Introduction

1. The Third Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC3) endorsed a recommendation from the Second regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC2) that the revised template for Part 2 of the Annual Report (Attachment K of the WCPFC3 Summary Report) be adopted for future reports. WCPFC4 considered a recommendation from TCC3 relating to the modification of the template for Part 2 of the Annual Report to incorporate boarding and inspection reporting requirements (Attachment G, Annex 4 of the TCC3 Summary Report). However, although WCPFC4 adopted the TCC3 Summary Report, a formal decision on whether or not to adopt this template was not recorded in the WCPFC4 Summary Report.

2. Paragraph 7 of WCPFC Circular 2008/03 dated 18 February 2008 proposed that CCMs use the Part 2 reporting template developed by the Secretariat in 2007 and used by some, but not all, CCMs for their Part 2 of the Annual Report covering the period 1 January-31 December 2006. This revised template is presented at Attachment A of WCPFC-TCC4-2008/26 for TCC’s further consideration.

3. Twenty-four Commission Members, a fishing entity, two Cooperating Non-Members and seven Participating Territories (CCMs) were required to submit to the Commission by 31 July 2008 their respective Part 2 Reports on Management and Compliance, for the period 1 January-31 December 2007. At the time of preparation of this paper, 11 CCMs had submitted Part 2 Reports which are available to TCC4.

4. Since Part 2 Reports are regarded as confidential, the Secretariat has not posted them on the WCPFC website. Instead, copies of them are provided on CD-ROM to TCC4 delegations. TCC4 may wish to consider the information contained in this paper under TCC4 Agenda Item 2.8(b).

Formats used in the preparation of Part 2 Reports

5. Of the 11 Part 2 Reports provided to the Secretariat, six used the revised template (Attachment K of the WCPFC3 Summary Report) and five used the proposed template presented at Attachment A of WCPFC-TCC4-2008/26.

Discussion

6. Judging from the untimely submission of many of the Part 2 Reports it is clear that the reporting obligations associated with complying with the Convention’s principles and implementing the Commission’s decisions continue to present significant challenges for many CCMs, and that some CCMs are continuing to experience difficulties complying with the current requirements. WCPFC-TCC4-2008/25 continues previous TCC discussions relating to
reporting obligations and efforts to build capacity to meet reporting obligations, and deter non-compliance.

7. TCC4 is invited to consider advice and recommendations to the Commission in relation to the current situation in respect of the submission of Annual Reports to the Commission.