**8TH MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION**

*Port Vila, Vanuatu, 14 to 18 February 2020*

**COMM 8 – Prop 14**

*European Union*

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| [ ]  **Amend**[x]  **Create** | **CMM XX-2020 on effort limitation in the Jumbo flying squid fishery** |

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| **Submitted by:** EUROPEAN UNION |

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| **Summary and objectives of the proposal:**The proposal is for a new CMM to introduce an effort limitation for the Jumbo flying squid fishery in the SPRFMO Convention Area while improving data collection, pending completion of a stock assessment.The number of vessels targeting Jumbo flying squid in the Convention Area and associated catches have been increasing substantially in recent years. At the same time, the SPRFMO Scientific Committee (SC) was unable to reach agreement on common elements for a CMM at its 7th meeting in Havana (Cuba) from 7 to 12 October 2019. It did however recommend options to ensure a minimum level of observer coverage in order to improve the collection of data in support of its work towards a stock assessment for Jumbo flying squid and the development of appropriate management measures. The objective of this proposal is therefore to put in place a framework for conserving and managing the Jumbo flying squid fishery in the Convention Area, by introducing *inter alia*:* a fishing effort limitation for the Jumbo flying squid fishery in the SPRFMO Convention Area by requiring CNCPs and Members to limit the total gross tonnage (GT) of their vessels participating in the Jumbo flying squid fishery to their historical existing levels;
* an obligation to report monthly catches on a monthly basis;
* vessel monitoring system (VMS) requirements and notification of the list of vessels authorised to actively fish for or engage in transhipment of Jumbo flying squid;
* a minimum scientific observer coverage of 10% of trips for a period of three years;
* review by the Scientific Committee of catch and observer data and any stock assessments and research in respect of the Jumbo flying squid fishery;
* provisions for port States to facilitate access to their ports to reefer vessels, supply vessels and vessels fishing for Jumbo flying squid, and to verify catches of Jumbo flying squid caught in the Convention Area that are landed or transhipped in their ports;
* cooperation in respect of Jumbo flying squid fishery in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area to ensure compatibility of conservation and management measures;

It is proposed to review the CMM in 2021 in view of progress made by the Scientific Committee towards a stock assessment. |

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| **Has the proposal financial impacts or influence on the Secretariat work?** | [x]  **Yes**[ ]  **No** |

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| Ref: **COMM8-PROP14** | Received on: 20 December 2019 |

# EU Proposal to Create a New

# CMM XX-2020

# Conservation and Management Measure on effort limitation in the Jumbo flying squid fishery

**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 2nd Squid Workshop on 5-6 October 2019 and the 7th meeting of the Scientific Committee from 7 to 12 October 2019;

*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 squidin the implementation of this measure pending the establishment of monitoring, control and surveillance measures pursuant to Article 27 of the Convention;

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

*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 (CNCPs) 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 05-2019 (Record of Vessels) that are flagged to Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCPs) shall participate in the fishery for Jumbo flying squid in the Convention Area.
3. This CMM is not to be considered a precedent for future allocation decisions.

### Effort management

1. Members and CNCPs shall limit the total gross tonnage (GT)[[1]](#footnote-1) of vessels flying their flag and participating in the fishing activities described in Article 1(1)(g)(i) and (ii) of the Convention in respect of the Jumbo flying squid fishery in the Convention Area to their existing historical level, as set out in Table 1 of this CMM, until a Jumbo flying squid stock assessment has been completed by the Scientific Committee.

### Data collection and reporting

1. Members and CNCPs participating in the Jumbo flying squid 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 02-2018 (Data Standards) and using templates prepared by the Secretariat and available on the SPRFMO website.
2. The Executive Secretary shall circulate monthly catches, aggregated by flag State, to all Members and CNCPs on a monthly basis.
3. Except as described in paragraph 5 above, 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 02-2018 (Data Standards) and the templates available on the SPRFMO website, including an annual catch report.
4. 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.
5. Members and CNCPs participating in the Jumboflying squid fisheries shall implement a vessel monitoring system (VMS) in accordance with CMM 06-2018 (VMS) and other relevant CMMs adopted by the Commission.
6. Each Member and CNCP participating in the Jumbo flying squid fishery shall provide the Executive Secretary a list of vessels[[2]](#footnote-2) they have authorised to fish in the fishery in accordance with Article 25 of the Convention and CMM 05-2019 (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 transhipment 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.
7. The Executive Secretary shall report annually to the Commission on the list of vessels having actively fished or been engaged in transhipment in the Convention Area during the previous year using data provided under CMM 02-2018 (Data Standards).
8. 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 2020 Scientific Committee meeting. Members and CNCPs shall also provide observer data for the 2020 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 2020 Scientific Committee meeting 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.
9. In accordance with Article 24(2) of the Convention, all Members and CNCPs participating in the Jumbo flying squid fishery shall provide a report describing their implementation of this CMM in accordance with the timelines specified in CMM 10-2019 (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.
10. The information collected under paragraphs 5, 7 and 12, 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.
11. Contracting Parties and CNCPs, 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 Jumbo flying squid in accordance with this CMM. Contracting Parties and CNCPs shall implement measures to verify catches of Jumboflying squid caught in the Convention Area that are landed or transhipped in its ports. When taking such measures, a Contracting Party or CNCP shall not discriminate in form or fact against fishing, reefer or supply vessels of any Member or CNCP. Nothing in this paragraph shall prejudice the rights, jurisdiction and duties of these Contracting Parties and CNCPs under international law. In particular, nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect:
	1. the sovereignty of Contracting Parties and CNCPs over their internal, archipelagic and territorial waters or their sovereign rights over their continental shelf and in their exclusive economic zone;
	2. the exercise by Contracting Parties and CNCPs 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.
12. Until the Commission adopts an Observer Programme in accordance with Article 28 of the Convention, all Members and CNCPs participating in the Jumbo flying squid fishery shall ensure a minimum scientific observer coverage of 10% of trips for vessels flying their flag for a period of three years, and ensure that such observers collect and report data as described in CMM 02-2018 (Data Standards).

### Cooperation in respect of fisheries in adjacent areas under national jurisdiction

1. Members and CNCPs participating in the Jumbo flying squid fishery in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the area to which this CMM applies in accordance with paragraph 1, and Members and CNCPs participating in Jumbo flying squid fishery in the area to which this CMM applies, shall cooperate in ensuring compatibility in the conservation and management of the fisheries. Members and CNCPs participating in Jumbo flying squidfisheries in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the area to which this CMM applies are invited to apply the measures set out in paragraphs 5-16, insofar as they are applicable, to vessels associated with the Jumbo flying squidfishery in their areas under national jurisdiction. They are also requested to inform the Executive Secretary of the Conservation and Management Measures in effect for Jumbo flying squid in areas under their national jurisdiction.

## Special requirements of developing States

1. 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

1. This Measure shall be reviewed by the Commission in 2021. The review shall take into account the latest advice of the Scientific Committee and the CTC.

## Table 1: Existing historical level (expressed in total gross tonnage (GT)) of the Jumbo flying squid fishery in the Convention Area as referred to in paragraph 4.

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| **Member / CNCP** | **Tonnage** |
| Chile (HS) |  |
| China |  |
| Cook Islands |  |
| Cuba |  |
| Ecuador (HS) |  |
| European Union |  |
| Faroe Islands |  |
| Korea |  |
| Peru (HS) |  |
| Russian Federation |  |
| Vanuatu |  |
|  |  |
| **Total** |  |

1. In the event that GT is not available, Members and CNCPs shall utilise Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT) for the purposes of this CMM. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Fishing vessels as defined in Article 1 (1)(h) of the Convention. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)