



Ministry For Food, Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
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January 8, 2013

Dr. Robin Allen,
Executive Secretary
SPRFMO Interim Secretariat
Level 4 ASB Bank House
PO Box 3797
Wellington
New Zealand

Dear Dr. Allen,

In accordance with the para 18 of the 2012 Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries, I would like to submit Korea's annual report on the implementation of the interim Measures for pelagic fisheries in 2012, as attached.

Best Regards,

H. Kwon

Hyunwook Kwon
Korea's Representative to SPRFMO
Deputy Director of the International Organization Division
of the Distant Water Fisheries Bureau
the Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Korea

Annual Report on the Implementation of the Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries in 2012 The Republic of Korea

Effort Management Measures

As indicated in Table 1 in the Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries, Korea's gross tonnage limit in 2012 was 15,222GT. During the 2012 fishing season, one(1) Korean-flagged fishing vessel, the Kwangja Ho operated in the Area, fully complying with the effort and management measure.

Catch Management Measures

In the 2012 fishing season, Korea caught 5,491.6 tonnes of Chilean jack mackerels, excessive by 2,219 tonnes from 3,273 tonnes which are set forth in the Interim Measures. On August 12th, 2012, Korea's scientific representative reported Korea's July catches to the Interim Secretariat and Korea received a notification from the Interim Executive Secretary on August 14th that 70 percent of Korea's jack mackerel catch limit for 2012 had been exceeded (Ref:0048-2012). On August 18, on receiving a report that the vessel's accumulated catches were hovering around 5,000 tonnes, the authorities immediately required the vessel to stop their operation and to submit their transshipment records, tow-by-tow data, and VMS data. With those data and other available information, the authorities launched an in-depth investigation into the catches made by the vessel and found that there were some catch data gaps from their July report as they were rushing to submit the catch data by the early August. After making the correction, the authorities re-submitted its revised July report when providing the August report, the final catch report of 2012, to the Interim Secretariat. The investigation led to the conclusion that the 2012 final catches of the vessel were 5,491.620 tonnes, which were 2,219 tonnes excess from the catch limit, which made the vessel, Kwangja Ho, subject to administrative sanctions pursuant to the "Distant Water Fisheries Management Act (Articles 13(2), (4) and 16)." of Korea. Accordingly, the authorities took actions against the vessel owner and vessel master, including a thirty (30)-day suspension on the vessel's Distant Water Fisheries License; a thirty (30)-day suspension on the Officer's License and a correctional fine of KWR 1 million. This result was circulated through the Interim Secretariat to all Participants on October 19th, 2012.

Data collection and reporting

Korea submitted data collected in accordance with SPRFMO Data Standards. Korea notified the Interim Secretariat the list of vessels authorized to fish in the SPRFMO Convention Area and the vessel actively fished in the Area under the authorization. Korea also provided monthly catches (including tow by tow, VMS, efforts, catch data) of the Pelagic fisheries to the Interim Secretariat by the required deadline.

Observer coverage of trips

During the year of 2012, an international observer was placed on board the vessel (F/V Kwangja Ho) to collect scientific data, which are scheduled to be submitted along with the observer report by the end of June, 2013. The observer coverage in terms of tow is 50.6%, and the observed number of tow is 80 times out of the total number of tow of 158 times.

Monitoring and control measures

Korea has been fully providing quarterly VMS data to the Interim Secretariat. However, the VMS data for the fourth quarter has not been submitted since no Korean-flagged vessel operated in the Convention Area in that quarter, hence no VMS data.