



SPRFMO

**5th Meeting of the Compliance and Technical Committee**

**Lima, Peru, 26 - 28 January 2018**

**CTC 5 – Doc 12\_supp1**

**Applications for CNCP status (Panama)**

*Secretariat*

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On 26 January 2018, Panama submitted a request to renew its status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party to the Convention.

Members are reminded that last year the Commission decided to renew the CNCP status of Panama one more time, noting with deep concern the serious issue of non-compliance by Panama and its absence from the current Commission meeting. The Commission agreed that, in deciding to approve Panama's application for CNCP status in 2017, an application by Panama for CNCP status in 2018 should meet the expectations in the [COMM5 report ANNEX 7](#) if it is to be approved



DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE INSPECCIÓN, VIGILANCIA Y CONTROL

Panama, December 29, 2017  
**DGIVC/0215/2017**

Honorable  
**Dr. Johanne Fischer**  
Executive Secretary  
South Pacific Fisheries Management Organization

Dear Dr. Fischer:

I am writing you in relation of your letter Ref.: 165-2017 regarding of the invitation to become a Contracting Party to the SPRFMO Convention or to renew the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party.

We hereby inform that the Government of Panama officially request to the SPRFMO Commission to renew our status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party to the Convention.

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) and the Government of Panama are committed to prevent and eliminate the illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities. We believe that IUU fishing is one of the most serious threats facing the biodiversity of the world's oceans. Our regulations highlight our role as an international partner in the fight against IUU activities.

We are committed to comply with the conditions established in SPRFMO regulations.

The reason to seek the status of Cooperating non Contracting Party is because we have a fleet that operate for fishing and support fishing vessel in the Convention Area.

We express our commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and ensure that Panamanian fishing vessels and support fishing vessels comply with the provisions of the Convention, conservation and management adopted by the Commission.

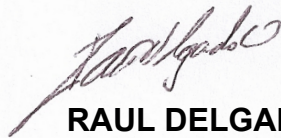
Also we inform the explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection. Also the commitment to make the voluntary financial contributions commensurate with what would be assessed should we become a Member established by the Commission.

All the data and information of the Commission required will be submitted, in accordance with the standards adopted by the Commission.

Also Panama intent to make voluntary financial contribution commensurate with what would be assessed should it become 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.

Any additional information requested, will be supplied to the SPRFMO Secretariat by ARAP.

Best Regards,



**RAUL DELGADO**  
Director General

