

10TH MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (CTC)

Manta, Ecuador, 7 to 17 February 2023

CTC 10– Doc 12

Applications for CNCP Status for 2023

Secretariat

SPRFMO currently has three active Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCPs):

- Belize
- Curaçao, Kingdom of the Netherlands, and
- The Republic of Liberia

In November 2022, the Secretariat contacted two out of the current three SPRFMO CNCPs, with an invitation to become full Members of the SPRFMO Commission or to renew their current CNCP status (Ref: DC93-2022 and DC94-2022). Belize was not contacted, given they had already submitted a CNCP status renewal application.

The Secretariat therefore received three CNCP status renewal requests and one new CNCP status application, all of which are contained in the annexes to this document as follows:

- Annex 1. Belize, CNCP status application received on 25 October 2022
- Annex 2. Liberia, CNCP status renewal application received on 28 November 2022
- Annex 3. Curaçao, CNCP status renewal application received on 16 December 2022

As per paragraph 4 of Decision 02-2018 (Rules for CNCPs), the CTC10 is requested to:

- Assess the three (3) renewal applications for CNCP status.
- Provide recommendations and technical advice to the Commission which considers *inter alia*:
 - a) whether the CNCP application includes all information required under paragraph 3;
 - b) in the case of renewal, the record of compliance of the applicant with the provisions of the Convention and the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission;
 - c) the applicant's record of responding to any IUU activities by vessels flying its flag that have been brought to its attention, in accordance with Article 27 of the Convention;
 - d) as appropriate, the record of compliance of the applicant with conservation and management measures of other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs);
 - e) in the case of applications for renewal of CNCP status, whether the applicant is meeting all paragraph 12 requirements for CNCP.

HSFU-RFMO-V10-2022(75) Vol.2

SPRFMO Secretariat
Attn: Mr. Craig Loveridge
Executive Secretary
Level 26 Plimmer Towers
Wellington 6011
New Zealand

Date: 25th October 2022

Contact Person: Valarie Lanza

Email: Valerie.lanza@bhsfu.gov.bz

Re: RENEWAL OF COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTY STATUS OF SPRFMO FOR 2023

Dear Mr. Loveridge:

The Belize High Seas Fisheries Unit, under the Ministry of Finance of the Government of Belize would like to express to the SPRFMO Commission its interest in renewing its Cooperating non-Contracting Party status.

In accordance with Decision 2-2018 (*Rules for Cooperating non-Contracting Party Status*), Belize is submitting the following in support of its request.

1. Reason for requesting renewal of CNCP status

Belize has a historical presence in the SPFM0 having acceded to the SPRFMO Convention on 11th April 2011. Belize does not have any vessels operating in this area; however, it wishes to introduce vessels to increase the fishing opportunities for its high seas fishing fleet. Therefore, in compliance with the relevant requirements of the Commission, and to promote sustainable fishing, it hereby submits its application for the renewal of its Cooperating non-Contracting Party Status.

2. Commitment to cooperate in the implementation of CMMs adopted by the Commission

Belize confirms its commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and to ensure that its flagged vessels that will fish in the Convention Area, and to the greatest extent possible, its nationals comply with the provisions of the Convention and conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.

3. Commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections

Belize commits to accepting high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection.

4. Commitment to providing all data and information

Belize also commits to comply with the requirements for the submission of all data and information in accordance with the standards adopted by the Commission for all its Members and Cooperating Non-Members.

5. Commitment to make voluntary contribution

Belize hereby confirms its commitment to make voluntary financial contributions commensurate with the level that would be assessed as a member, pursuant to the scheme of contributions established by the Commission in accordance with Article 15(2) of the Convention and particularly in accordance with paragraph 4.7 of the Financial Regulations of the Commission.

6. Commitment to provide any further information

Belize avails itself to provide any other relevant information as may be required by the Commission in consideration of this application and any other information as required under para.12 of Decision 2-2018

In conclusion, Belize also wishes to notify to the Commission of its intention to accede to the Convention and have already commenced this process with its government. Once the process to approve and accede to the Convention has been finalized, we will submit this information to the Commission to promote our application for Contracting Party.

We look forward to favorable response to our application. Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,



VALARIE LANZA
Director of High Seas Fisheries



Republic of Liberia
NATIONAL FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE AUTHORITY (NaFAA)

P. O. Box 1384
Bushrod Island, Monrovia, Liberia



Office of the Director General

Email: emglassco@nafaa.gov.lr

RL/NaFAA/DG/L-0161/'22

November 23, 2022

Sothorn Pacific Regional Management Fisheries Organization (SPRFMO)
Attn.: Mr. Craig Loveridge, Acting Executive Secretary
P.O. Box 3797
Wellington 6140, New Zealand

RE: LIBERIA - COOPERATING PARTY STATUS

Dear Mr. Loveridge:

The purpose of this letter is to request Liberia's continued participation as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) of the SPRFMO. Liberia remains committed to its obligation as a CNCP and the implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) adopted by SPRFMO.

In accordance with provisions set out in Decision 2-2018 (*Rules for Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties*), Liberia is submitting the following information in support of its request:

1. Reason for seeking renewal of CNCP status:

Liberia's seeks continued status as a CNCP because Liberia has a number of carrier vessels that are participating in transshipment activities in the SPRFMO Convention Area.

2. Commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of CMMs adopted by the Commission:

Liberia commits to fully cooperate in the implementation of CMMs adopted by the Commission and will continue to ensure that its vessels comply with CMMs including, but not limited to:

- 01-2021 Trachurus murphyi
- 02-2021 Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data
- 04-2020 Establishing a List of Vessels Presumed to have carried out IUU Fishing Activities...
- 05-2021 Establishment of the Commission Record of Vessels Authorized...
- 06-2020 Establishment of Vessel Monitoring System in the Convention Area

- 07-2021 Minimum Standards of Inspection in Port
- 10-2020 Establishment of a Compliance and Monitoring Scheme...
- 11-2015 Boarding and Inspection Procedures in the SPRFMO Convention Area
- 12-2020 Regulation of Transshipment and Other Transfer Activities

3. An explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections; full data on historical fisheries in the Convention Area:

Liberia commits to accepting high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on boarding and inspections in the SPRFMO Convention Area.

Liberia has provided for previous years, and will continue to provide to the Secretariat full and complete data on historical transshipment information, including names of vessels, species and total quantities transshipped.

4. All the data and information members of the Commission are required to submit, in accordance with the standards adopted by the Commission:

Liberia has consistently submitted transshipment data and other information members are required to submit, in accordance with the standards adopted by the Commission.

5. Any further relevant information as determined by the Commission:

Liberia will provide relevant information as determined by the Commission.

6. A statement of intent to make voluntary financial contributions commensurate...pursuant to the scheme of contributions established by the Commission in accordance with Article 15(2) of the Convention:

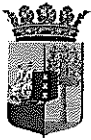
Liberia intends to make voluntary financial contributions commensurate with what would be assessed and pursuant to the scheme of contributions established by the Commission in accordance with Article 15(2) of the Convention.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,


Emma Metieh Glassco
DIRECTOR GENERAL





To:
SPRFMO Secretariat
Attn.: Mr. Craig Loveridge
Executive Secretary
Level 26 Plimmer Towers
Wellington 6011
New Zealand
e-mail: cloveridge@sprfmo.int

<i>Date</i> December 15, 2022	<i>Contactperson</i> Ramon Chong	<i>E-mail</i> ramon.chong@gobiernu.cw or ramon_chong@hotmail.com	
<i>Your letter dated</i> November 18, 2022	<i>Your number</i> DC94-2022	<i>Our number</i>	<i>Case number</i> FMC 2022/12-01
<i>Topic</i> Invitation to become a Contracting Party to the SPRFMO Convention or renew CNCP Status		<i>Page(s)</i> 2	<i>Nr of Appendices</i>

Dear *Mr. Loveridge*,

First of all, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to your request for Curaçao to become a Contracting Party to the SPRFMO Convention, or to renew its status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP).

Yes, indeed Curaçao does have an interest in the fisheries in the SPRFMO Convention Area. Based on the last mentioned we moreover appreciate your encouragement to become a full member of the Commission.

After careful evaluation of your recommendation, based, among others, on the needed preparation to be done, considering our constitutional status and requirements to comply with, forming part of the Dutch Kingdom, and also the accession and entry into force procedures of the Convention, we have opted for the present day to request a prolongation of our CNCP Status. Notwithstanding the last mentioned, we will initiate with the necessary groundworks and arrangements in order to apply for a full membership of the Commission next year to enter into force per 2024.

Thus, the Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao would like to express to the distinguished membership of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO) its interest in renewing Curaçao's status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) of the Commission. Curaçao takes pride in its partnerships with regional fisheries management organizations and the contribution they make to the preservation of the long-term health of our oceans. We approach these partnerships transparently: always willing to engage, and always striving to improve our performance.

In keeping with the SPRFMO Decision 2-2018 regarding the participation of CNCP's we are therefore committed to cooperate fully in the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission. And we also ensure that carrier vessels flying our flag in the Convention



Area comply with all the pertinent SPRFMO provisions and measures. As such, we also accept high seas boarding and inspections.

In the meantime, we will gladly continue to submit all required data and information in accordance with the standards adopted by the Commission. We will provide all the required information and statements should any compliance issues arise. And we will also make another voluntary financial contribution, pursuant to the scheme of contributions established by the Commission, and corresponding to the amount applicable should we become a Member to SPRFMO.

In closing, we look forward to our continued engagement and therefore we hope to receive a favorable response to this request. If you need any additional information from us, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ramon Chong MURP, MPIA
Chairman International Fisheries Commission

CC.:

- Minister of Economic Development;
- Members of the International Fisheries Commission