                            |            |         |               |                     |                      |
|      |                     |                   |                            |            |         |               |                     |                      |

## Port Call Details:

| Intended port of call <sup>1</sup> | Port State | Purpose <sup>2</sup> of port call | Estimated arrival date | Estimated arrival time | Current date |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
|                                    |            |                                   |                        |                        |              |

<sup>1</sup> Should be a designated port as listed on the SPRFMO port register

<sup>2</sup> E.g., landing, transshipment, refuelling



**SPRFMO managed species held Total catch on-board:**

| Species | FAO area of capture | Product state | Total kilograms held on board (Estimated) | Amount to be transhipped / landed (Estimated) | Recipient of transhipped/landed amount |
|---------|---------------------|---------------|---|---|--|
|         |                     |               |   |   |  |
|         |                     |               |   |   |  |
|         |                     |               |   |   |  |
|         |                     |               |   |   |  |

If no SPRFMO species and/or fish products originating from such species are held on board, then enter “nil”

**Relevant fishing authorisation details:**

| Identifier | Issued by | Validity | Fishing area(s) | Species | Gear <sup>3</sup> |
|------------|-----------|----------|-----------------|---------|-------------------|
|            |           |          |                 |         |                   |

<sup>3</sup> If the authorisation is for transhipments enter “tranship” as the gear

| Fishing authorisation indicates vessel catch limit per species (Y/N) | Species <sup>4</sup> | Vessel Catch limit per species <sup>4</sup> |
|--|----------------------|---|
|  |                      |   |

<sup>4</sup> If the ~~authorization~~authorisation does not indicate vessel catch limit, enter N/A.

Is a copy of the crew list attached?

|     |    |
|-----|----|
| Yes | No |
| Yes | No |
|     |    |

This form should be transmitted to the appropriate Point of Contact at least 48 hours prior to the estimated time of arrival at the port. Contact information can be found on the SPRFMO website: (<http://www.sprfmo.int/points-of-contact/>)



## ANNEX 2

### Port State Inspection Standards

Inspectors shall:

- a. verify, to the extent possible, that the vessel identification documentation onboard and information relating to the owner of the vessel is true, complete and correct, including through appropriate contacts with the flag State or international records of vessels if necessary;
- b. verify that the vessel's flag and markings (e.g. name, external registration number, International Maritime Organization (IMO) ship identification number, international radio call sign and other markings, main dimensions) are consistent with information contained in the documentation;
- c. verify, to the extent possible, that the authorisations for fishing and fishing related activities are true, complete, correct and consistent with the information provided in the port call request;
- d. review all other relevant documentation and records held onboard, including, to the extent possible, those in electronic format and vessel monitoring system (VMS) data from the flag State or SPRFMO Secretariat or other relevant regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs). Relevant documentation may include logbooks, catch, transshipment and trade documents, crew lists, stowage plans and drawings, descriptions of fish holds, and documents required pursuant to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;
- e. examine, to the extent possible, all relevant fishing gear on-board, including any gear stowed out of sight as well as related devices, and to the extent possible, verify that they are in conformity with the conditions of the authorisations. The fishing gear shall, to the extent possible, also be checked to ensure that features such as the mesh and twine size, devices and attachments, dimensions and configuration of nets, pots, dredges, hook sizes and numbers are in conformity with applicable regulations and that the markings correspond to those authorised for the vessel;
- f. determine, to the extent possible, whether the fish on board was harvested in accordance with the applicable authorisations;
- g. examine the fish, including by sampling, to determine its quantity and composition. In doing so, inspectors may open containers where the fish has been pre-packed and move the catch or containers to ascertain the integrity of fish holds. Such examination may include inspections of product type and determination of nominal weight;
- h. evaluate whether there is clear evidence for believing that a vessel has engaged in IUU fishing or fishing related activities in support of such fishing;
- i. provide the master of the vessel with the report containing the result of the inspection, including possible measures that could be taken, to be signed by the inspector and the master. The master's signature on the report shall serve only as acknowledgment of the receipt of a copy of the report. The master shall be given the opportunity to add any comments or objection to the report, and, as appropriate, to contact the relevant authorities of the flag State in particular where the master has serious difficulties in understanding the content of the report. A copy of the report shall be provided to the master; and
- j. arrange, where necessary and possible, for translation of relevant documentation.



## ANNEX 3

## Format for Port Inspection Reports

| Inspection Details  |   |
|---|---|
| Inspection report number:   |   |
| Principal inspector's name:   |   |
| Port State:   | Inspecting authority:   |
| Port of inspection:   | Purpose of call:  |
| Inspection start date: YYYY-MON-DD  | Inspection start time: hh:mm  |
| Inspection end date: YYYY-MON-DD  | Inspection end time: hh:mm  |
| Prior notification received? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Prior notification details consistent with inspection? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Vessel Details   |              |
|--|--------------|
| Vessel name:   | Vessel Flag: |
| Vessel type:   | Call Sign:   |
| External identification:   | IMO number:  |
| Vessel owner:  |              |
| Vessel beneficial owner(s):<br><i>(If known and different from vessel owner)</i> |              |
| Vessel operator:   |              |
| Vessel master and nationality:   |              |
| Vessel agent:  |              |
| VMS present? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>            | VMS type:    |

<sup>1</sup> If the authorisation is for transhipment enter "tranship" as the gear.



| Relevant Fishing Authorisations  |  |
|--|--|
| Authorisation identifier:  | Issued by:   |
| Validity:  | Fishing areas:   |
| Species:   | Gear <sup>1</sup> :  |
| Is the vessel on the SPRFMO authorised vessel list? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> | Currently authorised? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

| SPRFMO-Managed Species-Off Evaluation of catch off Loaded (during this port call) |                     |               |                                   |                          |   |
|---|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Species   | FAO Area of Capture | Product state | Declared quantity off loaded (kg) | Quantity off loaded (kg) | <u>Difference between quantity declared and quantity determined, if any</u> |
|   |                     |               |                                   |                          |   |
|   |                     |               |                                   |                          |   |
|   |                     |               |                                   |                          |   |
|   |                     |               |                                   |                          |   |
|   |                     |               |                                   |                          |   |

| SPRFMO-Managed Species-Retained Evaluation of catch retained On-board |                     |               |                                      |                             | <u>Difference between quantity declared and quantity determined, if any</u> |
|---|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Species   | FAO Area of Capture | Product state | Declared quantity held on board (kg) | Quantity held on board (kg) |   |
|   |                     |               |                                      |                             |   |
|   |                     |               |                                      |                             |   |
|   |                     |               |                                      |                             |   |
|   |                     |               |                                      |                             |   |
|   |                     |               |                                      |                             |   |



**SPRFMO-Managed Species Received from Transshipment (during this port call)**

| Species | FAO Area of Capture | Product state | Declared quantity received (kg) | Quantity received (kg) | <u>Difference between quantity declared and quantity determined, if any</u> |
|---------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---|
|         |                     |               |                                 |                        |   |
|         |                     |               |                                 |                        |   |
|         |                     |               |                                 |                        |   |
|         |                     |               |                                 |                        |   |
|         |                     |               |                                 |                        |   |

**Examinations and Findings**

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Section:   | Comments:              |
| Examination of Logbooks and other documentation:   |                        |
| Compliance with applicable catch documentation schemes(s):                                     |                        |
| Compliance with applicable trade information schemes(s):                                       |                        |
| Type of gear on board:   |                        |
| <u>Gear examined in accordance with paragraph e) of Annex 2:</u>                               |                        |
| Findings by inspector:   |                        |
| Apparent Infringements (include reference to relevant legal <del>documents</del> instruments): |                        |
| Master's comments:   |                        |
| Actions taken:   |                        |
| Master's signature:  | Inspector's signature: |

Upon completion, a copy of this form shall be provided to the vessel master. Subsequently, a copy should also be transmitted to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary within 15 days. If this cannot be achieved, then the reasons for the delay and an estimated submission date shall be transmitted to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary within 15 days of the completion of the inspection.



*If the information collected provides evidence that a breach of any SPRFMO CMM has occurred, then this form should be transmitted to the competent port State authorities (who shall forward a copy to the SPRFMO Executive Secretary and to the relevant point of contact as soon as possible and no later than 5 working days).*



## ANNEX 4

### Elements of a training programme for port State inspectors

Elements of a training programme for port State inspectors should include at least the following areas:

1. Ethics;
2. Health, safety and security issues;
3. Applicable national laws and regulations, areas of competence and conservation and management measures of relevant RFMOs, and applicable international law;
4. Collection, evaluation and preservation of evidence;
5. General inspection procedures such as report writing and interview techniques;
6. Analysis of information, such as logbooks, electronic documentation and vessel history (name, ownership and flag State), required for the validation of information given by the master of the vessel;
7. Vessel boarding and inspection, including hold inspections and calculation of vessel hold volumes;
8. Verification and validation of information related to landings, transshipments, processing and fish remaining onboard, including utilizing conversion factors for the various species and products;
9. Identification of fish species, using where possible genetic testing, and the measurement of length and other biological parameters;
10. Identification of vessels and gear, and techniques for the inspection and measurement of gear;
11. Equipment and operation of VMS and other electronic tracking systems; and
- ~~12.~~ Actions to be taken following an inspection.



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 7f CMM 09-2026 Seabirds *(COMM14-Prop11\_rev4)*



## CMM 09-20~~17~~26

### Conservation and Management Measure for minimising bycatch of seabirds in the SPRFMO Convention Area

(Supersedes CMM ~~09-09~~-2016)

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

*CONCERNED* that some species of albatrosses and petrels are threatened with global extinction;

*RECOGNISING* the need to strengthen mechanisms to protect seabirds in the Pacific Ocean;

*NOTING* the overlap in the distribution of albatrosses and petrels with fishing effort in the Convention Area as shown in SWG-11-INF-02 (rev 1) and SWG-11-INF-02a;

*FURTHER RECOGNISING* that Article 3 (1) of the Convention requires, in giving effect to its objective, that the conservation and management of fishery resources shall take into account best international practices, that fishing shall take into account the impacts on non-target and associated or dependent species, and shall apply the Precautionary Approach;

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) International Plan of Action for Reducing the Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds);

*FURTHER TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries concerning best practices to reduce incidental catch of seabirds in capture fisheries;

*NOTING* the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) has established best practice seabird bycatch mitigation measures for trawl and demersal longline fisheries;

*NOTING* that best practice seabird mitigation is supported by ongoing research and improvements;

*FURTHER NOTING* that the Scientific Committee endorsed the ACAP best practice guidance;

*ADOPTS* in accordance with Article 8 and 20 of the Convention, the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM):

#### General Provisions

1. Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) shall require vessels flying their flag and using demersal longlines, to implement seabird mitigation measures, as described in Annex 1.
2. Subject to paragraph 3, Members and CNCs shall require vessels flying their flag and using trawl gear to implement seabird mitigation measures, as described in Annex 2.
3. Vessels using trawl gear that discharge no biological material shall be exempt from applying the seabird mitigation measures described in Annex 2. This provision shall be subject to periodic review or review when new information is available.
4. Use of mitigation measures detailed in this CMM are subject to safety considerations for vessels and crew in accordance with international law.
5. Members and CNCs shall implement this CMM by 31 July 2015 unless decided otherwise by the Commission based on the results of the Scientific Committee's consideration of the issue at its 2014 meeting.
6. Members and CNCs are encouraged to adopt measures that require vessels flying their flag to follow the latest ACAP seabird handling advice, as relevant to the fishing method, to aimed at ensuring ensure that seabirds captured or entangled alive during any fishing operations in the Convention Area are released alive and in as



good condition as possible. Research into the survival of released seabirds is encouraged.

7. Members and CNCPs shall record data, in accordance with CMM 02-2022-2025 (Data Standards) and other relevant CMMs through existing observer programmes and other approved means such as electronic monitoring, on all interactions with seabirds. In addition, Members and CNCPs are encouraged to record data on seabird observations.
8. Members and CNCPs shall report the information collected in paragraph 7 above annually to the Secretariat in accordance with both subparagraph 1(de) and its associated Annexes, and subparagraph 2(c) and Annex 7(IG) of CMM 02-2022-2025 (Data Standards).
9. Members and CNCPs are ~~also~~ encouraged to collect data on seabird presence and abundance as part of any observer programmes and any electronic monitoring. Members and CNCPs are also encouraged to report these data in their National Reports to the Scientific Committee.
- ~~8-10.~~ Members and CNCPs with vessels flying their flag and fishing in the Convention Area are encouraged to explore light management procedures to reduce the risk of seabird ~~interaction~~ bycatch, with consideration of relevant light mitigation guidelines<sup>1</sup> (e.g., National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife, including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds developed by Australia).
- ~~9-11.~~ In their annual national science reports to the Scientific Committee, Members and CNCPs shall report annually, on the seabird mitigation measures used by each vessel flying their flag and fishing in the Convention Area, as well as any observed seabird interaction data and the level of observer coverage and any electronic monitoring coverage ~~and~~ focussed on recording seabird bycatch.
- ~~10-12.~~ The Scientific Committee will report on the number and location of seabird interactions annually and provide advice and recommendations to the Commission on possible improvements to further mitigate seabird interactions, including *inter alia*, the potential use of trigger limits to manage the incidental catch of seabirds in the SPRFMO Convention Area. Further, the Scientific Committee shall consider any relevant advice from the ACAP Advisory Committee.
- ~~11-13.~~ Nothing in this measure shall affect the rights of Members and CNCPs to apply additional or more stringent compatible measures to their flagged vessels conducting demersal longline or trawl fishing in the Convention Area.
- ~~12-14.~~ Nothing in this measure shall affect the rights of Members and CNCPs to apply higher levels of observer or electronic monitoring coverage to monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures or collect data on seabird interactions, including mortality rates.
- ~~13-15.~~ The Scientific Committee will annually review any new information on new or existing mitigation measures and on seabird interactions from observer programmes, electronic monitoring or other research and provide advice to the Commission on the need to implement particular measures for specific gear types or fisheries, or make other amendments to this Measure.

<sup>1</sup> E.g., the National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife, including Marine Turtles, Seabirds and Migratory Shorebirds developed by Australia provides best-practice principles for lighting design and specific guidance for mitigating impacts on seabirds in Appendix G.



## ANNEX 1

Seabird Mitigation Specifications for Demersal Longline Fishing<sup>2</sup>

1. To minimise incidental interactions with seabirds in demersal longlines, all demersal longline vessels shall:
  - a) ~~prohibit discharge of any biological material during shooting and, where possible, during hauling, where possible<sup>3</sup>, to avoid attracting seabirds to the vessel;~~ and
  - b) ~~where it is necessary to discharge biological waste due to operational safety concerns during hauling, ensure that a minimum of two hours occurs between any discharge of batched waste and that the batched waste is discharged rapidly on the opposite side of the vessel to the hauling bay; and~~
  - c) ~~remove all hooks from any biological waste before it is discharged.~~
- ~~b) Either:~~
2. Demersal longline vessels which have:
  - a) maintained independent observer coverage for the previous 5 calendar years at levels greater than 10%<sup>4</sup>; and
  - b) for the previous calendar year maintained a seabird mortality rate of less than 0.01 birds/1000 hooks.may shall simultaneously use two of the following measures: ~~shall implement the combined use of the following three measures simultaneously to have the greatest chance of effectively mitigating seabird bycatch:~~
  - i. ~~a line weighting regime, as specified in paragraph 9.6. Noting the objective of this measure is to~~ maximise hook sink rates close to vessel sterns to reduce the availability of baits to seabirds;
  - ii. ~~bird scaring lines, as specified in paragraph 10.7. Noting the objective of this measure is to~~ actively deter birds from lines and baited hooks;
  - iii. ~~setting at night, between the times of nautical dark and nautical dawn.~~
3. Demersal longline vessels which do not meet the requirements of paragraph 2(a) and 2(b) shall implement the combined, simultaneously use of the three measures at paragraph 2 (i, ii, iii).  
~~se~~ Notwithstanding paragraphs 2 and 3, demersal longline vessels fishing at latitudes of 50°S or higher during the austral summer months (November – February) are permitted to set during daylight hours provided that the vessel meets the requirements of paragraph 2(a) and 2(b) and -applies the measures specified in paragraphs 2(ia) and 2(iiib) and:  
~~does not catch a total of three or more seabirds during a fishing season; and~~
4. ensures a minimum of 30% observer coverage or electronic monitoring, of which at least 10% of fishing effort must be covered by human observers, that is adequately representative of the spatial and temporal distribution of the fishing effort/time

Or:

<sup>2</sup>The measures set out in this Annex do not apply to artisanal vessels of developing coastal States under 15 meters in length. Such vessels are encouraged to apply seabird bycatch mitigation measures as appropriate for their operations (see ACAP's Seabird Bycatch Mitigation Toolbox for Artisanal and small-scale fisheries). The Commission shall review this measure, if necessary, to include such vessels in the future.

<sup>3</sup>Where it is necessary to discharge biological waste due to operational safety concerns, vessels should batch waste for two hours or longer.

<sup>4</sup>The Commission shall review the monitoring requirements in this CMM in conjunction with CMM 02-2025 and other relevant CMMs at such time as Electronic Monitoring standards and data requirements for demersal longline are agreed.



~~2.~~ Where a Member or CNCP has maintained spatially and temporally appropriate observer coverage for the previous 5 consecutive years at levels greater than 10% and recorded a seabird mortality rate less than 0.01 birds/ 1000 hooks, that Member may choose to:

- ~~a)~~ require its vessels to apply simultaneously only two one of the three measures specified in paragraph ~~2~~1; and
- ~~b)~~ ensure a minimum of ~~3~~10% observer coverage or electronic monitoring, of which at least 10% of fishing effort must be covered by human observers, that is adequately representative of the spatial and temporal distribution of the fishing fleet.

~~3.5.~~ Should a flagged vessel of a Member or CNCP catch applying paragraphs 3 or 4 catch a total of three or more seabirds (resulting in mortality) during a calendar year fishing season, the Member or CNCP 1(b) exceed a seabird mortality rate of 0.01 birds/ 1000 hooks, they will/shall be required to:

- ~~a)~~ ensure the vessel implements the combined simultaneously uses of all three measures apply at least one additional measure-detailed in paragraph 2 (i, ii, iii)~~1 simultaneously~~ for at least one year from the time of the third mortality;
- ~~b)~~ report details of the event to the Secretariat within seven days; ~~and~~
- ~~c)~~ report details of the event in their national report; ~~and~~
- ~~e)d)~~ provide all seabird bycatch monitoring data for the fishery to the Scientific Committee for review.

~~4.6.~~ Should any Member or CNCP applying paragraphs ~~3 and 4 catch a total of three or more seabirds during a fishing season~~ 1(b) exceed a seabird mortality rate of 0.01 birds/ 1000 hooks ~~If a vessel records three or more seabird mortalities in a calendar year on any of its vessels,~~ the Scientific Committee ~~should~~ shall review all seabird bycatch observer and electronic monitoring data for that fishery and make recommendations on any necessary amendments to this measure.

~~5.7.~~ Further measures that may be implemented by demersal longline vessels include:

- ~~a)~~ bird deterrent curtains at the hauling bay as specified in paragraph 118, responsible offal management, and avoiding peak areas and periods of seabird foraging activity; and
- ~~a)b)~~ using two (paired) bird scaring lines simultaneously for vessels ≥24 m in length whenever fishing gear is being set from the vessel;
- ~~b)c)~~ any other experimental measure to reduce seabird bycatch, provided the required measures in paragraphs 1 and 2 are still implemented.

~~6.8.~~ Where trot lines are used, the use of cachalotera nets is considered to be best practice mitigation, although global minimum standards are not yet developed. Members are encouraged to report details of gear configuration used to the Scientific Committee.

~~9.~~ Line weighting regimes deployed in accordance with paragraph ~~1(b)(i)2(a)~~ of this Annex shall be in accordance with the following specifications: Line weighting must meet or exceed the following minimum standards listed here for each type of bottom line gear:-

- ~~a)~~ For externally weighted systems, vvessels must/shall use a longline weighting regime that achieves a demonstrable minimum longline sink rate of 0.3 metre/second to 15 metre depth for gear. Specifically:



- i. External weighted lines in Spanish system and trot lines must use a minimum of 8.5 kg mass at intervals of no more than 40 m if rocks are used, 6kg mass at intervals of no more than 20 m for concrete weights, and 5 kg weights at intervals of no more than 40 m for solid metal weights.
  - ii. External weighted lines in autoline must use a minimum 5 kg mass at intervals no more than 40 m, which must be released from vessels in a manner that avoids tension astern (tension astern may lift sections of the longline already deployed out of the water).
- b) For vessels using internally weighted longlines, these must shall have a lead core of at least 50 g/m and sink instantly with a linear profile and achieve a sink rate of greater than 0.2 metre/second.

7.10. Bird scaring lines deployed in accordance with paragraph ~~1(b)(i)2(b)(ii)~~ of this Annex shall be in accordance with the following specifications:

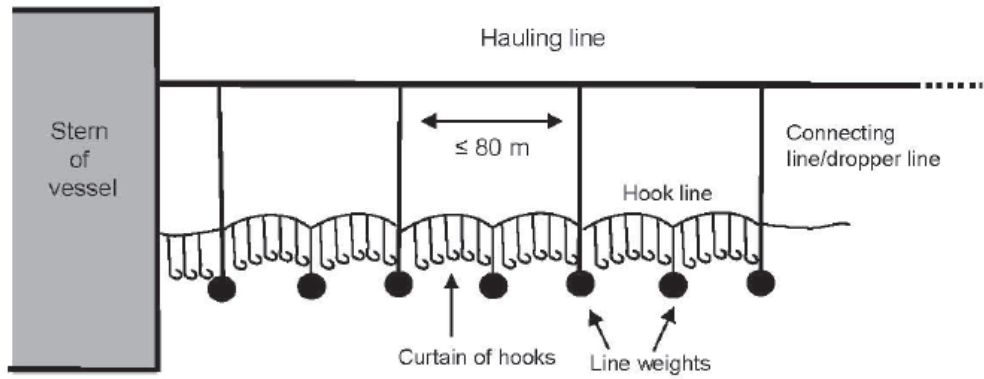
- a) One or more bird scaring lines must be carried at all times and must be deployed whenever fishing gear is being set from the vessel;
- b) The bird scaring line must be attached to the vessel so that when deployed the baits are protected by the streamer line, even in cross winds;
- c) The bird scaring line shall use brightly coloured streamers long enough to reach the sea-surface in calm conditions (“long streamers”) placed at intervals of no more than 5 m for at least the first 55 m of streamer line and shall be attached to the line with swivels that prevent streamers from wrapping around the line;
- d) The bird scaring line may also use streamers a minimum of 1 m in length (“short streamers”) placed at intervals of no more than 1m.
- e) If the bird scaring line that is in use breaks or is damaged, it must be repaired or replaced so that the vessel meets these specifications before any further hooks enter the water.
- f) The bird scaring line shall be deployed so that:
  - i. it remains above the water surface to a distance where the hooks have sunk to a depth of 15 m, or
  - ii. it shall be of a minimum ~~length~~ of 150 m in length extent and suspended from a point on the vessel at least 7 m above the water in the absence of swell.

8.11. Bird deterrent curtains deployed in accordance with paragraph 74(a) of this Annex shall be in accordance with the following specifications: these devices must be constructed in order to achieve the following operational characteristics:

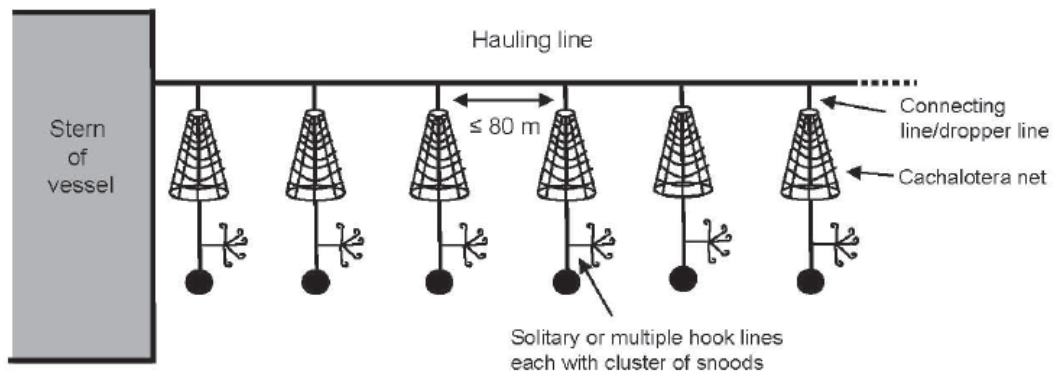
- a) deterrence of birds flying directly into the area where the line is being hauled;
- b) prevention of birds that are sitting on the water surface from swimming into the hauling bay area.
- ~~c) Internal weighted lines must have a lead core of at least 50 g/m.~~



Typical configuration of Spanish system



Typical configuration of trotline method





## ANNEX 2

## Seabird Mitigation Specifications for Trawl Fishing

1. To minimise the incidental mortality of seabirds associated with trawl fishing the following measures shall be used in combination:
  - a) Deploy, while fishing, bird scaring devices to deter birds away from warp cables and net monitoring cables, where their use cannot be avoided, as follows:
    - i. Two bird scaring lines, as specified in paragraph 23, or,
    - ii. where operational practices prevent the effective deployment of bird scaring lines, such as deep-water trawls targeting bathymetric features, a bird baffler, as specified in paragraph 34, may be used instead.
  - b) Use responsible discharge management to avoid attracting seabirds to the vessel:
    - i. Where possible, prohibit discharge of any biological material during shooting and hauling.
    - ii. Where possible and appropriate, convert offal into fish meal and retain all waste material with any discharge restricted to liquid discharge / sump water to reduce the number of birds attracted to a minimum. Where this is not feasible, vessels should batch waste for two hours or longer.

The use of the following measures is also encouraged where possible:

- c) Clean nets after every shot to remove entangled fish (“stickers”) and benthic material to discourage bird attendance during gear shooting.
- d) Minimise the time the net is on the water surface during hauling through proper maintenance of winches and good deck practices.

~~d)e) Apply net binding together with weights incorporated in the net belly prior to setting.~~

~~2. Where a Member or CNCP has maintained 100% observer coverage of a fishery<sup>5</sup> for the previous 5 consecutive years with less than one recorded mortality per vessel per year, the measures detailed in paragraph 1 will not be required to be applied on its flagged trawl vessels in that fishery. Should a mortality event occur, the Member or CNCP will require the vessel that recorded the mortality to apply mitigation measures in accordance with paragraph 1 for at least one year from the recorded mortality.~~

3.2. Bird scaring lines deployed in accordance with paragraph 1(a)(i) of this Annex shall be in accordance with the following specifications:

- a) Two bird scaring lines must be carried at all times and must be deployed whenever the trawl net is in the water.
- b) Bird scaring lines must be attached to both the port and starboard sides of a vessel, above and outside of the warp blocks.
- c) To avoid deflection of bird scaring lines away from cables in strong cross winds, the bird scaring lines must have an in-water section that creates sufficient drag to achieve the required aerial extent and placement in strong winds, such as by attaching a buoy or cone, or an other ACAP-recommended device (e.g., Tamini Tabla) ~~tow a buoy or cone attached to the end of line to create tension and keep the line straight~~. It is recommended that for every metre of block height 1.2 kg of terminal object drag

<sup>5</sup> Where a fishery is defined by gear type and geographical location.



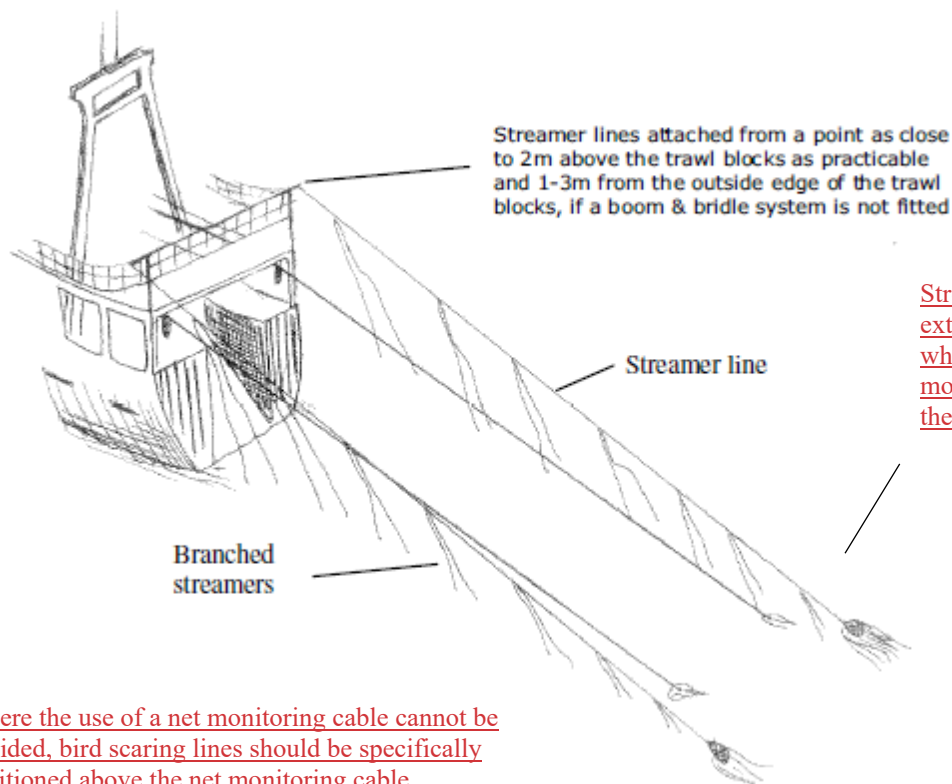
weight be used.

- d) The bird scaring line must be long enough to extend beyond the point at which warp and net monitoring cables reach the water surface. It is recommended that for every metre of block height 5 m of backbone be deployed.
- e) The bird scaring line must have brightly coloured streamers long enough to reach the sea-surface in calm conditions. These must be placed at intervals of no more than 5 m apart, preferably at 3 m apart.

**4.3.** Bird bafflers deployed in accordance with paragraph 1(a)(ii) of this Annex shall be in accordance with the following specifications: A bird baffle consists of two or more booms attached to the stern quarter of the vessel, with at least one boom attached to the starboard stern quarter and at least one boom attached to the port stern quarter;

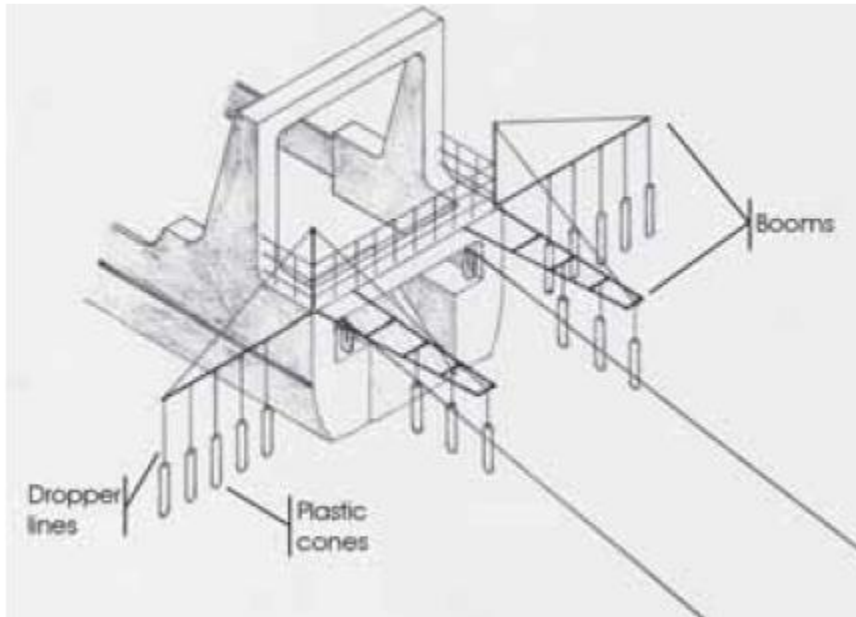
- a) Each boom shall extend outwards not less than four metres from the side or stern of the vessel;
- b) Dropper lines, shall be attached to the booms no more than 2 metres apart;
- c) Plastic cones, rods or other brightly coloured and durable material shall be attached to the ends of the dropper lines, so that the bottom of the cone, rod or material is not more than 500 millimetres above the water, in the absence of wind and swell; and
- d) Lines or webbing may be attached between the dropper lines to prevent tangling.

“Bird scaring lines”





“Bird baffler”





---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report ANNEX 7g CMM 18-2026 Squid *(COMM14-WP19\_rev3)*



## CMM 18-202~~5~~<sup>6</sup>

# Conservation and Management Measure on the Management of the Jumbo Flying Squid Fishery

(supersedes CMM 18-202~~5~~<sup>4</sup>) rev2~~1~~

The Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation;

*NOTING* that there has been a substantial increase in catches of and fishing effort for jumbo flying squid in the Convention Area since 1990;

*CONCERNED* that there is uncertainty concerning the stock status and exploitation rate of jumbo flying squid;

*TAKING INTO ACCOUNT* the discussions at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Squid Workshop on 17 August 2021; the Scientific Committee Squid Working Group Workshops on Effort (11 June 2022 and 2 September 2022); the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Committee from 26 to 30 September 2022, including paragraphs 170 and 172 of its report; and the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Committee from 11 to 16 September 2023, including paragraphs 171 and 199 of its report;

*BEARING IN MIND* the commitment to apply the precautionary approach and take decisions based on the best scientific and technical information available as set out in Article 3 of the Convention;

*RECOGNISING* that a primary function of the Commission is to adopt Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) to achieve the objective of the Convention, including, as appropriate, CMMs for particular fish stocks;

*AFFIRMING* its commitment to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable management of jumbo flying squid stocks in accordance with the objective of the Convention;

*RECOGNISING* the need for effective monitoring and control and surveillance of fishing for jumbo flying squid in the implementation of this measure pending the establishment of monitoring, control and surveillance measures pursuant to Article 27 of the Convention;

*RECALLING* Articles 19(1), 19(2), 20(3) and 20(4) of the Convention;

*FURTHER RECALLING* the need set out in Article 4 of the Convention to ensure compatibility of CMMs established for the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction, and the duty of Contracting Parties to cooperate to this end;

*RECALLING* also Article 21(1) of the Convention;

*ADOPTS* the following CMM in accordance with Articles 8 and 21 of the Convention:

### General Provisions

1. This CMM applies to all vessels flagged to Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) engaged in or intending to engage in fishing for jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) in the Convention Area.
2. Only fishing vessels duly authorised pursuant to Article 25 of the Convention and in accordance with CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels) that are flagged to Members and CNCs shall participate in the fishery for jumbo flying squid in the Convention Area.



## Management for the Jumbo Flying Squid Fishery<sup>1</sup>

3. Members that have authorised squid jigging vessels on the Commission Record of Vessels as of 31 December 2020 shall limit both the number and total gross tonnage of squid jigging vessels flying their flag authorised to fish for jumbo flying squid in the Convention Area to the level of their squid jigging vessels as set out in Table 1 of this CMM. Members may substitute their squid jigging vessels as long as the number and total gross tonnage of the vessels for each Member does not exceed the level represented in the Table.
4. Members and CNCPs, other than developing coastal States, that have no authorised squid jigging vessels on the Commission Record of Vessels as of 31 December 2020 but have a historical record in the jumbo flying squid jigging fishery in the Convention Area shall submit to the Executive Secretary, by 30<sup>th</sup> June, their historical record of jumbo flying squid jigging fisheries in the Convention Area in the format of the number of vessels, total gross tonnage and catch weights (t) by year, for inclusion in the squid information held by the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall circulate this information to all Members and CNCPs.
5. Members and CNCPs referred to in paragraph 4, other than developing coastal States, may develop their jumbo flying squid jigging fishery. These Members and CNCPs shall limit the number and total gross tonnage of the squid jigging vessels flying their flag authorised to fish for jumbo flying squid in the Convention Area, taking into account the state of squid resources, and not exceeding their highest historical levels. The historic high levels will be determined by the information provided pursuant in paragraph 4.
6. Members and CNCPs, other than developing coastal States, that have no historical record in the jumbo flying squid jigging fishery in the Convention Area, have no authorised squid jigging vessels on the Commission Record of Vessels as of 31 December 2020, and want to participate in the jumbo flying squid jigging fishery shall submit a proposal to the Scientific Committee at least 90 days in advance of the next Scientific Committee meeting. These proposals shall include, at a minimum, information on the proposed number of fishing vessels, gross tonnage limit, and the type of jigging gear. The Scientific Committee shall provide its advice on the potential impact of the proposed effort increase. The Commission shall consider these proposals in conjunction with any advice from the Scientific Committee.
7. Developing coastal States<sup>2</sup> are allowed to develop their jumbo flying squid fisheries in the Convention Area without restrictions, either with jigging or other fishing gears used to fish jumbo flying squid, in a manner consistent with SPRFMO CMMs. Such developing coastal States shall provide notification of the number of vessels and gross tonnage involved, in accordance with the time specified in paragraph 13.
8. This CMM is not to be considered a precedent for future allocation decisions.

### Data Collection and Reporting

9. Each Member and CNCP participating in the jumbo flying squid fishery shall collect, verify, and provide all required data to the Executive Secretary, in accordance with CMM 02-2026<sup>5</sup> (Data Standards), [and any other relevant CMMs](#) and using the templates prepared by the Secretariat and available on the SPRFMO website, including an annual catch report detailing catches on a monthly basis.

[9bis. For the purpose of supporting scientific stock assessment analyses for the jumbo flying squid fishery, Members with jumbo flying squid fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention area should share data on squid caught in areas under national jurisdiction with the Executive Secretary, in accordance with CMM 02-2026<sup>5</sup> \(Data Standards\), and any other relevant CMMs, using the templates referred to in Paragraph 9 or any other templates endorsed by SC.](#)

<sup>1</sup> The effort limitation in this measure applies to fishing for jumbo flying squid in the SPRFMO Convention Area and does not apply to fishing gears other than jigging.

<sup>2</sup> For the purpose of this CMM only, developing coastal States are Cook Islands, Panama, Ecuador, Chile, Peru, and Vanuatu and shall not prejudice future decisions of the Commission regarding the definition of developing coastal States.



10. The Executive Secretary shall verify the annual catch reports submitted by Members and CNCPs against the submitted data. The Executive Secretary shall inform Members and CNCPs of the outcome of the verification exercise and any possible discrepancies encountered.

11. As a derogation to paragraph 17, Members with vessels under 15 meters of length overall registered in the SPRFMO Record of Vessels fishing for jumbo flying squid shall ensure a minimum coverage of:

- a. 5% of the trips of the artisanal fishing vessels involved, through observers on board, who will provide detailed information on the catch, fishing areas, fishing effort and biometric and biological data of what is caught; and
- b. 80% of the landings (and trips) of the artisanal fishing vessels involved, through observers in port, who will provide information on the catch, the fishing areas and fishing effort; and
- c. 90% of the trips of the artisanal fishing vessels involved, through an information system using a traceability application running on portable smartphones, with which fishermen will provide in real-time all relevant information on their fishing trip, including on their catch, fishing areas and fishing effort.

### Monitoring and Control

12. Members and CNCPs participating in the jumbo flying squid fisheries shall implement a vessel monitoring system (VMS) in accordance with CMM 06-2023 (VMS) and other relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission.

13. Each Member and CNCP participating in the jumbo flying squid fishery shall provide the Executive Secretary a list of vessels<sup>3</sup> they have authorised to fish in the fishery in accordance with Article 25 of the Convention and CMM 05-2023 (Record of Vessels) and other relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission. They shall also notify the Executive Secretary of the vessels that have actively fished or engaged in transshipment in the Convention Area within 30 days of the end of each year. The Executive Secretary shall maintain lists of the vessels so notified and will make them available on the SPRFMO website.

14. The Executive Secretary shall report annually to the Commission on the list of vessels having actively fished or been engaged in transshipment in the Convention Area during the previous year using data provided under CMM 02-2025 (Data Standards).

14bis. The Commission requests SC14 to provide advice on whether there are any areas that would benefit from additional management measures to protect spawning squid.

14ter. The Commission requests CTC14 to provide advice on whether there are any areas that would benefit from additional monitoring or enforcement measures to ensure compliance with this measure.

### Scientific Committee Reports

15. In order to facilitate the work of the Scientific Committee, Members and CNCPs shall provide their annual national reports, in accordance with the existing guidelines for such reports, in advance of the Scientific Committee meeting of each year. Members and CNCPs shall also provide observer and EM data (if applicable) for each fishing season to the Scientific Committee to the maximum extent possible. The reports shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary at least one month before the Scientific Committee meeting in order to ensure that the Scientific Committee has an adequate opportunity to consider the reports in its deliberations. Members and CNCPs should notify the Executive Secretary in the event they will not be submitting an annual report together with the reasons for not doing so.

15bis. Each Member and CNCP participating in the jumbo flying squid fishery shall further make efforts to collect, verify, and provide data as required by the Scientific Committee to the Executive Secretary.

<sup>3</sup> Fishing vessels as defined in Article 1 (1)(h) of the Convention



16. The information collected under paragraphs 9 and 15, and any stock assessments and research in respect of the jumbo flying squid fishery shall be submitted for review to the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee will conduct the necessary analysis and assessment, in accordance with its SC Multi-annual workplan agreed by the Commission, in order to provide advice on stock status.

### Observer Coverage

17. Members and CNCPs participating in the jumbo flying squid fishery shall ensure a minimum observer coverage of 5% of fishing days on Jumbo Flying Squid Jigging vessels flying their flag and ensure that such observers collect and report data as described in CMM 02-2025 (Data Standards). Members and CNCPs that fished in the fishery in 2022, but did not achieve a minimum observer coverage of 5% of fishing days, shall ensure a minimum level of observer coverage of 2% of fishing days by 1 September 2025. From 1 September 2027, a minimum level of human observer coverage of 5% of fishing days is required. If the Commission has adopted electronic monitoring standards by this time, 3% of the required 5% of monitoring may be from electronic monitoring.

18. From September 1, 2029, the overall monitoring in this fishery shall increase to 10% of fishing days with a minimum of 2% of fishing days monitored by human observers.

19. The Scientific Committee in 2030 and the subsequent Compliance and Technical Committee in 2031 shall review the effectiveness of monitoring of this fishery and provide the Commission advice on any changes needed to ensure adequate data collection and monitoring.

### Special Requirements of Developing States

20. In recognition of the special requirements of developing States, in particular small island developing States and territories and possessions in the region, Members and CNCPs are urged to provide financial, scientific and technical assistance, where available, to enhance the ability of those developing States and territories and possessions to implement this CMM.

### Review

21. This CMM supersedes CMM 18-2025<sup>4</sup>.

22. This CMM shall be reviewed at the Commission's annual meeting in 2027. ~~The review shall take into consideration whether:~~

- a) ~~the Scientific Committee recommends further increases to levels of data collection, monitoring, and research to facilitate development of squid stock assessment analyses;~~ finalization of a squid stock assessment model;
- b) the Scientific Committee recommends a reduction in total effort or other controls on the squid fishery based on the best scientific information available; ~~and~~
- c) ~~if~~ the number of active vessels or the total gross tonnage equals or exceeds the total amount in Table 1.

23. The review shall take into account the latest advice of the Scientific Committee and the Compliance and Technical Committee and shall include a review of the effort levels between Members listed in Table 1 and other Members entitled to develop their Jumbo Flying Squid fisheries.

24. The observer coverage provisions of this measure shall be reviewed at the Annual Meeting in 2027<sup>6</sup> if the Commission has not yet adopted electronic monitoring standards.

25. ~~By~~ In 2031, the CMM shall be reviewed in relation to the advice provided by the Scientific Committee pursuant to paragraph 19.

26. If SC14 does not agree upon a stock assessment or other analysis consistent with SC Workplan item 3.2.2 that provides scientific guidance to COMM15 to manage the squid fishery, SC14 shall ~~will~~ recommend



provide more precautionary management advice (e.g., effort or catch limits or other alternative options, as appropriate) based on the best available science in accordance with Article 3(2a) of the SPRFMO Convention. Should the SC14 fail to provide management advice, the Commission shall consider adopting additional management measures in COMM15.

Table 1: Number and total gross tonnage of vessels referred to in paragraph 3.

| Member                                    | Vessel Limit<br>Number | Total Gross Tonnage<br>(GT) |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| China                                     | 570                    | 548,097                     |
| Korea                                     | 43                     | 38,907                      |
| Chinese Taipei                            | 38                     | 38,674                      |
| Total number of vessels and gross tonnage | 651                    | 625,678                     |



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

**COMM14 – Report**

**ANNEX 7h CMM 20-2026 Electronic Monitoring Standards**

*(COMM14-Prop18\_rev5)*



## CMM 20-2026

### CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE ESTABLISHING MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ELECTRONIC MONITORING IN SPRFMO FISHERIES

The Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation,

~~RECALLING that the Commission created the Ad Hoc Working Group on Electronic Monitoring Standards with a primary objective of developing EM standards for fishing vessels to be presented for endorsement by the Commission;~~

~~NOTING that the Commission has decided to allow Electronic Monitoring to fulfil some observer requirements;~~

NOTING that Article 28 of the Convention sets out the functions of the observer ~~programme~~program and that the observer ~~programme~~program shall be coordinated by the Secretariat of the Commission in a flexible manner to take account of the nature of the fisheries resources and other relevant factors;

NOTING that the primary function of observers on board fishing vessels is the collection of scientific information and that observers are not enforcement officials, but that Article 28 of the Convention specifies that the information collected by the observer ~~programme~~program shall, as appropriate, also be used to support the functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including the Scientific Committee (SC) and the Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC);

NOTING the importance of the collection of robust scientific information, consideration should be given to *inter alia* cost-effectiveness and technical feasibility;

NOTING ALSO that one of the functions of the Commission is to promote the conduct of scientific research to improve knowledge of fishery resources and marine ecosystems in the Convention Area and of the same fishery resources in adjacent waters under national jurisdiction;

ACKNOWLEDGING that high-quality data and information related to the fishing activity in the Convention Area, and its impacts on the marine environment occurring in the SPRFMO area are essential for the Commission to adopt and implement effective and timely Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs);

DETERMINED to ensure the collection of data and information that can be used for effective assessment and management of SPRFMO fisheries resources, including target species and bycatch, and interaction of fishing activities with the environment and species occurring in the Convention Area, to improve the certainty of future scientific advice while taking into account ecosystem considerations;

~~DESIRING to allow the use of Electronic Monitoring to fulfil or supplement observer requirements;~~

COMMITTED to ensure that the SPRFMO Electronic Monitoring ~~Programme~~Program is developed under a robust and transparent governance framework;

~~RECOGNISING~~NOTING the ~~need to establish clear procedures for attaining accreditation work of national EM programmes and service providers under the SPRFMO Ad Hoc Working Group on Electronic Monitoring~~Standards during the 2025-2026 intersessional period;

ADOPTS the following CMM in accordance with Articles 8 and 28 of the Convention:



## Objective, Purpose, and Scope

1. This CMM applies to all SPRFMO fisheries in which the use of Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) has been approved by the Commission to fulfil the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs. For the purposes of this CMM, Electronic Monitoring (EM) means the use of electronic devices to record a fishing vessel's activities using camera technology linked to a Global Position System (GPS) or its equivalent, and which may include sensors. Other definitions of key terms are provided in Annex 1.
- ~~1.2.~~ The objective of the SPRFMO Electronic Monitoring ~~Standards~~ Program (EMP) is to enable collection, via ~~Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS),~~ EMS, of verified catch and other data related to the conduct of SPRFMO fisheries in the SPRFMO area of competence in order to facilitate the collection of verified scientific data and additional information related to fishing activities in the Convention Area and their impacts on the ecosystem, and also to support the functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including the SC and the CTC.
- ~~2.3.~~ ~~The purpose of these standards is to establish~~ To achieve the objective in paragraph 2, this CMM establishes minimum requirements for EM domestic programs, ~~EM systems~~ EMS, and EM data that shall apply when EM is used in SPRFMO fisheries to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs and to ensure that when EM is used it is effective in achieving its intended purpose and it generates data of equivalent confidence to data derived from human observation under the SPRFMO Observer Program- established by CMM 16 (2025) (SPRFMO Observer Program).
- ~~3.4.~~ Notwithstanding paragraphs ~~12~~ and ~~23~~, the implementation of EM is optional, and this CMM does not create any independent obligation for Members and CNCPs to implement EM onboard their fishing vessels.
- ~~4.5.~~ Members and CNCPs that implement EM in ~~their fisheries in~~ order to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs shall ensure that their EM domestic programs fulfill the minimum program requirements and standards and technical specifications set out in ~~these standards~~ this CMM.
- ~~5.6.~~ Unless otherwise decided by the Commission, Members and CNCPs shall ensure that they ~~continue to~~ meet the human observer coverage levels required in accordance with the relevant CMMs, and if they choose to implement EM in accordance with ~~these standards in order~~ this CMM to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs, ~~electronic monitoring~~ EM shall be used to ~~complement~~ supplement the required level of human observer coverage and the required tasks to be performed by these human observers.
7. Members and CNCPs shall ensure that they meet any Electronic Monitoring coverage levels required in accordance with relevant CMMs.

## EM minimum standards and minimum data fields



~~6.8.~~ EM equipment shall operate from port to port during a fishing trip, shall automatically and autonomously collect EM records to generate the required EM data, and shall be tamper-evident (i.e., any attempts to tamper with the equipment will be detectable to the EM service provider/vessel owner and reported to the respective vessel flag authority).

~~7.9.~~ The minimum technical requirements, performance standards, and activities that shall be covered under EM and captured by the camera(s) are provided in Annex 2. General recommendations for ~~configurations~~ the configuration of EM equipment (e.g., camera placement and subsequent views) for each vessel type, are also in Annex 2.

~~8.10.~~ The minimum data fields that shall be collected by EMS for each vessel type are provided in Annex 3.

~~9.11.~~ For the purposes of calculating EM coverage based on proportion of fishing days, in order to count a specific day as covered by EM, records must be reviewed for the entire duration of fishing activities on that specific day.

~~10.12.~~ For the purposes of calculating EM coverage based on other units, requirements will be developed as necessary.

### ***Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP)***

~~11.13.~~ If a Member or CNCP intends to generate data via EM to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs, such a Member or CNCP shall develop an EM Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP) for each ~~vessel, or groups of vessels (e.g., all squid jiggers, or all long line vessels, or all long line of a certain size range, etc.) fishing for species under the jurisdiction of SPRFMO, flagged to the Member or CNCP~~ of their flagged vessels fishing for SPRFMO fishery resources, and on which EM equipment is to be operated and applying the SPRFMO minimum standards for EMS. The VMP shall describe the configuration, components and installation of EM equipment on each vessel, and this configuration ~~should~~ shall be capable of collecting EM records consistent with all relevant minimum standards and technical specifications in this document. ~~A copy of the VMP approved by the flag should be maintained aboard each vessel at all times when EM equipment is deployed to monitor vessel's activities.~~ CMM. Members and CNCPs may use the same VMP for similar vessel types that share the same EM system configuration. The VMP requirements are detailed in Annex 4.

~~1.~~ Any proposed modification to the VMP, including EM equipment shall be submitted to the vessel flag authority or its designated institution for approval, and promptly notified to SPRFMO.

~~14.~~ A copy of a vessel's current VMP approved by the Member or CNCP shall be maintained onboard each vessel at all times when EM equipment is deployed to monitor the vessel's activities.

### ***Data management***

~~12.15.~~ ~~The requirements applicable to~~ Members and CNCPs shall implement the requirements for data storage and retention, data transmission ~~or~~ and retrieval, and data review and reporting ~~are~~ detailed in Annex 5.



### Obligations of Members and CNCPs

~~13-16.~~ 13-16. Members and CNCPs that choose to implement EM to meet the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs, shall ~~ensure~~require that the ~~Masters~~masters of their flagged vessels that are required to carry an EM system ~~by the relevant Member or CNCP~~:

- a. do not take a vessel out of port if the EMS is not capable of operating properly in the Convention Area unless, the flag Member or CNCP authorizes the ~~Master~~master to do so and ensures that any relevant data collection or other SPRFMO obligations, such as minimum observer coverage requirements, can be met through other means; (e.g., with human observers or EMS deployed on other vessels);
- b. in case the EMS malfunctions while at sea, report the malfunction, including the display of any critical warning, to the flag Member or CNCP competent authorities, ~~or its designated institutions,~~ through automatic real time notification of the malfunction or manually, within a maximum of ~~[48]~~ hours ~~for as soon as practicable~~;
- c. provide on-board physical access to the EMS components and to physical or electronic copies of the approved VMP if requested by a ~~flag~~ Member or CNCP authorised observer and/or inspection personnel;
- d. ensure that, in accordance with the VMP and the minimum areas of vessel coverage as specified in Annexes 2 and 3, the cameras have an un-obstructed view, and following pre-established protocols, that the camera lenses are kept clean;
- e. ensure that the handling of the catch and other vessel operations does not hinder the proper identification and estimation of the catch composition by the onboard EMS, including by-catch;
- f. ensure that the transmission or retrieval of EMS data is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Annex 5;
- g. ensure that unless authorized ~~and instructed~~ by the flag Member or CNCP to take a specific action, the EMS is not tampered with (e.g., disconnect the system, rearrange, or obstruct the view of the cameras, disconnect cameras or sensors, switch-off the onboard EMS manually, intentionally break the system, ~~etc.~~).

~~14-17.~~ 14-17. ~~Members and CNCPs~~ Any Member or CNCP that ~~choose~~chooses to implement EM to meet the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs, shall ~~also~~ ensure:

- a. that the EMS deployed on any fishing ~~vessels~~vessel flying ~~their flags~~meet its flag meets the ~~EMS minimum standards and requirements established~~set out in this CMM;



- b. that for fisheries where 100 percent EM coverage is not required that the method of installing assigning EM systems and reviewing EM records to vessels flying their flag is representative for the fishery to be monitored and commensurate with the specific data needs of the fishery as a whole. This requirement is subject to practical constraints related to Members and CNCPs with a small number of fishing vessels or trips.
- ~~b.c.~~ that EM domestic ~~EM~~ programs are developed, designed, implemented, and managed in a manner that ensures they are independent, transparent, and accountable, in accordance with requirements set out in this CMM;
- ~~e.d.~~ that the analysis of the EM data is done by independent ~~companies~~ EM review providers authorized by Members or CNCPs or by the institutions or authorities of Members or CNCPs, with the necessary knowledge, skills and technical abilities to ensure effective data analysis, including sufficiently accurate species identification;
- ~~e.e.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ that rules and procedures are established in case of EMS failure, including to ensure that any relevant data collection or other SPRFMO obligations, such as minimum observer coverage requirements, can be met through other means;
- ~~e.f.~~ that appropriate follow-up is undertaken if potential infringements of SPRFMO conservation and management measures are detected through the Member or CNCP's EM domestic program.
- ~~15-18.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ A Member or CNCP that chooses to implement an EM program for vessels operating in SPRFMO fisheries to generate data to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs shall ~~develop an EM domestic program and~~ submit a description of that its EM domestic program to the SPRFMO Secretariat. The EM domestic program Secretariat shall meet/circulate the requirements in this CMM and program descriptions to the EM program description shall include at least the following information: Commission.
19. ~~example~~ The EM domestic program description in paragraph 18 shall include at least the following information:
- a. VMPs for each fishery, unique fishing gear, and fleet type vessel configuration used in the program;
  - b. responsibilities of fisheries authorities and vessel owner/crew with respect to installing and maintaining equipment, including routine cleaning of cameras, and responses to mechanical or technical failure of the EMS;
  - c. methods for EM record review, including the EM review provider and EM review system[, and qualifications of EM reviewers];
  - d. EM service provider, intended EM installation coverage, EM record coverage, and overall EM coverage;



~~e.e.~~ protocols for EM record and EM data storage, retention, and retrieval; and

~~e.f.~~ a list of any SPRFMO measures for which EM will be used by the Member or CNCP to meet the requirements of SPRFMO CMMs for monitoring compliance, and the protocols for reporting and following up on potential infringements detected by EM.

~~2. The EM program description required in paragraph 14 above shall be submitted to the SPRFMO Secretariat [and approved by the Commission] before a [Member or CNCP's EM program may be used to fulfill a Member or CNCP's data requirements.~~

~~16.20. The Secretariat, [in consultation with the WGEMS as appropriate,] shall evaluate within [30] days of receipt, the EM domestic program descriptions for the inclusion of the required elements specified in paragraph 14 and share its assessments with the Commission [and the Commission will decide whether to grant interim approval to operate. This decision may be circulated for intersessional decision, consistent with the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure Regulation 7, at the discretion of the Chair, depending on the timing of the assessment results.] Members and CNCPs shall report any changes to their EM domestic programs to the SPRFMO Secretariat whenever such changes occur. If such changes result in a deficiency of a required program element the Secretariat will inform the Commission. No Member or CNCP may use an EM domestic program to fulfill SPRFMO data requirements until it has submitted the EM domestic program description required in paragraph 18 above.~~

~~21. [Members and CNCPs shall report any substantial changes to the information provided pursuant to under paragraphs 18 and 19-18 to the SPRFMO Secretariat whenever such changes occur.]~~

~~17.22.~~ A Member or CNCP that chooses to implement EM in its fisheries to generate data to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs, shall ~~also~~:

- a. when EM is used to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs, report to the SC each year, using the electronic formats that are developed by the SC, the EM data collected through EM domestic ~~EM~~ programs, in line with procedures in place for other data reporting requirements and consistent with domestic confidentiality requirements; and
- b. report to the Commission in its CMS Report annual implementation report other relevant information on the results of the implementation of its EM domestic program during the previous year, including, at least, the EM installation coverage of the fleet, ~~the EM record coverage by vessels or fishing effort~~; the EM coverage levels achieved by fishery and gear type; details on how those coverage levels were calculated; and, where appropriate, information on compliance monitoring.
- c. provide the data in Annex 3 collected by their EM domestic programs in a standardised format, to be included in the SPRFMO Observer/EM Database. Specifications and standards for data submissions are in Annex 5. EM data will be submitted in Microsoft Excel format, JavaScript Object Notation (JSON), or in such other machine-readable format as the Secretariat may prescribe following



consultation with the Scientific Committee. In the first 2 years after adoption of these standards Members and CNCPs may submit data derived from EM as soon as practicable. After 2 years Members and CNCPs will provide by 30 ~~September~~June, their previous (January to December) year's data, consistent with the deadline for the SPRFMO Regional Observer Program. In exceptional cases, and only where a written notification is submitted to the Secretariat by 30 June explaining the need for an extension, the notifying Member/CNCP shall submit available data by 30 June and shall submit the remaining data as soon as possible but not later than 30 September ~~[may submit provisional data by 30 June, and submit final data as soon as possible but not later than 30 September].~~

### ***Commission and Subsidiary Body Responsibility***

~~3. The [WGEMS][Commission] shall:~~

~~a. review, with assistance of the Secretariat where appropriate, the EM domestic program descriptions submitted pursuant to paragraph 15, as well as the implementation of those programs and, if appropriate, suggest improvements and adjustment to such programs to ensure that SPRFMO scientific data collection and/or compliance monitoring requirements are met or that the EMS standards followed by the domestic program are, with due consideration to the development status of Members and CNCPs, equivalent to those set out in this CMM;~~

~~18. work with the Secretariat to develop an EM program description template and checklist to facilitate evaluation of EM program descriptions; shall:~~

~~b. Work with the Secretariat to develop, within 2 years of entry into force of this CMM, an accreditation procedure for domestic EM programs with a goal of seeking consolidation with the accreditation procedure for the observer program.~~

~~4. The Compliance and Technical Committee shall:~~

~~a. address issues such as frequent or systemic technological EM System failure by suggesting changes to technical standards or the approval or accreditation processes;~~

~~b. assess, via the existing compliance monitoring review process, whether appropriate follow-up investigations are undertaken by responsible Members and CNCPs for potential compliance issues related to this CMM or of other SPRFMO CMMs detected via EM.~~

~~5. The Scientific Committee shall:~~

~~a. evaluate the scientific data collected by EM domestic programs and, if appropriate, suggest improvements and adjustments to ensure that SPRFMO scientific data collection requirements are met;~~

~~b. review rates of EM Coverage to ensure they are sufficient to achieve robust data collection for catch of target and non-target and associated species; and~~

~~c. recommend to the Commission any modifications or additions necessary to the priorities and objectives of the SPRFMO EM Program with regard to the collection and reporting of scientific data.~~



~~6. The Commission may:~~

- ~~a. explore the availability of sufficient financial resources to support, where needed, the effective introduction and implementation of SPRFMO's EMS program requirements, standards and specifications contained in this CMM, including by developing Members and CNCPs;~~
- ~~b. engage in coordination on EM activities and programs with other RFMOs and other relevant fisheries management organisations;~~
- ~~c. delegate the responsibilities in subparagraphs a and b to an appropriate subsidiary body.~~

### **Secretariat roles and responsibilities**

~~19.23.~~ The Secretariat shall:

- ~~d. review[ with assistance of the WGEMS or another Commission body where appropriate,] the EM domestic program descriptions submitted pursuant to paragraph 15, following the process described in paragraph 16;~~
- a. communicate with the Members and CNCPs implementing EM domestic programs to ensure that they understand the applicable SPRFMO reporting obligations;
- ~~a.~~
- b. summarize and provide Annual Reports to the Commission about the progress of Member and CNCPs in implementing EM domestic programs;
- c. compile and disseminate accurate and complete EM data to ensure that the best scientific evidence is available, while maintaining confidentiality where appropriate. In doing so, the Secretariat is to follow the procedures specified in CMM 02-2025 Section 6;
- d. explore the possibility of developing a system, such as an Application Programming Interface, to automate EM data submission workflow for both Members and CNCPs and the Secretariat;

### **Reporting**

~~The reporting requirements set out for national observer programs in paragraphs 45-51 of CMM 16-2025 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to EM domestic programs that operate pursuant to this CMM.~~

~~20.24.~~ Members and CNCPs shall include a brief overview of the EM domestic programs, service providers, or review providers covering their fishing activity as a component of the Annual Reports submitted by Members and CNCPs to the SC and developed in accordance with the "Guidelines for Annual Reports to the SPRFMO Scientific Committee".

~~21.25.~~ The Secretariat shall prepare a report on the implementation of the SPRFMO EMP for presentation at each annual meeting of the CTC, using information from annual reports, EM data, and all other suitably documented and relevant information in its possession. The SPRFMO EMP Implementation Report will address, inter alia: (1) information on problems



that have been encountered; (2) recommendations for improving current standards and practices; (3) developments in EM programs and observational methods; (4) constraints to accreditation and (5) in general any identifiable problem or obstacle in fulfilling the objectives and purpose of this CMM as outlined in paragraphs 24 and 32.

~~22-26.~~ The SPRFMO EMP Implementation Report shall be distributed to Members and CNCPs 30 days prior to each annual CTC meeting.

~~23-27.~~ The CTC shall review the recommendations delivered by the SPRFMO ~~OP-EMP~~ Implementation Report and provide advice to the Commission thereon, including proposed actions to be taken.

~~24-28.~~ The Secretariat shall make available EM data to the SC, at its request. Data confidentiality shall be maintained as set forth in procedures specified in paragraph 6 of CMM 02-2025 (Data Standards) and in any other data procedures that may be adopted by the Commission.

### Review/Periodic review

~~7. The Commission shall review this CMM 4 years after adoption and as needed thereafter to evaluate its effectiveness in fulfilling its purpose and consider the need for revisions, taking into account, *inter alia*, relevant information provided by Members and CNCPs on the introduction and implementation of their EMS domestic programs as well as any new technological developments.~~

29. The CTC shall review the implementation and effectiveness of this CMM at its meeting in 2028 and at least every five years thereafter, including the applicability of the SPRFMO Electronic Monitoring Program to other fishing vessels, and any additional requirements as necessary to meet the objectives of both Article 28 of the Convention and this CMM.

30. SC shall periodically evaluate the scientific data collected by EM domestic programs and, if appropriate, suggest improvements and adjustments to ensure that SPRFMO scientific data collection requirements are met, including advice on the minimum data fields for and appropriate level of EM coverage needed in each fishery to meet data needs.

31. In relation to paragraph 17b of this CMM, Members and CNCPs shall document and provide information on the methods used to ~~allocate~~ install EM systems and review EM records on fishing vessels flying their flag to meet EM coverage requirements, and shall also provide this information in their Annual Report to the SC. The SC shall review the method used by each Member or CNCP and provide recommendations for improvement when necessary.

32. Should the SC recommend that a change in coverage or research priorities for specific fisheries is needed, the revised EM coverage levels, if adopted by the Commission, will be specified in the relevant fishery CMMs.



## Accreditation

### EMP Accreditation Evaluator

33. The SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator is the public or private person or entity tasked by the Commission to assess and evaluate the applications for accreditation. The SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall have addressed any potential or actual conflict of interest in the course of delivering its service.
34. Applications for the accreditation of EM domestic programs may be submitted by Members or CNCPs. Subject to paragraphs 5152 and 5254 of this CMM, the evaluation of each EM domestic program or service provider shall only be undertaken by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator.
35. Subject to paragraphs 4544, 4645 and 4746 of this CMM, the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall evaluate the EM domestic programs, including service providers and review providers against the minimum requirements and standards set by the Commission in Annex 6 of this CMM.
36. The Secretariat shall ensure that the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator is required, through its service contract, to maintain the confidentiality of any information received by a Member, CNCP or service provider pursuant to this accreditation process.
37. A Decision of the Commission will designate a SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator no later than at its 16th annual meeting. The procedure for appointing the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator, as well as the terms and conditions of engagement, will be decided by the Commission by its 15th annual meeting.
38. The SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall be paid out of the Commission budget.

### Evaluation of EM Domestic Programs by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator

39. Consistent with Article 28(1) of the Convention, the SPRFMO EMP, including the accreditation process, shall be coordinated by the Secretariat and operated in accordance with the standards, rules and procedures detailed in this CMM.
40. Each Member, CNCP seeking to accredit its EM domestic program under the SPRFMO EMP shall submit to the Secretariat and the Accreditation Evaluator, at any time, all the relevant information and documentation to demonstrate the fulfillment of the standards provided for in this CMM, including VMPs, manuals, guides and training materials. All the information and documentation shall be provided in the official language of the Commission or with appropriate translations. The Secretariat may recommend that the Member or CNCP, service provider, or review provider complete the application when there is clear evidence that substantive or essential information is missing.
41. Members and CNCPs are encouraged to inform the Secretariat and the Accreditation Evaluator ~~a year in advance~~ as early as possible of their intention to pursue accreditation under the SPRFMO EMP and to commence the accreditation process at least six months prior to the date fixed for the opening of the next Commission meeting.
42. The Secretariat shall promptly provide the information and documentation referred to in paragraph ~~840~~ to the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator.



43. The SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall liaise with Members and CNCPs, as appropriate. Members and CNCPs and service providers shall have the opportunity to provide additional information and corrections relevant to their evaluation to the Secretariat and the EMP Accreditation Evaluator. This process will be conducted by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator in a fair, equitable, transparent and non-discriminatory manner.
44. Following evaluation and bilateral consultation, the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall provide a Draft Preliminary Evaluation Report to the Member or CNCP pursuing accreditation within 30 days for comment prior to the report being provided to the Secretariat. The SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall then incorporate any additional information and provide the Preliminary Evaluation Report simultaneously to both the Secretariat and the Member or CNCP, indicating whether the nominated EM domestic program has met the minimum standards for accreditation under the SPRFMO EMP.
45. When preparing a Preliminary Evaluation Report, and in addition to assessing the fulfilment of the standards indicated in Annex 6, the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall also consider those EM programs currently accredited by other RFMOs.
46. The SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall assess the consistency and compatibility between the SPRFMO Minimum standards for accreditation under Annex 6 and those required by other RFMOs, along with their practical implementation and functioning. The Member or CNCP shall provide to the Secretariat the name of the EM domestic program accredited by other RFMOs, the RFMO that has accredited it, and any other supporting information requested by the Accreditation Evaluator.
47. If the Accreditation Evaluator finds that the EM domestic program has accreditation under another RFMO or arrangement that meets the SPRFMO Minimum standards for accreditation under Annex 6, along with its practical implementation and functioning, it will find the application favourable.
48. The Accreditation Evaluator shall submit the Final Evaluation Report to the Secretariat no later than 60 days in advance of the Commission meeting at which it is to be considered. The Secretariat shall circulate the Final Evaluation Report as an annex to the SPRFMO Electronic Monitoring Program Implementation Report prior to the CTC meeting at which it is to be considered.
49. The CTC shall assess the Final Evaluation Report and make recommendations to the Commission regarding whether the EM domestic program has met the requirements of this CMM and, where relevant, whether a recommendation based on paragraphs 51 to 54 is appropriate.
50. The Commission shall decide whether to grant accreditation at its next meeting on the basis of the Final Evaluation Report and any recommendations from the CTC.
51. If the Final Evaluation Report by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator is favourable, the Commission may decide to adopt the report and grant accreditation under the SPRFMO EMP for 5 years from the date upon which accreditation is granted.
52. Should the Commission decide that, despite the favourable findings of the Final Evaluation Report by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator, the application does not meet the minimum standard required for accreditation (Annex 6), it may decide not to grant accreditation. In that case it shall clearly outline the basis for its decision.



53. If the Final Report by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator is not favourable, the Commission may decide to adopt the report and not grant accreditation.
54. Should the Commission decide that, despite the findings of the non-favourable Final Evaluation Report by the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator, the application meets the minimum standard required for accreditation (Annex 6), the Commission may decide to grant accreditation under any conditions as may be specified by the Commission. These conditions may include the accreditation of an EM domestic program on a temporary and conditional basis pending the fulfilment by that Member or CNCP of the deficiencies detected during the accreditation process.
55. In case an application for accreditation is not granted, nothing prevents a Member or CNCP from presenting a new application to seek accreditation. When reapplying for accreditation Members and CNCPs shall consider the findings and recommendations of the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator and the Commission.
56. Members and CNCPs shall be entitled to renew accreditation.
57. A Member may request that the Commission revoke, condition or suspend accreditation for an EM domestic program at any time, but not later than 30 days in advance of the next CTC meeting, by providing evidence that the EM domestic program is not meeting the minimum standards for accreditation. The Executive Secretary shall circulate the request for revocation, condition or suspension to Members as soon as possible but no later than 15 days after the request is received, and the SPRFMO EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall be asked to advise the CTC on the matter no later than 20 days after the request was circulated.
58. The CTC shall assess the request to revoke, condition or suspend an accreditation and the information provided at its next annual meeting, as well as any information provided by other Members, and may provide recommendations to the Commission. The Commission shall consider the CTC's recommendations and the request to revoke, suspend, or condition accreditation at its next annual meeting.
59. The Secretariat shall publicise the name of all EM domestic programs accredited under the SPRFMO EMP, together with relevant contact details, on the SPRFMO website and shall include a list of all EM domestic programs accredited under the SPRFMO EMP in the annual EMP Implementation Report described in paragraph 2725.

### **Entry into force**

- 25-60. Members and CNCPs may continue using their own ~~[approved but]~~ non-accredited EM domestic programs to generate data to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs until ~~{31 December 2030}~~ ~~31 September 2030}~~ ~~31 August 2029}~~ ~~30 September 2029}~~. From ~~{1 January 2031}~~ ~~21 September 2029}~~ ~~1 October 2029}~~ Members and CNCPs shall only utilize EM domestic programs accredited by SPRFMO to fulfill the data requirements of SPRFMO CMMs.



## ANNEX 1 - EMS terms and definitions

**Electronic Technologies (ET):** any electronic tool that is used to support fisheries-dependent data collection, both on shore and at sea, including electronic reporting (ER) and electronic monitoring (EM).

**Electronic Reporting (ER):** the use of electronic systems (application, software, form or file) to record, store, receive and transmit fisheries data.

~~Monitoring: the requirement for the continuous collection of fishery related data.~~

**Electronic Monitoring (EM):** the use of electronic devices to record a fishing vessel's activities using videocamera technology linked to a Global Position System (GPS) or its equivalent, and which may include sensors.

**Electronic Monitoring System (EMS):** the system comprising the vessel and shore-based components for collecting, transmitting and reviewing EM records, reporting of EM data and implementing an EM Program.

**EM Domestic Program:** a process administered by the competent authorities of a national Member or regional administration CNCP that regulates the use of EMS on vessels to collect and verify fisheries data and information responsible through an implementation of an EMS in a defined area and/or fishery.

**EM Program standards:** ~~the agreed~~ standards, specifications and procedures (~~SSP~~) governing the establishment and operation of an the SPRFMO EM Program, applicable to all components of the EMS.

~~EM data requirements: the agreed subset of data requirements by the SPRFMO Observer Program that can be collected via EMS as set out in this CMM.~~

**EM records:** Electronic data, including imagery and sensor, and positional data collected by EM equipment that can be reviewed to produce EM data.

**EM data:** processed/analysed data produced through review of EM records that conforms with the EM data standards.

**EM equipment:** a network of electronic cameras, sensors, and data storage devices installed on a vessel and used to record the vessel's fisheries-related activities.

~~Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP): The vessel's EM equipment characteristics and how the vessel's EM equipment is installed and configured to monitor fishing activities and meet the EM Program Standards and EM Data Requirements.~~

**EM review:** the review of EM records by EM ~~observers/~~reviewers to produce EM data.

**EM ~~observer/~~reviewer:** a person qualified to review EM records, store and produce EM data in accordance with the EM Data standards and analysis procedure, this CMM, including Annex 5, "Data Storage, Retention, Transmission, Retrieval, Review, and Reporting."

**EM review system:** application software used by the EM ~~observer/~~reviewer to review the EM records and produce the processed EM data as per the EM data standards.

~~EM review center: local, national, or regional office facility where EM records are received and reviewed to produce and store EM data.~~

**EM review provider:** a third-party provider of EM review services selected by the competent authorities of the Member or CNCP to review EM records to produce EM data. The same third-party organization can provide both the EM equipment and EM review services but they can also be supplied by different providers.

**EM installation coverage:** the proportion of vessels by fleet that has EM equipment installed that is operational.

**EM record coverage:** the proportion of fishing effort for which EM records are collected by installed EM equipment.



**EM coverage:** the proportion of fishing effort for which EM records are reviewed to produce EM data (e.g. proportion of fishing days).

**EM service provider:** a third-party provider of EM equipment (and/or system), technical and logistical services to maintain the EM equipment and monitor its proper functioning.

**Fishing Activitiesactivities:** any action related to the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish and other marine resources, including the preparatory steps and post-harvest handling.

~~Fishing activities: any action related to the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish and other marine resources, including the preparatory steps and post-harvest handling.~~

**Fishing trip:** a voyage by a fishing vessel, for the purpose of ~~catching, taking, or harvesting fish~~ fishing in the SPRFMO Convention Area, starting when the vessel departs from port, including all times that it is in the Convention Area and ending once it enters port.

**Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP):** A plan setting out the EM equipment characteristics of the fishing vessel, or a group of vessels, and how the vessel's the EM equipment is installed, maintained, and configured to monitor fishing activities and meet the requirements of this CMM.



## ANNEX 2 - Minimum technical requirements, performance standards, camera ~~view~~views of fishing activities under coverage by EMS, EM installation coverage, and recommended configurations for EM equipment for each vessel type

### EM equipment

1. The EM system and associated equipment used to meet the requirements of these standards must have sufficient specifications (e.g., image resolution, frame rate, user interface) to enable, and must be configured to:
  - a. continuously record and store vessel location (latitude/longitude coordinates), speed, course, and records from any sensors used to trigger image collection (e.g. hydraulic and winch activity) for the entire fishing trip;
  - b. ~~allow the identification of~~record the time, date, and location of all fishing activities, bycatch, or discard events;
  - c. record and store image records from all fishing activities;
  - d. ~~Allow the vessel operator to test and monitor the functionality of the EM system prior to and during the fishing trip to ensure it is fully functional;~~

The EM equipment shall be protected against onboard power outage, with a backup power system capable of operating ~~until the vessel power is restored (e.g., 30 minutes). It should also be capable of saving EM records collected when the vessel power is down for longer periods than the backup system was designed to withstand.~~ for at least 30 minutes.

2. Digital video is typically preferred for capturing information during the different phases of vessel activity, but still images can also serve as a viable option, especially due to limited storage capacity. An optimal configuration may involve a camera setting, using video for specific areas, cameras, or moments, while utilizing still photos for others.
3. EM records shall include, at a minimum, location, date, and time stamps, and to the extent possible, vessel ID, and integrate with other data collection and monitoring tools (e.g., sensors).
4. The onboard interface shall ~~include an on board screen, or equivalent interface, to~~ allow verification by the ~~skipper/master or crew~~ onof the correct functioning of the EM equipment.
5. The Member or CNCP shall require the EM provider ~~should~~to ensure that radio frequency interference from EM equipment with other on-board vessel communication, navigation, safety, geolocation devices or fishing equipment is prevented.

### Cameras



6. ~~Cameras shall be sufficient in number and quality to meet the data requirements of these standards, with high resolution images that allow the identification of species, specific fishing activities including bycatch, discards and the vessel's surroundings.~~ EM Equipment shall be tamper-evident/resistant and record automatic alerts which shall be transmitted to the appropriate Member or CNCP point of contact and EM provider in near real-time in cases of malfunctions, manual activation/shutdown, manual data input, external data manipulation, or attempts to tamper with the equipment or EM records. If these recorded automatic alerts cannot be sent in near real-time to the appropriate Member or CNCP point of contact and EM provider they shall be provided as soon as possible, along with other EM records at the end of the corresponding trip. It must also be possible for data recording to be controlled manually, but only in case the EM equipment fails to start or stop automatically, and any manual activation shall trigger an automatic alert. Manual shutdown shall not be permitted unless authorised by the Member or CNCP.
7. Onboard EM equipment components shall be sufficiently dust and water resistant and durable enough to operate reliably under the range of conditions expected in their location on vessels.

#### Cameras

8. ~~Cameras shall be sufficient in number and quality to allow the identification of species, specific fishing activities including bycatch, discards, and the vessel's surroundings.~~

~~9.9.~~ Cameras shall be capable of recording video and/or still images in Full High Definition (FHD), 1080p and 30 frame per second (FPS). The resolution, frame rate, and capture intervals set for individual cameras shall achieve the purpose of the individual camera in capturing records sufficient to generate the required data. For cameras used for species identification, video should be set at a minimum resolution of 720p, with a minimum frame rate of 5 FPS. Still images shall have a minimum capture interval of no more than 1 second and a resolution of no less than 2MP.

~~9.10.~~ Placement of cameras shall provide clear and unobstructed views of the areas that are being covered.

~~10.11.~~ On jigging vessels the cameras shall provide, at a minimum, a view of all hooked fauna, both those brought aboard the vessel and, when possible, those discarded or released without first bringing them on the vessel. Cameras shall also provide views of products entering post-production storage areas in order to facilitate counting of cases or other containers for catch estimation. Descriptions and diagrams of example camera locations for jigging vessels are provided in Table 1 and Figure 1.

~~11.12.~~ Required camera views for other vessel and gear types will be developed at such time as the Commission decides to allow the use of EM to fulfill data requirements for those vessel and gear types.

~~12.13.~~ Cameras should be able to record activities in low and very bright natural light conditions (low and high contrasts). Nocturnal fishing activities involving species captured should be illuminated with sufficient lighting, and image quality should be tested to ensure there is not excessive glare.



### Sensors

~~13.14.~~ EM equipment may also include sensors for recording non-visual data (e.g., vessel movement, hydraulic pressure, environmental information), and also possibly mechanisms for activating/disactivating cameras so as to focus visual data collection during activities of interest.

~~14.15.~~ A GPS sensor or equivalent shall be capable of automatically recording the position and, unless the EM equipment uses cameras that will record continuously, the speed and course of the vessel.

### Data storage

~~15.16.~~ EM equipment shall include sufficient capacity to store all required EM records, including images, GPS (or equivalent) records, position, date, time, vessel name and sensor information where applicable at a minimum, for the duration of a fishing trip.

~~16.17.~~ Vessels shall have onboard enough blank data storage devices (preferably solid-state drives) in case these must be replaced at sea. A specially trained crew member may need to replace the devices during a fishing trip if the data storage capacity is exhausted, always in coordination with the EM service provider.

~~17.18.~~ EM equipment should include separate duplicate backup devices, to ensure that data are not lost if one device fails.

### Compatibility

~~18.19.~~ EM data shall be submitted to SPRFMO in a format compatible with SPRFMO databases and IT resources (e.g., data structure, units, species ID/other fishing activity codes, etc.). Recorded imagery should be recorded in a widely used and accessible video or image file format, such as MP4 or JPEG.

~~19.20.~~ All EM Records generated by the EM system shall be compatible with EM analysis software being used by the EM Review Center where EM Records will be sent to generate EM data.

### EM equipment maintenance

~~20.21.~~ At sea, all maintenance, repairs and replacement activities of EM equipment shall be conducted by a designated trained vessel crew member(s), only in coordination and when instructed to do so remotely by the EM service provider.

~~21.22.~~ On land, all maintenance, repairs and replacement activities of EM equipment shall be conducted by a technician in coordination with EM service provider.

~~22.23.~~ Each vessel shall have a designated crew member responsible for routine camera lens cleansing, per a specific protocol, to ensure the clarity of EM records. Appropriate cleaning materials must be used to avoid lens damage and should always be available onboard.

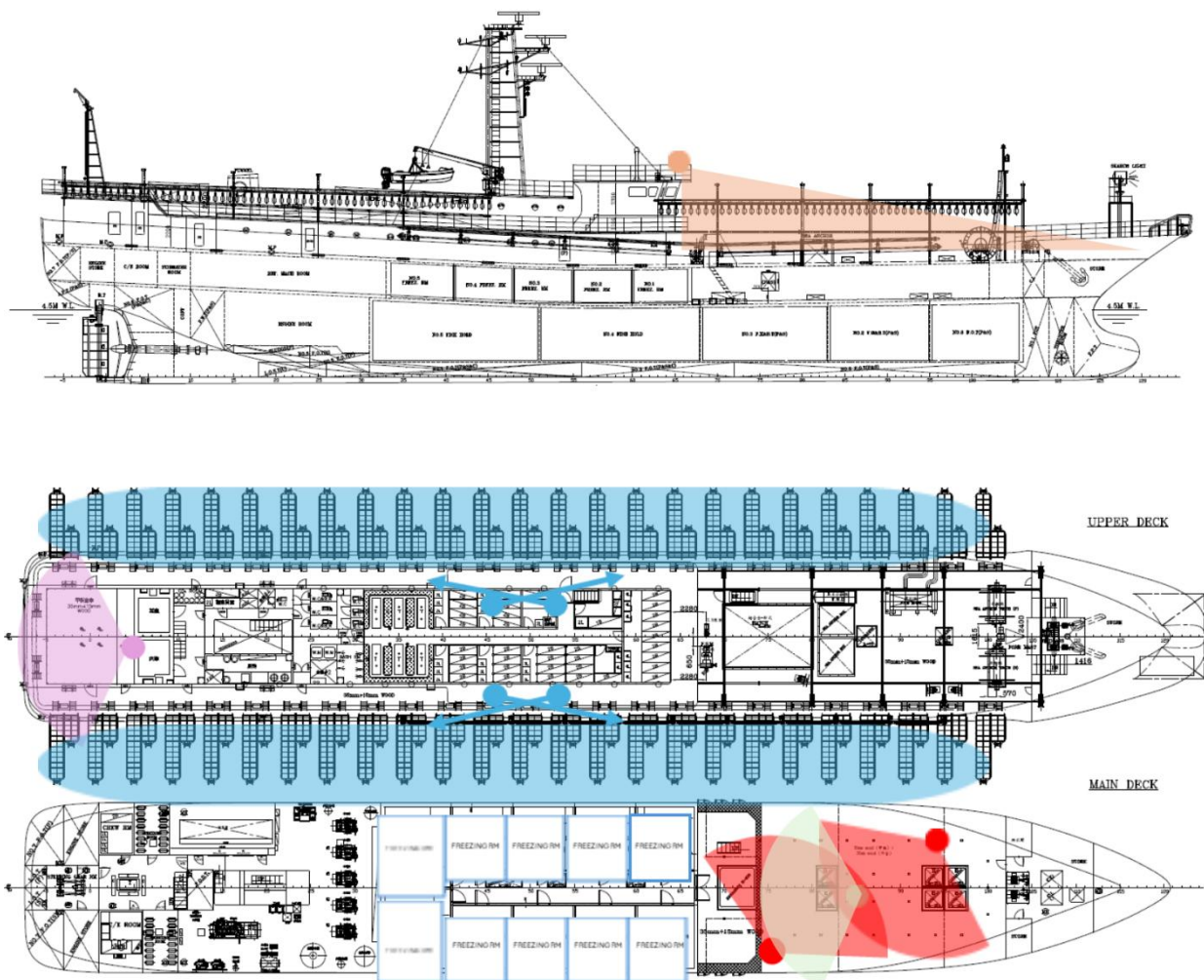


TABLE 1. An example for the location of cameras on jigging vessels:

- One camera (e.g., 105°) on bridge roof, covering the forward upper deck, starboard and port areas, and part of the bow, thereby providing an additional view of fishing activities.
- One camera (e.g., 105°) at the stern of upper deck, covering fishing activities. (Optional, if jiggers are located at the stern)
- Two cameras (e.g., 105°) or 1 camera (e.g., 180°) located at the port side of upper deck, covering fishing activities.
- Two cameras (e.g., 105°) or 1 camera (e.g., 180°) located at the starboard side of upper deck, covering fishing activities.
- Three cameras (e.g., 105°) on the work deck: two cameras cover the catch handling process, and one camera covers the entrance to the freezing rooms and fish holds.

Example locations for other vessel types will be developed at such time as the Commission decides to allow the use of EM to fulfil data requirements for those vessel types.

Figure 1. Example of camera placement for jigging vessels:



ANNEX 3 - Minimum data requirements forby vessel type



Taking into account CMM 02-2025 Annex 8.

**Table 1:** Vessel Data to be Collected via EM for Each Trip. Vessel data must be reported in a way that links the vessel data to data required in Tables 2, 3, 4 5, 6, and 7.

| The following vessel data are to be collected for each observed trip: | Comments:   |
|---|-------------|
| Trip ID;  | As metadata |
| SPRFMO ROV Unique ID;   | As metadata |
| Current vessel flag;  | As metadata |
| Name of vessel;   | As metadata |
| <del>UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier) / Lloyd's /</del> IMO number;     | As metadata |

**Table 2:** Catch & Effort Data to be Collected Daily for Jigging Fishing Activity

| The following data are to be collected for each observed day of squid jig effort: | Comments    |
|---|-------------|
| Trip ID;  | As metadata |
| SPRFMO ROV Unique ID;   | As metadata |
| Current vessel flag;  | As metadata |
| Name of vessel;   | As metadata |
| <del>UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier) / Lloyd's /</del> IMO number;                 | As metadata |
| Fishing start date and time (UTC);  |             |
| Fishing end date and time (UTC);  |             |
| Position at start of drift (1/10th degree - decimal) latitude and longitude;      |             |
| Position at end of drift (1/10th degree - decimal) latitude and longitude;        |             |
| Number of hand jig lines;   |             |
| Number of single jig machines;  |             |



|  |  |
|--|--|
| Number of double jig machines;   |  |
| Number of jigs per line;   | <del>{Not required to be collected via EM, but required to be included in submitted data.}</del>                     |
| Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg);   | <del>{May estimate by counting cases or other containers of known weight moved into storage/processing areas.}</del> |
| <del>{Estimated catch of all species (FAO species code) discarded, split by species, <u>including all benthic taxa, in number of individuals, and</u> in live weight <u>when feasible</u> (to the nearest kg)}<del>{in number of individuals}, including all benthic taxa;};</del></del> |  |
| If any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern were caught, report as per requirements described in Table 6.  |  |

**Table 3:** Catch & Effort Data to be Collected via EM for Trawl Fishing Activity

Minimum data fields for trawl fishing activity will be developed at such time as the Commission decides to allow the use of EM to fulfill data requirements for that activity.

**Table 4:** Catch & Effort Data to be Collected via EM for Purse Seine Fishing Activity

Minimum data fields for purse seine fishing activity will be developed at such time as the Commission decides to allow the use of EM to fulfill data requirements for that activity.

**Table 5:** Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Bottom Long Line Fishing Activity

Minimum data fields for bottom long line fishing activity will be developed at such time as the Commission decides to allow the use of EM to fulfill data requirements for that activity.

**Table 6:** Data to be Collected on Incidental Captures of seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles) and other species of concern

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>The following data are to be collected for all seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles) and other species of concern caught in fishing operations:</b> | <b>Comments:</b> |
|--|------------------|



|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Trip ID   | As metadata |
| SPRFMO ROV Unique ID;   | As metadata |
| Current vessel flag;  | As metadata |
| Name of vessel;   | As metadata |
| <del>UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier)</del><br><del>/Lloyd's/</del> IMO number;   | As metadata |
| Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible, or accompanied by photographs if identification is difficult) <del>and [estimated], when feasible, size</del> ; |             |
| Count of the number of each species caught per tow or set, or in the case of jigging, per drift;  |             |
| Fate of bycaught animal(s) (retained or released/discarded);  |             |
| If released, life status (vigorous, alive, lethargic, dead) at time of release;   |             |
| Record the type of interaction (hook/line entanglement/warp strike/net capture/other).  |             |
| Record sex of each individual for taxa where this is feasible from external observation, e.g. pinnipeds, small cetaceans or elasmobranchii species of concern.        |             |
| <del>When feasible, r</del> Record the length of each individual (cm), with   |             |



|   |  |
|---|--|
| record of the type of length measurement used. Measurement precision and type should be determined on a species-by-species basis. † |  |
| Record the life-history stage of each individual where this is feasible (i.e., juvenile/adult).                                     |  |

**Table 7:** Detection of Fishing in Association with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems

Minimum data fields for detection of fishing in association with vulnerable marine ecosystems may be developed at such time as the Commission decides to allow the use of EM to fulfil data requirements for fishing activities that occur in association with vulnerable marine ecosystems.



## ANNEX 4 - Description of the EM Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP)

The VMP shall meet the following ~~conditions~~ requirements:

- ~~1. The VMP Members and CNCPs shall be developed~~ develop a VMP for each vessel ~~or group of vessels~~ on which EM equipment is to be installed. ~~Members and shall be delivered to CNCPs may use the flag Member or CNCP competent authorities.~~
1. ~~The same~~ VMP shall be developed in collaboration with the EM service provider, for similar vessel ~~owner and relevant Member or CNCP fishing authorities.~~ types that share the same EM system configuration
2. ~~A~~ Members and CNCPs shall ensure that a survey of each vessel or example vessel for a group of ~~vessels~~ similar vessel types intended for EM equipment installation ~~shall be is~~ conducted ~~by either the EM provider or flag Member or CNCP fishing authorities.~~ During this survey, the following aspects ~~will~~ shall be ~~considered~~ take into account in the development of the VMP, aimed at ensuring that the system meets the minimum data collection requirements outlined in Annex 2:
  - a. Camera placement and settings.
  - b. Number of cameras to be installed to ensure optimization of the view of the catch-handling area.
  - c. Key areas to be surveyed are catch handling areas for species identification and storage of the individual and areas of discards or release.
3. The minimum sections to be contained in a VMP shall include:
  - a. Contact information: current contact information for the vessel owner, vessel operator and EM service provider as long as the contract lasts.
  - b. General vessel information: basic information about the vessel and its fishing activities and operations (e.g., vessel name, ~~registration~~ IMO number, target fishery, fishing areas, fishing gear, LOA, etc.).
  - c. Fishing gear type and configuration:
  - d. Vessel layout: equipment of the vessel with detailed information, plan of the vessel disposition and different areas (deck, processing, storage -including number of wells, etc.).
  - e. EM equipment set up: description of the settings of the EM equipment, such as time running, number of cameras, settings of the cameras (frame rate and resolution), and areas covered, time recording for each of the cameras, number of sensors, where applicable, software used, control box disposition, etc.
  - f. Catch and discard handling procedures: description of the crew and their operations, including protocols for handling both targeted and incidental catches and discards that facilitate or allow for EM record collection.
  - g. An example view from each required camera view.
4. ~~Any~~ Members and CNCPs shall require that vessel owners report any physical changes to the vessel, modifications in vessel categorization (fleet segmentation), or adjustments to the catch handling deck, including those ~~result~~ resulting in the vessel no longer belonging to its original group, ~~should be reported~~ to the Flag appropriate flag Member or CNCP authorities. Subsequently, the Member or CNCP shall ensure that the VMP ~~should be is~~ updated



accordingly before the commencement of the next fishing trip.

5. The VMP shall be signed off by the vessel owner and approved by the Member or CNCP competent authority ~~or its designated institutions.~~
6. The EM equipment shall not compromise vessel stability, posing risks to vessel operations, crew safety, or the environment. Additionally, it shall not hinder the vessel's safe navigation.
7. An example template of a VMP is presented below. Members and CNCPs may choose another format of a VMP ~~as long as~~ provided it contains the minimum requirements described in paragraph 4 of this annex.



### Example EM Vessel Monitoring Plan Part A

(Should be provided by the vessel owner to the competent authority of flag Member or CNCP ~~or~~ *its designated institutions*)

#### 1. Information provided by the owner of the vessel

|   |  |                            |  |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| External registration:                              |  | Main fishery(es):          |  |
| Vessel name:  |  | Gear type(s):              |  |
| SPRFMO <del>_____ vessel</del><br>register/IMO No.: |  | Crew size:                 |  |
| IRCS:   |  | May carry an observer:     |  |
| Port base:  |  | Owner(s) representative:   |  |
| Vessel length (m):                                  |  | Phone No.:                 |  |
| Vessel type:  |  | Email:                     |  |
| Net length (fathoms):                               |  | Mainline length (fathoms): |  |
| Net depth (strips):                                 |  | Hook type:                 |  |
| Brail capacity (mt):                                |  | Branch line material:      |  |

#### 2. Description of the crew fish handling and any other useful details

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

#### 3. If available, copy or image of the vessel general arrangement plan

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|



4. General layout and handling (not necessarily to scale)

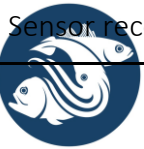
|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

5. General remarks

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

**Part B**

- (Responsibility of the flag Member or CNCP competent authority and to be validated by the flag Member or CNCP competent authority)*
1. Vessel image
  2. EM equipment configuration
    - a. System Operation – General Description

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
|  Sensor recording, where applicable: | Description of the settings: |
|  |                              |
|  |                              |
| Video recording:   | Description of the settings: |
|  |                              |
|  |                              |
|  |                              |
|  |                              |

b. System Components Location

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Control box:                                      | User Interface: |
| <i>Image of location of the control box</i>       |                 |
| GPS or equivalent:                                | GPS details:    |
| <i>Image of location of the GPS or equivalent</i> |                 |



|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Drum Rotation Sensor:                     | Drum Rotation Sensor details: |
|   |                               |
|   |                               |
| <i>Image of location of drum sensor</i>   |                               |
|   |                               |
|   |                               |
| Hydraulic Pressure Sensor (HPS):          | HPS details:                  |
|   |                               |
|   |                               |
| <i>Image of location of the HPS</i>       |                               |
|   |                               |
|   |                               |
| Sensor XX:                                | XX Sensor details:            |
|   |                               |
|   |                               |
| <i>Image of location of the XX Sensor</i> |                               |



|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
|   |                    |
|   |                    |
| Sensor XX:                                | XX Sensor details: |
|   |                    |
|   |                    |
| <i>Image of location of the XX Sensor</i> |                    |
|   |                    |
|   |                    |

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Sensor XX:                                | XX Sensor details: |
|   |                    |
|   |                    |
| <i>Image of location of the XX Sensor</i> |                    |
|   |                    |
|   |                    |
| Sensor XX:                                | XX Sensor details: |
|   |                    |
|   |                    |



|   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Image of location of the XX Sensor</i> |  |
|   |  |
|   |  |

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Camera 1 - Deck Camera                  |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera 1</i>    | View and Objectives: |
| <i>mage of Location of deck camera</i>  | Camera settings:     |
| Camera 2 - Retain/General View Camera   |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera 2</i>    | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image Retain/General View Camera</i> | Camera settings:     |
| Camera 3 - Sorting Belt Camera          |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera 3</i>    | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image Sorting Belt Camera</i>        | Camera settings:     |

|                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Camera 4 - Discard Camera            |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera 4</i> | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image Discard Camera</i>          | Camera settings:     |



|                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Camera XX - XX Camera                 |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera XX</i> | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image of XX Camera</i>             | Camera settings:     |
| Camera XX - XX Camera                 |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera XX</i> | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image of XX Camera</i>             | Camera settings:     |
| Camera XX - XX Camera                 |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera XX</i> | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image of XX Camera</i>             | Camera settings:     |
| Camera XX - XX Camera                 |                      |
| <i>Image of Location of Camera XX</i> | View and Objectives: |
| <i>Image of XX Camera</i>             | Camera settings:     |

|                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Control Box Setting Summary:     | Camera Setting summary: |
| <i>Main configuration screen</i> |                         |
|                                  |                         |



|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |

Sorting Area Measurement Details:

**Part C**

*(To be completed by the EM service provider)*

1. EM User Guide
  - a. Description on how to retrieve memory devices
  - b. Description on how to power up the system
  - c. Description on how to do a function test
2. Vessel-specific handling protocols

Description of any special protocols that may apply to the vessel referred in the VMP.

- a. Description and diagrams of control points with specific procedures carried out. For each area description, there must be a protocol on how to ensure the catch remains in camera view.

**Part D**

*(To be completed by the EM service provider)*

List of EMS service providers contact information:

| Name and Last Name | Phone | Email | Office address |
|--------------------|-------|-------|----------------|
|                    |       |       |                |
|                    |       |       |                |



|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Part E**

*(To be completed by the vessel owner and the EM service provider)*

This part should certify that the vessel owner/operators have been trained in and understand the function and operation on the EMS installed on the vessel, and that the operator agrees to comply to the VMP.

| <u>Vessel owner/operator</u> | <u>EM service provider</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Full name:                   | Full name:                 |
| Signature:                   | Signature:                 |
| Date and time:               | Date and time:             |



## ANNEX 5 - Data Storage, Retention, Transmission, Retrieval, Review, and Reporting

### Data transfer

1. The vessel flag Member or CNCP authority shall allow for the recovery and secure transmission of EM Records at the end of each trip.
2. A detailed protocol on how to retrieve the data from the vessel to the authorities or to the EM review center should be established ~~and agreed on in the VMP by both the vessel owners and the vessel authority.~~ in the VMP.
3. When EM records are transmitted (via WI-FI, mobile data network or satellite, or hard disk delivery), the transmission of the data should be done at the end of the fishing trip where possible. If not possible the data shall be securely stored and transmitted without delay/at the earliest opportunity.
4. Irrespective of the data transfer method used for EM records, and according to the recommendation in Annex 2, the transmission should ensure the information is properly encrypted. Also, an encrypted storage device containing the same EM record information should remain on board as backup. The deletion of records from the vessel's backup devices should only occur once the EM records have been converted to EM data at the EM review center.

### Data review

5. EM data shall be generated by the program that monitored that trip. Provided that standard protocols and procedures are followed, Members or CNCPs may choose whether to contract the work out through a commercial EM review service provider, authorized contractor, or do it themselves.
6. EM equipment should include separate backup devices, to ensure that data are not lost if one device fails.

### EM data storage and retention

7. All information regarding fishing operations of the vessel shall be treated as confidential by SPRFMO and subject to SPRFMO confidentiality rules.
8. Procedures for where, how, and how long the EM records will be stored after EM analysis should be specified by the flag Member or CNCP. Storage decisions should be based on the EM domestic program's goals and the staff who will need to access monitoring records, at what frequency, and for what purpose. EM records and associated EM data **MUST** be retained in accordance with any SPRFMO audit requirements.

### Data analysis and reporting standards

#### Training

9. The Member or CNCP should design and organize training courses for EM analysts, with input from the SPRFMO Secretariat, EM service providers and other experts, where



necessary.

10. EM analyses shall only be conducted by qualified EM analysts, ideally possessing some experience in fishing activities, with skills on how to use the dedicated analysis software and observe and accurately record data to be collected under the program. EM analysts shall not be employees of a fishing vessel company involved in the observed fishery or have other direct conflicts of interest.

#### *Automation*

11. When feasible, make EM data generation automatic and user-friendly to expedite EM analysis and directly include information in EM data or reports.
12. EM records subject to EM analysis shall contain at least: the trip ID; SPRFMO ROV Unique ID; current vessel flag; name of vessel; UVI (Unique Vessel Identifier) / Lloyd's / IMO number; camera number; geolocation data (date, time (UTC) latitude and longitude); sensor data where applicable; camera recording status and EM equipment system status, where available; and images.

#### *Data quality*

13. The EM analysis should involve dedicated software, which shall permit the analysis of all the stored data, images, and sensor data where applicable, in a synchronized way. Members or CNCPs shall ensure that data analysis procedures ensure traceability and effective analysis of data and routines to flag potential errors, and digital measuring tools.
14. The EM analysis software shall allow reporting the mandatory minimum data fields requirements established in Tables 1 - 6 of Annex 3 (Areas of fishing activities under coverage by EMS and minimum data requirements for vessel type). It may also allow reporting of the voluntary data fields.

#### *[Conversion factors]*

- ~~15. [Standardized species specific length weight and weight number conversion factors, based on peer reviewed research results and/or empirical data, should be developed by the SPRFMO Secretariat, endorsed by the SC and adopted by the Commission, and updated as necessary.]~~

#### *Format*

- ~~16.~~ 15. Standard formats applicable to human observers reporting should be used for generating EM data fields (e.g., dates as DDMMYY, latitude and longitude in decimal units, speeds in knots, weights in kg, lengths in centimeters) and creating resulting EM data files (Microsoft Excel format, JavaScript Object Notation (JSON), or in such other machine-readable format as the Secretariat may prescribe following consultation with the Scientific Committee).

#### *Reporting procedure*

- ~~17.~~ 16. EM data may be submitted via a dedicated cloud-based portal which may be



developed by the SPRFMO Secretariat, or other appropriate means. The portal should be as user-friendly and automated as possible, and include quality control procedures (e.g., format checking, error flagging), as well as automatic reminders for the timely submission of EM data.



## ANNEX 6 - Minimum Standards for Accreditation Under the SPRFMO EMP

This Annex contains the Commission's minimum standards for accreditation under the SPRFMO OP. In accordance with paragraphs 44 and 48 of this CMM, the EMP Accreditation Evaluator shall assess and decide all applications against these standards.

### Impartiality, Independence and Integrity

1. EM domestic programs and EM service and review providers shall ensure independence and impartiality of all relevant staff, including individual EM reviewers. This means that neither the EM domestic program, or the review or service provider, or any individual they employ, has a direct financial interest, ownership or business links with vessels, processors, agents and retailers involved in the catching, taking, harvesting, transporting, processing or selling of fish or fish products.
2. The EM domestic program, EM service and review providers, and the individual EM reviewers:
  - a) Shall not have a direct financial interest, other than the provision of EM review or EM equipment-related services, in the fisheries under the purview of the Commission, including, but not limited to: i) any ownership, mortgage holder, or other secured interest in a vessel or processor involved in the catching, taking, harvesting or processing of fish; ii) any business selling supplies or services to any vessel or processor in the fishery; iii) any business purchasing raw or processed products from any vessel or processor in the fishery;
  - b) Shall not solicit or accept, directly or indirectly, any gratuity, gift, favour, entertainment, inordinate accommodation, loan or anything of monetary value from anyone who either conducts activities that are regulated by a Member or CNCP connected with its services or the Commission, or has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or non-performance of the observer's official duties;
  - c) Shall not serve as an observer on any vessel or at any processors owned or operated by a person who previously employed the observer in another capacity within the last three years (e.g., as a crew member); and,
  - d) Shall not solicit or accept employment as a crew member or an employee of a vessel or processor while employed by an EM domestic program or service or review provider.

### EM Reviewer Qualifications

3. The qualification of individual EM reviewers is the responsibility of EM domestic programs or service providers. The EM domestic program or service provider shall demonstrate that EM reviewers that are recruited into their program have relevant education or technical training and/or experience for the fleets concerned; ability to meet the EM reviewer duties described in this annex; no record of convictions calling into question the integrity of the EM reviewer.



### EM Reviewer Training

4. EM domestic programs shall demonstrate that EM reviewers are adequately trained before they review EM records, or store and produce EM data. Training shall cover all topics necessary to generate data as required under Annex 3, including, inter alia, the following:
- a) The relationship between fisheries science and fisheries management and the importance of data collection in this context;
  - b) The relevant provisions of the Convention and SPRFMO CMMs relevant to the functions and duties of observers;
  - c) Use of video footage for species identification and record of species encountered at sea, including target and non-target species, protected species, seabirds, marine mammals, sea turtles, invertebrates indicating vulnerable marine ecosystems, et cetera;
  - d) Estimating length, weight, sex, life-history stage where this is feasible (i.e., juvenile/adult), life status (vigorous, alive, lethargic, dead) at time of release, type of interaction (hook/line entanglement/warp strike/net capture/other), from video footage as required, along with recording when a fish cannot be identified;
  - e) Training on the specific video review software and handling of large data sets;
  - f) Auditing and Quality Control: Reviewers are trained to evaluate video quality and system performance, ensuring that the data collected is reliable;
  - g) Knowledge of the different types and functioning of bycatch mitigation devices required by SPRFMO CMMs;
  - h) Safe handling protocols to rehabilitate and release seabirds, marine mammals and sea turtles;
  - i) Fishing vessel and fishing gear types relevant to SPRFMO;
  - j) Techniques and procedures for estimating catch and species composition;
  - k) Data collection codes and data collection formats;
5. Refresher training should be ongoing dependent on the qualification requirements. Relevant updates to CMMs and EMP requirements should be communicated to observers before each deployment as part of the briefing process, for example in an updated manual.

### EM Reviewer Trainers

6. EM domestic programs or service providers shall demonstrate that EM reviewer trainers have the appropriate skills and have been authorised by that EM domestic program to train EM reviewers.

### EM Equipment

7. EM domestic programs shall demonstrate that EM equipment is installed and operated in accordance with this CMM, including paragraphs 8 and 9 and Annex 2.



### Vessel Monitoring Plans

8. EM domestic programs shall demonstrate that VMPs are developed and deployed in accordance with this CMM, including paragraphs 13, 14, 16c, 16d, 19a, and Annex 4.

### EM Data and Data Validation Process

- 8.9. EM domestic programs shall demonstrate that EM data produced through review of EM records conforms with the required data fields in Annex 3, and that the data storage and retention, data transmission or and retrieval, and data review and reporting are conducted in accordance with paragraphs 17c, 17d, and Annex 5.

10. EM domestic programs or service providers shall demonstrate that they have an EM data validation process in place. The data validation process shall be conducted by properly trained personnel and shall ensure that data and information generated from EM records are checked for discrepancies or inaccuracies that are corrected before the information is entered into a database or used for analysis. This includes ensuring that the EM domestic program or EM review provider has in place a mechanism to receive EM records, EM data, and any other relevant information generated by EM systems in such a way that prevents interference in that data from other sources. The accreditation evaluator may ~~decide to~~ audit EM systems and EM records in order to conduct its evaluation. The data validation process shall ensure that the data meet the following standards:

- a) A mechanism that allows scientific data to be stored and transferred to the EM domestic program (or EM review provider) in a secure and confidential manner.
- b) Vessel information uniquely identifies the actual vessel from which the fishing occurred;
- c) Dates and times of fishing effort are included and internally consistent (for example an end time should be after a start time);
- d) Location of fishing is included and valid (for example, logical latitude/longitude combinations), internally consistent and entered in the correct units;
- e) Effort data allows quantification of the amount of effort invested by the vessel, appropriate to the fishing method used, which is also identified;
- f) Catch information identifies the fishery resource (to the species level where possible) and the quantity of that species retained or discarded. If used, species codes are accurate;
- g) Where biological or length information is collected for a fish, it is directly linked to the effort in which it was caught – including date and time, location, and fishing method information, and includes the methodology of data collection;
- h) If the EM domestic program extends to transshipment and/or landings, then the amount and species of fishery resources transhipped/landed is quantified and recorded according to a standard methodology;
- i) Interaction data involving marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and/or other species of concern identifies the individual species (where possible), the number of animals, fate (retained or released/discarded), life status if released (vigorous, alive, lethargic, dead), and the type of interaction (hook/line entanglement/warpstrike/net capture/other).





---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report

### ANNEX 8a PR2 Recommendations Implementation Plan

*(COMM14-Doc09.1\_rev2)*



SPRFMO Performance Review Recommendations (on screen for comment)

| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |
|----|---|---|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 1  | <p>The Review Panel recommends facilitating an annual strategic discussion aimed at producing a Statement of Intent that outlines where the Commission wants to be in 5 to 10 years and signals how it intends to get there. This should include how the Commission plans to address emerging issues such as climate change and BBNJ, among others.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-part</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>Low</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>While the IWG noted the benefit of a Statement of Intent, the IWG were mindful of not creating another process and agreed that this is a low priority and aspirational, noting the other priorities the Commission has on hand.</p> <p>The IWG noted that instead of a statement of intent, discussions around strategic planning could feed into the 3-year workplans for subsidiary bodies and the Commission, or the Business Plan.</p> <p>Regarding addressing emerging issues such as climate change and BBNJ etc, the IWG suggested that this could be captured in other business or as standing agenda items.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                                   | LOW      | COMM            |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |   |  |  |  |  |   |             |                           |           |   |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|---|-------------|---------------------------|-----------|---|
| 2  | <p>The Review Panel recommends the development of a Business Plan with a three-year planning horizon and an associated budget. The first Business Plan should include a review and enhancement of the Headquarters Agreement with the New Zealand Government.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part (agreement to Business Plan with three-year planning horizon, no consensus on review and HQA update).</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>Business Plan - High<br/>HQA - Low</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG noted the comments from the IWG Meeting 1 and 2. As a first step, the Commission will need to agree to this recommendation and an indicative timeline for this work.</p> <p>The IWG also noted that there should be opportunity for Members to comment on a draft Business Plan.</p> <p>The IWG noted that Commission guidance is needed on whether this is developed internally by the Secretariat with Members feedback or independently), noting that the IWG raised the need to minimise procedural work. Either option would ultimately need to be considered in view of budgeting and resourcing.</p> | <p>SC has started thinking about how its workplan can be translated into a three-year planning horizon including consideration of resources.</p> | <p>CTC noted the priority for developing the CTC workplan as the primary mechanism for supporting broader Commission business planning and implementation.</p> | <p>FAC noted the priority for developing the FAC workplan as a key mechanism for supporting broader Commission business planning and implementation.</p> | <p>Agree in part</p>                            | <p>HIGH</p> | <p>COMM, FAC, CTC, SC</p> |           | <p>COMM14 noted the interconnected nature of many of the PR2 recommendations and the need to ensure that the development of a revised planning framework does not result in duplicative/redundant documents. This will be considered in the development of the Implementation Plan.</p> |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation   | FAC Recommendation   | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority    | Relevant bodies           | Timeframe | Notes   |



|    |  |  |   |   |   |   |          |                    |           |       |
|----|--|--|---|---|---|---|----------|--------------------|-----------|-------|
| 3  | <p>The Review Panel recommends that the Commission improve its direction to subsidiary bodies, the Data Working Group, and the Secretariat by approving their work plans/programmes through the proposed integrated business plan, with a three-year planning horizon and associated budget/funding model. Commission oversight can be strengthened by assessing the performance of the subsidiary bodies and Secretariat against their components of the proposed Business Plan. This would involve developing a Workplan for the CTC and FAC, improving the approach to the SC Multiannual Work Plan, and developing an Operational Plan for the Secretariat, as well as an Information Management Strategy and associated Data Management Plan.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)? IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>         Separate workplans for subsidiaries– in-full - <u>Medium</u><br/>         Improving the approach to SC Multiannual Work Plan – in-full – <u>Medium</u><br/>         Development of a Secretariat Operational Plan – In-full <u>Medium</u><br/>         Development of an IMS and DMP – In-full (comments in recommendation 7) <u>High</u><br/> <b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>         The IWG noted Commission guidance is needed on:<br/>         1. Does the Commission agree with the development of separate workplans/programmes for SC, CTC and FAC?<br/>         2. Does the Commission agree with the comments to improve the approach to the SC Work Plan? Noting the IWG identified scope for improvement, particularly on timeframes, milestones, deliverables and resources needed.<br/>         3. Does the Commission agree with the development of a Secretariat Operational Plan? Noting that there is benefit here for the Secretariat internally and an opportunity for Members to give guidance on how to improve internal processes.<br/>         The IWG also noted that the focus should be on keeping it fit for purpose, targeted and not to overengineer the process, while ensuring the Secretariat Operational Plan is aligned with other documents.</p> | <p>Flexibility is important within the 3 year workplan.<br/><br/>         SC would welcome prioritisation from Commission</p> | <p>CTC will consider and develop its workplan. CTC will focus on addressing key compliance and technical-related work, addressing compliance risks and providing advice on technical matters.<br/><br/>         CTC noted the importance of including Secretariat capacity as a key consideration in the development of the CTC workplan. This will ensure that any identified activities in the plan can be adequately supported by the Secretariat upon consideration of available resources.<br/><br/>         CTC noted the importance of simplifying and streamlining CTC’s work and reducing administrative burden to support more effective management of SPRFMO fisheries.<br/><br/>         CTC noted that in future, the Secretariat Operational Plan will provide a useful mechanism for implementing the CTC (and other subsidiary body) workplans.</p> | <p>FAC will consider and develop its workplan.<br/><br/>         FAC noted the importance of including Secretariat capacity as a key consideration in the development of the FAC workplan.<br/><br/>         FAC noted that in future, the Secretariat Operational Plan will provide a useful mechanism for implementing the FAC (and other subsidiary body) workplans.</p> | Agree   | HIGH     | COMM, FAC, CTC, SC |           |       |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation   | CTC Recommendation  | FAC Recommendation  | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies    | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |   |                   |                    |                    |   |          |                 |           |   |
|----|--|---|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|---|
| 4  | <p>Recruit a competent Executive Secretary with proven leadership, executive management, organisational development, and results-oriented skills that can drive the necessary internal reforms to improve the Secretariat’s operational performance and support the Commission’s strategic objectives. An understanding of the strategic importance of information management systems would also be an advantage to the organisation. The Executive Secretary should be provided with a performance agreement linked to Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the approved Business Plan.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)</b><br/>In-full<br/><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High<br/><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted the decision made at COMM13 on the staff regulations to meet this recommendation.<br/>The IWG supported the adoption of performance reviews to maintain accountability, but noted the need to avoid applying multiple processes or lines of governance.<br/>Note that in other RFMOs like in SIOFA, an annual performance evaluation form has been agreed and developed to assess Secretariat staff performance. Commission guidance is needed on whether they agree with this recommendation (including priority level) and the development of a performance evaluation doc, or if an evaluation document is covered under the COMM13 staff regulations decision.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | N/A                | Agree   | HIGH     | COMM            |           | <p>COMM14 noted that a new Executive Secretary was appointed by COMM13. The priority for future work related to this recommendation pertains to the need to ensure an effective performance management framework for the Executive Secretary.</p> |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes   |



|    |   |   |                   |                    |  |   |          |                 |           |       |
|----|---|---|-------------------|--------------------|--|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 5  | Carry out an independent review of the Headquarters Agreement to ensure it is fit for purpose | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part (agree in principle that changes are needed to support Secretariat staff but not agree to an independent review of the HQA.</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>Low</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG reaffirmed the comments in Meeting 2, that commissioning an independent review of the HQA would have significant budget considerations and could take a few years for a review, agree HQA changes and implementation.</p> <p>In saying this, the IWG agreed that improvements are needed to better support the Secretariat functions and Staff Members.</p> <p>The Commission to provide guidance on whether they agree with commissioning an independent review. If agree, then this would need to be factored into the budget by FAC for consideration at next COMM. If disagree, then the Commission's guidance on whether the objective of supporting Secretariat staff can be achieved through other alternatives such as a review/update of the Staff Regulations and Financial Regulations, which might be a more swift and reactive way to resolve any immediate issues.</p> <p>The IWG noted that a member would likely need to volunteer to submit a proposal for consideration at next COMM.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | <p>FAC notes that commissioning an independent review of the Headquarters Agreement would have significant cost and resource implications and would likely be a multi-year process.</p> <p>FAC noted it could provide advice on specific issues/questions that warrant review and could provide advice on targeted fixes to identified issues such as recommended amendments to the Staff/Financial Regulations.</p> | Agree in part                                   | LOW      | FAC, COMM       |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation   | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |   |  |                   |                    |  |   |          |                 |           |       |
|----|---|--|-------------------|--------------------|--|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 6  | <p>Develop a Secretariat Business Plan with a three-year planning horizon and an associated budget. The first Business Plan, with specific and measurable KPIs, should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A staffing plan and associated organisational arrangements</li> <li>• Cultural improvement plan</li> <li>• The development of systems and processes to implement the staffing and financial regulations to meet international best practice and in a fair and consistent manner.</li> <li>• Support for the Information Management Strategy and Data Plan</li> <li>• Support for the Commission and its subsidiary bodies and the Data Working Group.</li> <li>• Support for the independent review of the Headquarters Agreement with the New Zealand Government</li> </ul> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part (the IWG agree with the development of a Business Plan including a staffing plan. However other elements of this recommendation need further discussion).</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>High</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG noted there is support for a Business Plan which should include a Staffing Plan, and noted that other elements of the Plan can be further explored and discussed. However, the specifics of these elements need guidance from the Commission. The IWG also noted that a focus should be placed on an indicative timeline for this work (i.e. what needs to be done in which year and when).</p> <p>As a first step, the Commission should provide guidance on whether they agree with the development of a Business Plan which includes a staffing plan, in which the other listed elements can be discussed as part of the Commission tasking the work to the relevant responsible area.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | <p>FAC recommends that any Business Plan be developed with a clear phasing of activities over the three-year period, including identification of budget impacts, resourcing needs, and potential trade-offs with existing priorities. FAC will consider the financial implications once Commission guidance is provided.</p> | Agree in part                                   | HIGH     | FAC, COMM       |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation   | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |  |  |  |  |   |                 |   |                  |              |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|---|-----------------|---|------------------|--------------|
| 7  | <p>The Commission should develop an Information Management Strategy and Data Management Plan, placing a high priority on improving its overall approach to information management. This could draw on the SC's existing progress through SC12-Doc12.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full<br/><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High<br/><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted there is already a lot of work underway and the Commission has emphasised the importance of improving SPRFMO's data collection and information management systems.<br/>The IWG also noted that the Commission may wish to instruct the subsidiary bodies to review the draft IMS and DMP to ensure all scientific, compliance, financial and administrative elements are considered.</p> | <p>Refer to PR2 IWG comments to COMM</p> | <p>CTC will consider the SC-endorsed Data Management Strategy.<br/>CTC will provide advice on compliance-related data needs, data quality, accessibility, and reporting efficiencies. In doing so, CTC will focus on usability of existing data streams, rather than expanding data collection obligations unnecessarily.<br/>CTC noted that review of the Commission's data standards (CMM 02-2025) is an ongoing task related to the implementation of the Data Management Strategy.<br/>CTC recognized an ongoing role in reviewing and providing advice to the Commission on compliance and technical-related data gaps and redundancies, and reiterated the importance of reducing administrative burden.</p> | <p>FAC will consider the SC-endorsed Data Management Strategy noting any actions to come of the Strategy may have implications for the budget and workplan. It will consider anticipated costs, resourcing requirements, and ongoing maintenance of data management systems in view of other priorities within the budget.</p> | <p>Agree</p>  | <p>HIGH</p>     | <p>SC;<br/>Data Working Group (DWG);<br/>CTC;<br/>FAC;<br/>COMM</p> |                  |              |
| No | <p>Recommendations</p>   | <p>PR2 IWG Summary</p>   | <p>SC Recommendation</p>                 | <p>CTC Recommendation</p>  | <p>FAC Recommendation</p>  | <p>Response<br/>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree)</p> | <p>Priority</p> | <p>Relevant bodies</p>  | <p>Timeframe</p> | <p>Notes</p> |



|    |   |  |                   |                    |                    |   |          |                 |           |       |
|----|---|--|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 8  | <p>The Commission should elevate the Data Working Group to a standalone body reporting directly to the Commission and reconsider its title and mandate in light of the issues identified by the Review Panel.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>           In-part (agree with the important role of the DWG that should report directly to Commission).<br/> <b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>           Medium<br/> <b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>           The IWG noted the importance of the current data collection process.<br/>           The IWG noted that elevating the Data Working Group so that it reports directly to Commission would be beneficial, allowing the DWG to put up recs for the Commission's considerations.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                                   | MEDIUM   | COMM            |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |  |  |  |                    |   |             |  |           |       |
|----|--|--|--|--|--------------------|---|-------------|--|-----------|-------|
| 9  | <p>The Commission should work towards conducting a comprehensive review of CMM 02-2022, following the development of the Information Management Strategy and Data Management Plan, as part of the Business Plan.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full<br/><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High<br/><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted that it is for the Commission to consider and agree a review of CMM 02-2022.<br/>The IWG requested guidance from the Commission on an indicative timeline.<br/>The IWG noted this can be carried out by the DWG.<br/>The IWG also noted that a review should not just focus on data gaps, but also the data collection methodology. The IWG noted that the review should identify opportunities for additional data but also focus on making current processes more efficient.</p> | <p>SC13 partially addressed this with advice to COM14 on CMM02 changes. This could be further reviewed after development of a Strategy and Plan.</p> | <p>(Addressed through response to Recommendation 7.)</p> | <p>N/A</p>         | <p>Agree</p>                                    | <p>HIGH</p> | <p>SC;<br/>Data Working Group (DWG);<br/>CTC;<br/>COMM</p> |           |       |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation                                       | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority    | Relevant bodies  | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |   |  |                    |                    |   |          |   |   |       |
|----|--|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|---|---|-------|
| 10 | <p>Jack mackerel - Continue discussions and actions toward full cooperation with the jack mackerel fishery occurring in adjacent national jurisdictions. The Commission should explore ways to incentivise improved cooperation and compatibility.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>           In-part? (agree with in principle of sharing data and cooperation but no consensus on whether coastal states should be required to share data)<br/> <b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>           Medium<br/> <b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>           The IWG noted the SC's comments that there is scientific cooperation in relation to high seas and adjacent national jurisdictions through data sharing and stock assessments. This could also be enhanced through processes such as MSE.<br/>           The IWG noted that achieving compatibility between high seas and national jurisdictions is a complex challenge. The IWG note that the Commission should confirm if the current data sharing and stock assessment work is not sufficient to achieve this recommendation. If not, then the Commission should discuss ways to incentivise improved cooperation and compatibility, or request this guidance off the SC or JMWG.</p> | <p>It was noted that there is scientific cooperation in relation to high seas and adjacent national jurisdictions through data sharing and stock assessment. This could be enhanced for example through MSE processes.</p> | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                                   | Medium   | SC – Jack Mackerel Working Group (JMWG), COMM | <p>COMM14 noted the existing arrangements for cooperation and the importance of sovereignty in relation to management of resources within national jurisdictions. In developing implementation options for this recommendation, focus will be on strengthening voluntary cooperation arrangements including for data sharing arrangements to support SPRFMO objectives.</p> |       |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies                               | Timeframe   | Notes |



|    |   |  |   |                    |                    |   |          |  |           |       |
|----|---|--|---|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|--|-----------|-------|
| 11 | <p>Jack mackerel - Undertake analysis of the jack mackerel fishery's impact on other fish stocks and the broader ecosystem. Provide scientific recommendations based on these reviews and adopt relevant management decisions as necessary, with particular attention to chub mackerel, protected species and species of concern.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part (agree in principle with improving SPRFMO's understanding of potential ecosystem impacts but need to consider this rec in view of other SC priorities).</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>Medium (for chub mackerel)</p> <p>Low – for other species</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG noted the SC's comments that there is work underway and planned on chub mackerel bycatch, and that there may be scope in the MSE to include chub mackerel bycatch as a performance indicator.</p> <p>Beyond the already planned chub mackerel bycatch work, the IWG noted that the Commission would likely need to request the SC to undertake a broader analysis on JM fishery impacts on other stocks and ecosystem impacts.</p> | <p>It was noted that there is work underway and planned on chub mackerel bycatch. The MSE could include chub mackerel bycatch as a performance indicator.</p> | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                                   | MED/LOW  | SC – JMWG, Ecosystem Working Group (EWG); COMM |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation   | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies                                | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |   |  |   |                    |  |   |              |   |           |       |
|----|---|--|---|--------------------|--|---|--------------|---|-----------|-------|
| 12 | <p>Squid - To ensure effective and timely management of the squid fishery, it is essential to execute all tasks related to squid as outlined in the SC's Multiannual Workplan, which should be integrated into the broader Business Plan. This includes prioritising the development of management strategy evaluations (MSE) and harvest control rules (HCR), ensuring that work is directed and resourced in a more thoughtful and strategic manner, as part of an overall effort to achieve SPRFMO's long-term objectives.</p> <p>The Commission shall also consider alternative options if the stock assessment cannot be completed or if it is not suitable for management purposes.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>Medium/high</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted the comments from the SC that they do not have a clear mandate on this recommendation until instructed by the Commission, but MSE, HCR and alternative options to the stock assessment including their timing are already being considered as part of the SC multiannual workplan.</p> <p>The IWG recommends that the Commission provide clear instructions on progressing the development of one or all of the elements.</p> | The planning and timelines for these three elements are important and the subject of the SC multiannual workplan. | N/A                | FAC notes that progression of squid-related work is subject to Commission direction. | Agree   | MED/<br>HIGH | SC – Squid Working Group (SWG); FAC; COMM |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation   | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation   | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority     | Relevant bodies                           | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |   |  |   |                    |   |          |                          |           |                        |
|----|--|---|--|---|--------------------|---|----------|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 13 | Squid - Participants of the fishery, including Members with squid fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction, should fully cooperate with the Commission and the SC through data sharing to facilitate the assessment. | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG reaffirmed the importance of data from areas under national jurisdiction to support squid stock assessments.</p> <p>The IWG noted the main challenges for progressing squid stock assessments is data availability, which is beyond the scope of the SC, also noting coastal states for squid have not provided their consent for CMM 02-2025 and CMM 18-2025 to apply in areas under national jurisdiction.</p> <p>The IWG noted that this goes beyond the scope of the subsidiaries and requires Commission discussion on whether this is something SPRFMO and Members with squid fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction hope to achieve in the medium to long term, noting that this is dependent on coastal states in sharing the data.</p> | Data sharing is a feature of the SC multiannual work plan, which would include meta data and analysis. | CTC could consider identifying additional squid-related data, beyond current national reports and compliance assessments, that would be useful for compliance monitoring and verification, pending Commission guidance. | N/A                | Agree   | HIGH     | SC – SWG, DWG; CTC; COMM |           | Refer notes for Rec 10 |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation  | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies          | Timeframe | Notes                  |



|    |   |  |   |                    |                    |   |          |                 |           |       |
|----|---|--|---|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 14 | Squid - Increase the observer coverage rate to generate relevant data that supports the SC's work, addressing both the targeted squid fishery and its potential impact on associated species. | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-part</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>Medium</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted recent increases in observer coverage and the development of Electronic Monitoring (EM) standards, which have been reflected in CMM 18-2025.</p> <p>The IWG noted that discussions during the Intersessional meetings reflected the comments in COMM13 Meeting Report Paragraph 152, and there was a divergence of views. While there was broad agreement to addressing squid data gaps, there was no consensus on whether increasing observer coverage is the way to achieve this objective.</p> <p>The IWG noted that this recommendation requires further discussion in Commission.</p> | Members noted the recent increases in observer coverage and development of EM standards | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                                   | MED      | SC – SWG; COMM  |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation   | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |  |                           |                    |                    |   |          |                 |           |       |
|----|--|--|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 15 | Squid - Given the uncertainties regarding the current fishing capacity, consider further precautionary measures, including strengthening fishing effort limitations. | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>Medium</p> <p>The IWG noted the logical sequencing for this recommendation starts with completing the stock assessment and then exploring this recommendation. However, it was noted that this recommendation should not be fully dependent on the stock assessment.</p> <p>The IWG supported in principle that a precautionary approach should be applied across all of SPRFMO's fisheries.</p> <p>The IWG would ultimately need to be a Commission decision.</p> <p>As a starting point, the IWG recommended that the Commission consider any previous SC recommendations associated with this recommendation that have not been implemented.</p> | Refer to PR2 IWG comments | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                                   | MED      | SC – SWG; COMM  |           |       |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation         | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |   |   |   |                    |  |   |          |                           |           |       |
|----|---|---|---|--------------------|--|---|----------|---------------------------|-----------|-------|
| 16 | <p>Squid - The Commission should ensure adequate funding and resources, including financial support, to involve scientists from academic institutions with relevant expertise. Additionally, Members and Observers should be encouraged to maintain their cooperation through both in-kind and financial contributions.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-part<br/><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>Low<br/><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted that the FAC would need to option into the budget an ongoing fund to engage scientists, particularly on this recommendation which is related to squid, in view of other competing budget priorities and resourcing. These options would need to be brought forward to the Commission for decision.</p> | <p>SC noted that funding and resourcing is reliant on FAC and Commission. It further noted the potential to increase financial contributions to balance with in-kind resourcing. This could be considered as part of the wider business planning.</p> | N/A                | <p>Resourcing –including potential flexible mechanisms for funding– to be considered by FAC as part of its regular business pending direction from the Commission and the SC on scientific work related to squid management.</p> | Agree in part                                   | LOW      | SC – SWG; SCAF; FAC; COMM |           |       |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation   | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation   | Response<br>(Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies           | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |   |  |                   |                    |                    |               |              |                 |           |  |
|----|---|--|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| 17 | <p>Deepwater - Investigate alternative approaches to managing these fisheries to explore whether it is possible to maintain a viable fishery in a way that is consistent with the Convention's objective.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part (The IWG do not fully agree with the rec but support that alternative approaches need to be investigated)</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>Medium overall</p> <p>High (if current CMM/framework is not implemented).</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG noted that further discussion is needed by the Commission on alternative approaches and implementation of the current measure.</p> <p>The IWG noted the obligations under UNGA and noting the upcoming UN Bottom Fishing Review scheduled for 2026.</p> <p>The IWG do not fully agree that CMM 03 is not fit for purpose. However, the IWG noted the role of the Commission in investigating alternative options to overcome the current situation which is not ideal.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part | MED/<br>HIGH | COMM            |           | <p>{COMM14 noted ongoing challenges with <u>implementing</u> the existing bottom fishing framework and the need to consider this in developing the implementation plan.}</p> |
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response      | Priority     | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes  |



|    |   |  |  |                    |                    | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) |          |   |           |       |
|----|---|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|---|-----------|-------|
| No | Recommendations   | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response                            | Priority | Relevant bodies                           | Timeframe | Notes |
| 18 | Deepwater - With respect to all other fish species captured by paragraph 11 of CMM 03a, implement an operational trigger which, if met, would activate the development of more specific fisheries management measures, for example, catch limits. | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b></p> <p>In-part (the IWG agree that there needs to be mechanisms explored but do not think SPRFMO should limit this recommendation to operational triggers as one approach).</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b></p> <p>Low</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG noted the work that is currently ongoing in the SC multiannual workplan on fish species captured in CMM 03a.</p> <p>The IWG agreed that there is no urgency to prioritise catch limits for other deepwater species given effort is so low. However, the IWG noted that the catch is spread across a number of species and consideration should be given to where the species are caught and the catch mix overall when considering management measures.</p> <p>The IWG noted that while this recommendation is specific to deepwater, this recommendation has relevance for SPRFMO's other fisheries.</p> | Work for hapuku and blue eye trevella is on the workplan | N/A                | N/A                | Agree in part                       | LOW      | SC – Deepwater Working Group (DWWG); COMM |           |       |



|    |  |  |  |                    |                    | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) |          |                 |           |       |
|----|--|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response                            | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |
| 19 | <p>Exploratory Fisheries - The Commission and its relevant subsidiary bodies should initiate discussions to clarify how to apply Article 28 of CMM 13. This includes identifying fisheries approaching the ten-year mark and establishing a framework for transitioning them into established fisheries.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High (if exploratory fisheries have already hit 10 years).</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b></p> <p>The IWG noted the need to consider other exploratory fisheries in this recommendation (outside of toothfish).</p> <p>The IWG noted that SC13 report has two recommendations associated with this recommendation for the Commission to consider and agree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Endorse holding a workshop immediately prior to SC14 to initiate the process of developing a framework that would assist with the transitioning of exploratory toothfish fisheries to established fisheries, once the 10-year limit has been reached.</li> <li>2. Agree the terms of reference (SC13-04 Attachment 1), with an additional terms of reference to produce a standardised data collection plan.</li> </ol> <p>The IWG also noted this recommendation is linked to recommendation 20, and noted that the workshop would look to address the cumulative impacts on toothfish.</p> <p>The IWG noted that the Commission would need to agree to recommendation 19 and instruct SC to host a workshop and agree the terms of reference.</p> | Noted that the toothfish workshop for SC14 will begin to address this recommendation | N/A                | N/A                | Agree                               | HIGH     | SC – DWWG; COMM |           |       |



|    | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |
|----|--|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 20 | Exploratory Fisheries - The SC should conduct review of the cumulative impacts of exploratory fisheries on both target stocks and the broader ecosystem. | Agree? (In-full or in-part)?<br>In-full<br><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br>Medium (noting the logical sequencing is rec 19).<br><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br>see above rec 19. | It was noted that the workshop described above will begin to address the accumulative impacts on toothfish | N/A                | N/A                | Agree                               | MED      | SC – DWWG       |           |       |
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response                            | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |



|    |  |   |   |   |                    | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) |          |                      |           |       |
|----|--|---|---|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|-------|
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation   | CTC Recommendation  | FAC Recommendation | Response                            | Priority | Relevant bodies      | Timeframe | Notes |
| 21 | Exploratory Fisheries - The Commission should work to strengthen cooperation with adjacent RFMOs, particularly regarding the management of toothfish fisheries. Engaging with CCAMLR can provide valuable insights and support for the effective management of these fisheries and the process to transition these into established fisheries. | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>Medium</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted the work that has already occurred and the cooperation with CCAMLR.<br/>The IWG noted that this recommendation could be integrated into the work under recommendation 19.</p> | Noted that the workshop will begin the process to transition exploratory fisheries to established fisheries. It was noted that there is already a strong cooperative SPRFMO/CCAMLR relationship | CTC will consider the compliance and technical elements associated with exploratory fisheries, including alignment of compliance approaches and information exchange. CTC notes the importance of consistency, where appropriate, with relevant measures and practices of other RFMOs and relevant organisations. | N/A                | Agree                               | MED      | SC – DWWG; CTC; COMM |           |       |



|    |  |   |  |                    |                    | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) |          |                 |           |  |
|----|--|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary   | SC Recommendation  | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation | Response                            | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes  |
| 22 | <p>All fisheries - To ensure the consistent application of the precautionary principle, the Commission should adopt a defined harvest strategy approach for all SPRFMO fisheries. This approach will provide a clear framework for decision-making, ensuring that measures are based on scientific advice, aligned with the Convention objectives, and adaptable to changing conditions.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full<br/><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High<br/><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted this recommendation suggests the need for an overarching framework that applies to all fisheries, which would support consideration of individual harvest strategies.<br/>The IWG noted that the SC need guidance from the Commission on whether an overarching framework would be useful, and could consider drawing on approaches taken in other RFMOs including SIOFA.</p> | <p>SC noted that this would require Commission guidance including on how to approach this recommendation e.g. whether this might be done through an overarching framework that applies to all fisheries, or adopting individual harvest strategies for each of the fisheries. SPRFMO could draw from approaches taken in other RFMOs including SIOFA</p> | N/A                | N/A                | Agree                               | HIGH     | SC;<br>COMM     |           | <p>COMM14 noted that in developing the implementation plan for this recommendation, it will be critical to consider the suitability of harvest strategy frameworks for small-scale fisheries, and in sequencing future Commission work on harvest strategies, the priority should be on large-scale fisheries.</p> |



| No | Recommendations  | PR2 IWG Summary  | SC Recommendation | CTC Recommendation | FAC Recommendation   | Response   | Priority | Relevant bodies | Timeframe | Notes |
|----|--|--|-------------------|--------------------|--|--|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|
| 23 | <p>The Commission should prioritise addressing barriers to participation by considering elevating Spanish to the status of at least a Working Language. This implementation can be scalable in both time and scope. The Commission could explore various options to fund interpretation and translation, such as partnerships with other institutions, formalising interpretation as a condition of hosting meetings, utilising the Developing States fund, and identifying additional options through the FAC workplan.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full<br/><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>High<br/><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>The IWG noted that COMM13 has already supported the elevation of Spanish as a working language.<br/>No further action is needed from the Commission but to note the actions required from FAC. Once FAC has progressed next steps on scaling and implementation, the Commission would be responsible for endorsing the next steps.</p> | N/A               | N/A                | Contingent on direction from the Commission, FAC may consider options for scaling and implementation, including incorporation into the budget and use of existing funding mechanisms, with a view to ensuring sustainability and cost-effectiveness. | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree)<br><br>Agree | MED      | FAC;<br>COMM    |           |       |



|    |   |  |     |     |  | (Agree/Agree in part/ Do not agree) |     |              |  |  |
|----|---|--|-----|-----|--|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------|--|--|
| 24 | <p>The Commission should maintain a continuous and diligent focus on fulfilling Article 19 of the Convention. This includes ensuring that the Developing States Fund is appropriately utilised, and that CMMs consider the special requirements of Developing States. To ensure full implementation of Article 19, the Commission should develop a comprehensive plan for Article 19 and ensure it is discussed annually. The first iteration of this plan could be informed by bilateral consultations led by the new Executive Secretary in 2025.</p> | <p><b>Agree? (In-full or in-part)?</b><br/>In-full</p> <p><b>IWG Priority (low, medium, high):</b><br/>Medium</p> <p><b>IWG Comments to COMM:</b><br/>As per comments to FAC, which are relevant for COMM.</p> | N/A | N/A | <p>FAC notes its ongoing role in ensuring that the Developing States Fund remains at a sufficient and sustainable level, including both the travel assistance component and technical capacity-building component.</p> <p>FAC will continue to monitor the financial status of the Fund and promote awareness of its availability, while recognising that primary responsibility for developing a comprehensive Article 19 plan rests with the Commission. The FAC will support Commission discussions by providing relevant financial information and advice as required.</p> <p>FAC noted that Commission guidance is sought on the need for development of an implementation plan for Article 19.</p> | Agree                               | MED | FAC;<br>COMM |  |  |



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report

### ANNEX 8b Revised Terms of Reference of the PR2IWG

*(COMM14-WP22)*



# **REVISED Terms of Reference for the Intersessional Working Group to Draft the Implementation Plan for the Second Performance Review Recommendations of SPRFMO**

## **1. Background**

The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO) is committed to the continuous improvement of its operational and governance frameworks. As part of this commitment, SPRFMO undertook its 2<sup>nd</sup> performance review in 2024 which resulted in a set of recommendations aimed at enhancing the functioning of the Organization and improving its overall effectiveness.

The 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission agreed to establish a Working Group to draft an implementation plan to ensure that the relevant recommendations are effectively implemented, for the recommendations arising from the Second Performance Review. These Terms of Reference (ToR) sets out the objectives, composition, tasks, and process for the Working Group.

## **2. Objectives**

The primary objective of the Working Group is to develop a draft implementation plan for the recommendations of the Second Performance Review, which includes:

- Assigning each recommendation to the relevant responsible bodies (Commission, Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC), Scientific Committee (SC) and Finance and Administration Committee (FAC);
- Assessing and proposing the level of priority for each recommendation; and
- Proposing viable options for responding to the recommendations.

Acceptance (in full or in part) or rejection of each recommendation is a decision for the Commission – the work of the Working Group outlined in this section is aimed at supporting the Commission to make this determination.

## **3. Composition**

The Working Group will comprise SPRFMO Members, CNCPs and Observers who express interest in participating in the work and the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Commission, CTC, FAC and SC. The Working Group will be chaired by Australia, which will provide leadership and coordination throughout the process. Other Members of SPRFMO may contribute to discussions, provide inputs, and participate in the drafting of the implementation plan. Participation of Observers in the Working Group will be in accordance with the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure.

## **4. Tasks and Responsibilities**

The working group will consider all the recommendations of the Second SPRFMO Performance Review.

The working group will consider the relevance of the recommendations of the first Performance Review in developing responses to the recommendations of the Second Performance Review.

The Working Group will undertake the following tasks:



- **Assigning Recommendations:** The Working Group will assign each of the relevant recommendations from the Second Performance Review (Annex) to the relevant responsible bodies (Commission, CTC, FAC and SC) based on their area of expertise and responsibility.
- **Prioritisation:** The Working Group will assess and propose the level of priority for each recommendation, considering factors such as urgency, resource requirements and availability, and impact on the achievement of the objectives of SPRFMO. Recommendations will be classified as high, medium, or low priority.
- **Responses to recommendations:** The Working Group will propose practical and feasible options for responding to the recommendations, including advice on implementation where recommendations are accepted (partially or fully). This may include specific actions, timelines, and resource requirements. These responses will be developed in consultation with the relevant bodies (SC, CTC, FAC, COMM).

The work of the Working Group will be undertaken electronically, via email exchange, use of the SPRFMO Microsoft Teams platform, and where necessary, virtual meetings.

## 5. Review of the Implementation Plan

COMM14 confirmed the Commission response to and priority for each of the 24 PR2 recommendations.

Building on the Working Group and subsidiary body discussions undertaken since COMM13 and the advice of COMM14, the Working Group will work intersessionally to prepare a draft Implementation Plan for the review of SC14, CTC14, FAC14 and COMM15.

Once the Working Group has completed the draft implementation plan, the following review process will take place by COMM 14, CTC 13, and SC 13: The Commission, CTC, and SC will review an iterative draft implementation plan, including the assignment of the level of priorities, proposed responses and advice on implementation, and any other adjustments they deem necessary.

## 6. Monitoring and Follow-up

- The Implementation Plan will be considered as a working document. The Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including CTC, FAC and SC, will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the approved plan. They will track progress, review timelines, and ensure that tasks are being completed in line with the agreed priorities and make any necessary adjustments to the plan as the process unfolds.

## 7. Timelines

The Working Group will commence its work following the completion of COMM 13 and will circulate an iterative draft implementation plan as a Meeting Document in line with the deadline for papers for each relevant body (SC, CTC, FAC, COMM) in accordance with the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure for the consideration of the Commission and subsidiary bodies. The goal for the working group will be the approval of the implementation plan by COMM15, noting that the Implementation Plan will be considered a working documentCOMM14.



## 8. Resources

SPRFMO Members are expected to allocate the necessary resources to support the work of the Working Group, including staff time and expertise. Australia, as the chair, will provide leadership and coordination, but all Members are encouraged to contribute to the development of the plan.



---

# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

## COMM14 – Report

### ANNEX 9a Opening remarks by Mr Eduardo Carrasquilla

#### General Administrator of ARAP

*(originally delivered in Spanish)*

Honourable Mr James Brown, Executive Secretary of SPRFMO,  
Chairpersons of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies,  
Distinguished Heads of Delegation,  
Members, observers, ladies and gentlemen:

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Panama, it is a great honour to welcome you to our country on the occasion of the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation.

Panama, a country with a strong maritime vocation and a meeting point between oceans and regions, is pleased to host this annual meeting and to receive the delegations joining us today in a land where the sea forms part of our history, our economy, and our identity.

The annual meeting of the Commission represents the central moment of SPRFMO's work, as it is in this forum that the year's progress is reviewed and where Members adopt decisions that guide the present and future management of fisheries in the South Pacific. The strength of this Organisation rests on that capacity for consensus-building and shared responsibility.

The challenges facing marine resources require balanced decisions and effective cooperation, so that fisheries may continue to generate opportunities while preserving the integrity of the ecosystems on which they depend. Maintaining this balance is the task that brings this Commission together.

As host country and a Member of SPRFMO, Panama reaffirms its commitment to dialogue and to the implementation of the decisions adopted in this forum, convinced that stable and predictable fisheries governance benefits coastal States, fishing nations, industry, and future generations.

During this week, we will address matters of great importance, and the progress we achieve will depend on our ability to listen to one another, understand our respective realities, and build solutions that reflect the common interest. Consensus, reached through compromise, remains the most solid foundation for durable decisions.

Panama reiterates its readiness to support the conduct of a productive and constructive meeting and invites all delegations to participate actively in the work of the Commission, strengthening the spirit of cooperation that underpins this Organisation.

Welcome to the Republic of Panama. We wish you fruitful deliberations and a successful annual meeting in our country.



---

## 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

*Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026*

### COMM14 – Report ANNEX 9b Statement by Belize Regarding Jack Mackerel

Madam Chair,

Belize wishes to reiterate its longstanding position regarding the allocation of Jack Mackerel under the framework of the SPRFMO Convention.

As previously expressed in meetings of this Commission since 2023, Belize maintains that its allocation of Jack Mackerel should reflect its historical participation in the fishery, consistent with the criteria established under Article 21 of the SPRFMO Convention. This Article clearly directs the Commission to take into account, historic catch, fishing capacity, compliance with conservation and management measures, and the development aspirations of developing States when taking decisions regarding allocation of total allowable catch.

Belize's participation in the Jack Mackerel fishery is not hypothetical nor recent – it pre-dates the establishment of the Organization; which is the reason why it was allocated 1,145 metric tons, representing 0.2864% of the Jack Mackerel TAC in 2013. While its participation was briefly interrupted, this does not negate our historical participation in the fishery nor its contributions to the establishment of this very Organization.

Distinguished delegates, I would like to remind you that equity and inclusivity remains one of the pillars of the SPRFMO Convention and of international law. The allocation criteria outlined in Article 21 of Convention must meaningfully reflect historic participation and the legitimate development aspirations of developing States. Without such recognition, the credibility and inclusiveness of the allocation system may be called into question.

In the spirit of flexibility and cooperation, Belize has supported consensus decisions in previous years, even where the outcomes did not fully reflect our expectations. We have done so in order to preserve the unity of this Commission and to promote stability in the management of the fishery. However, our agreement should not be interpreted as acceptance of the current allocation as equitable or final.

Accordingly, Belize reserves its right to continue seeking a fair and balanced allocation of Jack Mackerel quotas in future deliberations. We respectfully urge Members to give due consideration to Belize's historical rights, demonstrated compliance, fishing capacity, and development aspirations at the next meeting of this Commission.

Belize remains committed to working constructively with all Members toward a solution that strengthens both the sustainable management and equitable distribution of the Jack Mackerel fisheries resource.

Thank you, Chair