

**5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Compliance and Technical Committee  
Lima, Peru, 26 - 28 January 2018**

**CTC 5 – Doc 12 rev 1**

**Applications for CNCP status (Curaçao, ~~and Liberia~~ & Colombia)**

*Secretariat*

Attached are the full applications for the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party (CNCP) received in accordance with Decision 02-2016, paragraph 2, i.e. at least 60 days in advance of the annual meeting of the Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC) at which the request will be considered (27 November 2017).

ANNEX 1: Curaçao

ANNEX 2: Liberia

On 17 December 2017, the Secretariat received a notification of intention to renew CNCP status from Panama. To date no formal application for CNCP status has been received.

On 24 January 2018, the Secretariat received an application for CNCP status from Colombia. Recalling that last year Colombia did not apply for CNCP status and the CTC report records that there was consensus that the CTC would welcome an application from Colombia for 2018.

ANNEX 3: Colombia

In addition, on 9 June 2017 the Plurinational State of Bolivia informed SPRFMO about its intention to request CNCP status (letter 68-2017). This was in response to letter 181-2016 from the Chairperson of the Commission (Mr Gordon Neil) regarding an authorisation to fish in the SPRFMO Convention Area issued by Bolivia to the vessel CAPE FLOWER. Subsequently the Executive Secretary invited Bolivia to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting in Peru as an observer, and explained the process of becoming a CNCP. To date no formal application for CNCP status has been received.

Decision 02-2016 (Rules for CNCPs) stipulates that:

3. A non-member seeking the status of CNCP shall include within its request:
  - a) its reason for seeking CNCP status,
  - b) a commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and to ensure that fishing vessels flying its flag and fishing 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;
  - c) an explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection, once they have been adopted; full data on its historical fisheries in the Convention Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas;
  - d) all the data and information members of the Commission are required to submit, in accordance with the standards adopted by the Commission;
  - e) a statement on how any compliance issues previously identified by the Commission have been addressed;
  - f) any further relevant information as determined by the Commission;
  - g) a statement of intent to make voluntary financial contributions 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".
4. The CTC shall assess applications for CNCP status and provide recommendations and technical advice to the Commission, which shall consider, *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.



Ministry of  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

To:  
SPRFMO Secretariat  
Att.: Dr. Johanne Fisher  
Level 26 Plimmer Towers  
Wellington 6011  
New Zealand

Date:  
12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Contact person:  
Ramon Chong

E-mail address  
ramon.chong@goblemu.cw

Your letter of

Your reference

Our number

Case number:

Topic:  
Request for Cooperating Non-Contracting Membership

Page:  
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No. of annexes:  
1

Dear Dr. Fisher,

The Ministry of Economic Development of Curaçao would like to express to the distinguished members of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO), Curaçao's interest to become a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party of your Organization.

Development of international fisheries contributes to the economic development of a Small Island Development State (SIDS) like Curaçao. Until now the fisheries sector contributes to less than 1% of Curaçao's GDP. The artisanal fishery sector delivers a minor contribution to the local markets based on fish caught within its territorial and EEZ waters. The development of the high seas tuna fisheries industry is steadfastly developing into an important sector for Curaçao, not only as a food source, but also in providing employment and important socio-economic benefits for our people.

Curaçao has been a cooperating non contracting party of the International Commission for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) since the year 2004. In February 2014 Curaçao has become a full member of the ICCAT. The industrial tuna fleet is the main fishery income generator, contributing to the State budget through the issuance of fishing licenses and catch certificates to companies fishing tuna in the high seas located nearby the West African coast in the Atlantic Ocean. Currently five Curaçao registered purse seiners are fishing in the ICCAT area. Five carrier vessels from the company Sea Trade are also licensed to operate in the ICCAT area. Last year, based on the catches of mentioned fleet, Curaçao exported almost 35.000 tons of tuna mainly to Europe.

For Curaçao as a SIDS, it becomes essential to continue to develop its fisheries industry, in order to mitigate its vulnerable open economy. This industry has proven to be able to provide jobs to locals and to be less susceptible for the generation of state revenues. In addition, it possesses the capacity to spurs the international generated knowledge for the benefit of the development of the local fishery sector.

We are fully committed to cooperate in the implementation of the conservation and management measures adopted by your Organization and to ensure that fishing vessels flying our flag and fishing in the Convention Area comply with the resolutions and provisions adopted by your Organization. We are explicitly committed to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection, once they have been adopted, and to report, comply, and deliver full fisheries data relevant to the Convention Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas.

*Our number:**Case number**Page:***2**

Furthermore, we are committed to deliver all the data and information, parties of your Organization are required to submit, in accordance with the standards adopted by your Organization and any further relevant information as determined by your Organization. Please be informed that Curaçao possess a full fledged Fishing and Monitoring Center which has been approved by the DC MARE of the European Union, which at this moment already comply with the monitoring and reporting requirements of ICCAT and FAO.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate, to the SPRFMO our expressions of highest esteem and consideration, in the hope that the SPRFMO members will review our endeavor to fully cooperate with your Organization and for the SPRFMO to consider favorably our request.

Yours Sincerely,

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Dr. Steven Martina  
*Minister of Economic Development*



*Office of Deputy  
Corporate Registrar*

**REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MONROVIA, LIBERIA**

November 28, 2017

Sothorn Pacific Regional Management Fisheries Organization (SPRFMO)  
Attn: Dr. Johanne Fischer, Executive Secretary  
P.O. Box 3797  
Wellington 6140, New Zealand

**RE: COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTY STATUS**

Dear Dr. Fischer/Secretariat:

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 cooperating in the implementation of Conservation and Management Measures ("CMMs") adopted by SPRFMO.

In accordance with provisions set out in Decision 1.02, Liberia is submitting the following information in support of its renewal application:

**1. Reason for seeking renewal of CNCP status:**

Liberia's reason for seeking renewal of CNCP status is because we have in our Registry a number of reefer 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 and to ensure that vessels flying the flag of Liberia comply with the provisions of the Convention:**

Liberia is fully committed to cooperating in the implementation of CMMs adopted by the Commission and will continue to ensure that vessels flying the flag of Liberia and engaging in transshipment activities in the Convention Area comply with the provisions of the Convention and CMMs. Some of those CMMs include, but not limited to those listed below.

In fact, Liberia is currently investigating the alleged Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities of one of its flagged vessels (ZHONG XIANG, IMO No. 8814299) pursuant to CMM 04-2017 - *Conservation and Management Measure Establishing a List of Vessels Presumed to Have Carried Out IUU Fishing activities...* and CMM 12-2017 - *Regulation of Transshipment and Other Transfer Activities*. The aforementioned vessel was observed by Peruvian Authorities proceeding at a reduced speed on a parallel approach with two Chinese flagged vessels and one unknown vessel in the SPRFMO Convention Area, adjacent to Peruvian jurisdictional waters on various dates in October 2017. The Liberian Administration instructed the vessel to proceed to Panama where a flag State investigation was

carried out. Liberia has informed the SPRFMO Secretariat of the investigation. Upon conclusion of the investigation, the Liberian Administration will inform the Secretariat of the results and any punitive actions taken against the vessel operator.

CMM 01-2017 Trachurus Murphyi,

CMM 04-2017 Establishing a List of Vessels Presumed to have carried out IUU Fishing,

CMM 05-2016 Establishment of the Commission Record of Vessels,

CMM 06-2017 Establishment of the Vessel Monitoring System,

CMM 07-2017 Minimum Standards of Inspection in Port,

CMM 10-2017 Establishment of a Compliance and Monitoring Scheme,

CMM 11-2017 Boarding and Inspection Procedures in the SPRFMO Convention Area,

CMM 12-2017 Regulation of Transshipment and Other Transfer Activities.

**3. An explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection:**

Liberia makes an explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with SPRFMO's procedures on High Seas Boarding and Inspection.

**4. Full data on Liberia's historical fisheries in the Convention Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas:**

Liberia has provided an updated Record of Vessels to the Secretariat.

**5. 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, VMS quarterly reports, and monthly CJM transshipment data to the Commission as required.

**6. Any further relevant information as determined by the Commission:**

Liberia is willing to provide relevant information as determined by the Commission.

**7. 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 and particularly in accordance with paragraph 4.7 of the Financial Regulations of the Commission:**

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 and particularly in accordance with paragraph 4.7 of the of the Financial Regulations of the Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret C. Ansumana', written in a cursive style.

Margaret C. Ansumana  
Deputy Commissioner for Maritime Affairs/  
Deputy Corporate Registrar, R.L.



Bogotá D.C. 22 ENE 2018

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Doctor

**JOHANNE FISCHER**

Executive Secretary

**SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION****SPRFMO Secretariat PO Box 3797****Wellington 6140 – NEW ZEALAND****REFERENCE:** Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) Status Application

Dear Dr Fisher,

Concerning the request to get the status as a “Cooperating non-Contracting Party” (CNCP) of the “South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization” (SPRFMO) for the Republic of Colombia, I would firstly like to highlight the country was an active participant in the international and Preparatory Conference meetings to establish SPRFMO, and it is a signatory to the convention. Additionally, the Republic of Colombia has also a steady interest in the fisheries managed by the SPRFMO, and may have vessels that enter these fisheries in the mid-term future.

In the same direction, the “National Authority for Fisheries and Aquaculture” (AUNAP) widely recognises the SPRFMO’s commitment to the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources of the South Pacific Ocean and the protection of the marine ecosystems in which the resources occur, through the implementation of relevant “Conservation and Management Measures” (CMMs). Additionally, it is widely recognised the important role the SPRFMO plays in the implementation of mechanisms to combat “Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated” (IUU) Fishing along high seas areas of the South Pacific Ocean.

Therefore, according to the SPRFMO Secretariat Letter Ref: 167-2017 addressing the AUNAP's General Direction dated on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 concerning an invitation to become a “Cooperating Non-Contracting Party” (CNCP) to the SPRFMO, and considering the Rules for CNCPs, the information below is provided to support the Application of the Republic of Colombia for getting the CNCP Status for the present year 2018, as follows:

a. Reason for seeking CNCP status.

The Republic of Colombia has been an active participant in SPRFMO negotiations and has an interest in the fisheries managed by SPRFMO for the mid-term future, and supports the objective of the Convention. In addition, Colombia has waters of national jurisdiction adjacent to the SPRFMO Convention Area, and although currently there are not any vessels flying a Colombian flag fishing on this area, the National Government has the great willingness to cooperate with the SPRFMO in combating IUU Fishing around these areas regarding the fishery resources managed by the SPRFMO.



- b. Commitment to cooperate fully in the implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) adopted by the Commission and to ensure that fishing vessels flying the Colombian flag 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.

The Republic of Colombia is fully committed to cooperating in the implementation of all applicable measures, including Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) that have been adopted by the SPRFMO Commission, and in case any vessels flying a Colombian flag fish or get involved in related fishing activities in the SPRFMO Area, they will comply with the provisions of the Convention and CMMs adopted by the Commission.

- c. An explicit commitment to accept high seas boarding and inspections in accordance with the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspection, once they have been adopted; full data on its historical fisheries in the Convention Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas.

The Republic of Colombia currently has no vessels participating in the fisheries managed by SPRFMO. In future terms, if vessels flying a Colombian flag enter fisheries in charge of SPRFMO, there will be accepted the Commission's procedures on high seas boarding and inspections.

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

The Republic of Colombia currently has no vessels participating in the fisheries managed by SPRFMO. If Colombia-flagged vessels enter SPRFMO-managed fisheries, the "*National Authority for Fisheries and Aquaculture*" (AUNAP) of the Republic of Colombia would provide the Commission with all relevant data and information and abide by all relevant measures adopted.

- e. A statement on how any compliance issues previously identified by the Commission have been addressed.

The SPRFMO Commission has not identified any compliance issues for the Republic of Colombia.

- f. Any further relevant information as determined by the Commission:

The "*National Authority for Fisheries and Aquaculture*" (AUNAP) of Colombia is prepared to provide any additional information necessary to support this application, subject to Colombian domestic law.

- g. A statement of intent to make voluntary financial contributions 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.

Concerning making voluntary financial contributions to the Commission, it is mentioned that given the fact that the AUNAP's institutional budget has been highly reduced recently, the AUNAP does not have currently funding available to provide non-compulsory contributions for the present year 2018, and as the AUNAP's General Director, I would deeply appreciate that Colombia can get the CNCP Status at the SPRFMO for the present year 2018.

Finally, I deeply appreciate your attention to the Colombian CNCP application, and if you have any further technical questions regarding this application, please contact the AUNAP's Research Officer Javier Plata by email at [javier.plata@aunap.gov.co](mailto:javier.plata@aunap.gov.co) or Phone Number: 571-3770500 Ext. 1022

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



**OTTO POLANCO RENGIFO**  
AUNAP's General Director

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