



**COMMISSION
FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION
Manila, Philippines
3 – 7 December 2017**

REFERENCE PAPER FOR TCC13 RECOMMENDATIONS

**WCPFC14-2017-19
15 November 2017**

Paper by Secretariat

A. Introduction

1. The purpose of this paper is to provide as a quick reference guide to the recommendations of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC13) of relevance to WCPFC14 discussions. A copy of the full TCC13 Summary Report is provided as **WCPFC-2017-TCC13**.

B. TCC13 Recommendations for WCPFC14 decision

2. The relevant recommendations of the TCC13 for WCPFC14 decision with appropriate referencing, are listed below:

WCPFC IUU vessel list

- i) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the three vessels currently on the WCPFC IUU Vessel List in 2017 remain on that list (*TCC13 para 50*). **WCPFC14-2017-26**
- ii) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission seeks the cooperation of those CCMs or flag States to whom the vessel was flagged at the time the vessel was placed on the WCPFC IUU Vessel List and other CCMs' cooperation to actively find out any information about these vessels and inform the Commission (*TCC13 para 51*).
- iii) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission requires prompt advice to the Commission by all CCMs if the vessels have been located or, if there are any known changes to name, flag or registered owner, including any action that the port States have taken such as denial of port entry and services to those vessels or any information from the cannery States of any landings made by these vessels (*TCC13 para 52*).
- iv) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission tasks the Executive Director to write a letter to other RFMOs and relevant bodies conveying this same message for cooperation to locate these vessels (*TCC13 para 53*).

Applications for Cooperating Non-Member Status

- v) TCC13 has reviewed the following CNM applications and is forwarding them to WCPFC14 for consideration: Ecuador, El Salvador, Liberia, Mexico, Panama, Thailand and Vietnam (*TCC13 para 60*).

- vi) TCC13 noted the CNM working group process had occurred in parallel with the compliance monitoring scheme process and recommended that following TCC13, in consultation with SPC, the Secretariat write a particularised letter to CNMs outlining any identified deficiencies in data provision and request that CNM applicants provide any information outlined in these letters, as requested during the CMS process, 30 days in advance of WCPFC14, and that these letters and any responses be assessed by WCPFC14 (TCC13 para 63).
- vii) TCC13 recommended that WCPFC14 take into consideration the compliance statuses of all CNM applicants in making its decision on the CNM applications and participatory rights (TCC13 para 64).
- viii) TCC13 noted that in three CNM applications, Ecuador, El Salvador and Mexico, have reiterated interest in becoming full Commission members (TCC13 para 66).
- ix) TCC13 considered the broader issue of membership was beyond the mandate of the group. However, TCC13 recommends that compliance records be considered among any criteria that could be developed for the process of considering applications for full membership. CCMs are encouraged to consult on broader issues related to the membership process prior to WCPFC14 (TCC13 para 67). **WCPFC14-2017-07**

Provisional CMR report

- x) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 the Provisional CMR for the Commission's consideration and final assessment in WCPFC-TCC13-2017-pCMR. (TCC13 para 90)

WCPFC-TCC13-2016-pCMR01_rev1

Expiry of CMM 2015-07

- xi) TCC13 noted that a majority of CCMs supported recommending to WCPFC14 that the Commission extend CMM 2015-07 for one additional year while the Independent Review completes its work. A minority of CCMs did not support this recommendation. (TCC13 para 102)

SIDS and Territories' assistance needs

- xii) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission considers an approach to addressing the specific challenge of making links between which sources of assistance can best meet SIDS and Territories' needs, and how that assistance can be systematically tracked to ensure its delivery (TCC13 para 116).

WCPFC approved ALC/MTU list and VMS reporting

- xiii) TCC13 agreed to recommend to the Commission the addition of the Triton Advance MTU and Skymate I1500 VMS to the WCPFC approved ALC/MTU list (TCC13 para 135).
- xiv) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission agree that CCMs should ensure that vessels flying their flag do not purchase, install or transfer the following VMS units: FVT, MAR GE, MAR GE V2, and MAR GE V3 (all Argos units) and that they be removed from the WCPFC approved ALC/MTU list. TCC13 further recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission agrees that existing units on vessels will be allowed to continue to operate for a period to be determined by the Commission. TCC13 recommended that CCMs whose vessels use these models be prepared at WCPFC14 to provide a date certain by which these units can be fully phased out (TCC13 para 137).
- xv) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission tasks the Secretariat to coordinate, as necessary, with the VMS service provider to provide additional functionality in its 'Commission VMS-reporting status tool' in a web-based, exportable matrix. The new tool should separately, in addition to the data listed in the current tool, provide authorized flag CCM MCS entities each of

their vessel's daily VMS-reporting status (how many position reports are transmitted by each vessel on each date), and determine and display a generic vessel status ('in port' or 'at sea', for example) (TCC13 para 142).

Funding for observer cross-endorsement training

xvi) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission investigate alternative funding mechanisms to deliver cross endorsement training (TCC13 para 162).

Amendment to CMM 2016-03 CMM on Observer Safety

xvii) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission amend CMM 2016-03 by deleting footnote 1 and renumbering the remaining footnotes accordingly (TCC13 para 172).

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ERandEM IWG meeting in 2018

xviii) Noting that levels of observer coverage could be improved under the ROP and that electronic monitoring could potentially supplement or complement observer monitoring, TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission task the ERandEM IWG to meet early in 2018 to enable SC14 to consider how observer data obtained through electronic monitoring is to be dealt within the WCPFC context (TCC13 para 163).

E-reporting draft standards for observer data

xix) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission consider the E-reporting standards for observer data. CCMs with additional comments were encouraged to provide them to SPC-OFP by 21 October 2017. SPC-OFP would revise the version in advance of WCPFC14, as needed.

(TCC13 para 177) **WCPFC14-2017-20**

High seas transshipment reporting

xx) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission requires CCMs to report observer coverage achieved for their carrier vessels conducting transshipment at sea, in line with the vessel specifications outlined in paragraph 13 of CMM 2009-06, in their Annual Report Part 2 (TCC13 para 200).

xxi) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission task the Secretariat to make the list of vessels previously inspected under the HSBI scheme, published online at <https://www.wcpfc.int/ccm/hsbi-report>, exportable in MS Excel and CSV format to authorised CCM users. (TCC13 para 235).

Expired authorization periods on the RFV

xxii) TCC13 noted the concerns raised by CCMs regarding the technical lack of updates to the authorisation period on the Record of Fishing Vessels and recommended that WCPFC14 discuss this issue further. TCC13 requested that the Secretariat consider the feasibility of technical solutions to this issue in advance of WCPFC14 and provide a report (TCC13 para 247).

Marking and monitoring of FADs

xxiii) TCC13 supported the recommendation from SC13 (SC13 draft Summary Report, paragraph 118) that recommends as a first step the Commission considers introducing a buoy ID scheme, and that field tests be undertaken to determine the optimal configuration of future developments of a full marking system (TCC13 para 275).

Collection of additional data on FADs

- xxiv) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission notes the need for FAD data to be provided by ROP observers for all vessels involved in FAD activities, including support vessels (TCC13 para 279).

Safe release guidelines for manta and mobulids

- xxv) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission adopt the safe release guidelines for manta and mobulids (as referenced in SC13 draft Summary Report, Attachment H) (TCC13 para 296).

Review of Shark CMMs

- xxvi) TCC13 notes for WCPFC14 the concerns raised by those Members conducting high seas boarding and inspections regarding the difficulty in determining compliance with CMM 2010-07 paragraph 6 and encourages further discussion to address this issue (TCC13 para 310).
- xxvii) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission note that despite a notable decrease in numbers since 2014, silky and oceanic white tip sharks were still retained onboard and finned in WCPFC fisheries. TCC13 also recommended to WCPFC14 that the Commission consider additional measures to ensure compliance with the relevant CMMs (TCC13 para 311).
- xxviii) TCC13, taking note of SC13 advice that no new information was submitted for its consideration in view of reviewing the ratio of fins to carcass weight, recommended that WCPFC14 take note that TCC is still not able to fulfil its task in CMM 2010-07 paragraph 7 (TCC13 para 312).

Development of a comprehensive approach to shark and ray conservation and management

- xxix) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that the following points be considered, potentially as terms of reference for an intersessional drafting group, when working toward a comprehensive shark and ray conservation and management measure for adoption at WCPFC15 (in line with previous WCPFC guidance, the term 'shark' below refers to all shark and ray taxa):
- Explicit and easily understood standards for implementing full utilization, either in the form of prescribing certain handling practices, or requiring additional specific and potentially higher standards of inspection readiness and compliance reporting for those CCMs whose handling practices are more difficult to verify.
 - Mechanisms that would improve the coverage and availability of data and data fields that support analysis of effectiveness and verification of shark no-retention policies (e.g. improvements in monitoring programmes, such as data fields, electronic systems and coverage rates, as well as species identification tools and training for both observers and industry).
 - A requirement to adopt guidelines for safe release for all types of protected and/or unwanted sharks within an appropriate timeframe, based on the best available science and safe release experience of CCMs' national programmes, as well as crew safety concerns, noting that the guidelines will necessarily evolve over time.
 - Specification of whether the choice to ban either wire leaders or shark lines (under CMM 2014-05) should be at the vessel or fleet level, and the mechanism for communicating that choice to the Commission, to allow for accurate analysis of mitigation effectiveness.
 - Consideration of whether additional gear or operational mitigation measures should be required or encouraged to reduce catch rates for protected or unwanted sharks taking into account operational concerns and impacts on other taxa.

- Clarification of which fisheries need to submit shark management plans, a list of the required contents, the required frequency of update, and a set of criteria to be used in evaluating the plans.
- Consolidate reporting requirements of the current shark CMMs, if possible, by for example removing references to reporting in Annual Report Parts 1 and 2 and aligning shark data reporting with other existing data reporting requirements without reducing information content.
- Take into account shark conservation and management schemes already implemented by CCMs for fisheries under their national jurisdiction.

(TCC13 para 316) **WCPFC14-2017-26**

Data relevant to bycatch mitigation

xxx) TCC13 recommends to WCPFC14 that the Commission tasks the Secretariat to consider what information could usefully be gathered around bycatch mitigation equipment and application, during transshipment processes and forward these to TCC14 for consideration to be incorporated into the transshipment process. *(TCC13 para 337)*

xxxii) TCC13 recommends to WCPFC14 that the Commission considers incorporating data relevant to bycatch mitigation as part of any Port State Measures CMM that is adopted by the Commission. *(TCC13 para 338)*

Port Coordinators Programme

xxxiii) TCC13 noted for WCPFC14 that a majority of CCMs support extension of the Port Coordinators Programme. TCC13 noted that some CCMs requested that those CCMs that had participated in the programme in the past provide additional reports to WCPFC14 on the outcomes, benefits and operation and implementation of the expected duties of the programme *(TCC13 para 392)*

TCC14 'plastic bottle' free

xxxiiii) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that TCC14 be 'plastic bottle' free *(TCC13 para 379)*.

Next meeting

xxxv) TCC13 recommended to WCPFC14 that TCC14 be held from Wednesday 26th September to Tuesday 2nd October 2018, and that the venue be Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia *(TCC13 para 404)*.
