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**Annual Report of Panama to the SC**

*Panama*

**To The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization**

SPRFMO\_PAN\_SC\_AR\_2023

**Scientific Annual Report**

by Panama

August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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**REPUBLIC OF PANAMA. Scientific Annual Report for 2023.**  
**To The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO)**

**Date:** August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Based on the Conservation and Management Measures CMM 02-2022, Para. 7 of SPRFMO, Panama submits its Scientific Annual Report to declare the activities of the Panamanian fishing fleet from January 1<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in the SRPFMO Convention Area.

**1. Description of Fisheries**

Panama participated in the SPRFMO as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party from 2014 until July 6, 2022 during this time, the participation in the South Pacific fisheries has been restricted under the rights granted by the Commission; It remained limited in the extraction of resources regulated by this Organization and in 2016 and 2017, only two (2) conditional vessels participated in the squid fisheries in the South Pacific; These vessels fished for squid (*Dosidicus gigas*-GIS) in FAO Area 87 at an average depth of 15 m, using 11 individual pots per trip, generally with 21 persons on board and with an approximate investment of 5,656 fishing hours declaring an extraction of 1,130.96 tons of GIS, (Table 1).

Panama became a member of SPRFMO on July 7, 2022. For the 2023 calendar year, Panama did not carry out any catch *per se* activities of SPRFMO regulated species in the Convention Area.

For 2023 Panama has participated in the SPRMFO Convention Area only through vessels authorized to carry out activities related to fishing, such as the transfer of fishery products to refrigerated cargo ships and their subsequent unloading in port and in the supply of fuel and other fishing related services.

**Table 1.** Summary of catching information.

Calendar Year	Fishing Gear	Statistical Area	Effort		Species name (English and scientific)	Catch Amount (Tons)
			Number of vessels	Fishing days		
2016	Jig	FAO 87	2	154	Jumbo flying squid ( <i>Dosidicus gigas</i> - GIS)	841.84
2017	Jig	FAO 87	1	82	Jumbo flying squid ( <i>Dosidicus gigas</i> - GIS)	289.12
2018	NIL	NIL	0	0	NIL	0
2019	NIL	NIL	0	0	NIL	0
2020	NIL	NIL	0	0	NIL	0
2021	NIL	NIL	0	0	NIL	0
2022	NIL	NIL	0	0	NIL	0
2023	NIL	NIL	0	0	NIL	0

## **2. Catch, Effort and CPUE Summaries**

No fishing vessels of catching operated in the SPRFMO Convention Area on 2023.

## **3. Fisheries Data Collection and Research Activities**

No Panamanian fishing vessels of catching operated in the SPRFMO Convention Area on 2023. It means, no fisheries data collection systems were implemented, and research and assessment activities were not conducted over the past year.

## **4. Biological Sampling and Length/Age Composition of Catches**

No Panamanian fishing vessels of catching operated in the SPRFMO Convention Area on 2023. It means, no biological and size-frequency sampling were conducted.

## **5. Ecosystem Approach considerations**

Panama did not have catching vessels operating in the SPRFMO Convention Area on 2023, therefore no interaction with seabirds mitigation measures as well as those used for other taxa was used by each vessel.

No reporting of observed bycatch by species, fishery and location for all seabirds, marine mammals, reptiles and other species of concern.

## **6. Observer Implementation Reports**

Panama did not participate in the SPRFMO Observer program. No fishing vessels of catching operated in the SPRFMO Convention Area for 2023.