



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

CNM Summary Report 2017

**WCPFC14-2017-SWG-CNM01
06 December 2017**

SWG on Cooperating Non Members

Summary Report.

The SWG noted with appreciation the attendance and participation of Ecuador, El Salvador, Liberia, Panama, Thailand, and Vietnam in the Group's discussions. Mexico was not able to attend but did write during the meeting to confirm their interest and commitment of payment for 2017.

Some of the attending CCMs stated their acceptance of CNM applications was conditional on the receipt of financial contributions. Other CCMs noted their interpretation that voluntary contributions were expected, and that they suggested that decisions on CNM applications take into account a range of factors based on the relevant CMM.

CCMs noted the importance that CNMs meet reporting requirements and deadlines, and that a lack of full and timely reporting in future years could affect decisions on CNM applications or membership.

It was confirmed that applications were complete and outstanding data addressed for the seven applicants.

Participants noted that they felt that the discussion and decision on Vietnam's request for CNM status be considered in plenary. Some CCMs noted concern over the activity of "blue boats" in the CA. Vietnam noted the measures they have taken to update their legislation including penalties and committed to there being no further instances in 2018 or they would not seek CNM status for 2019. Some CCMs noted their appreciation of the actions that Vietnam has taken and indicated they were actively working with Vietnam to address the situation.

Participants noted that they felt that the discussion and decision on Mexico's request for CNM status be considered in plenary. Some CCMs noted concern over the lack of commitment to apply the WCPFC HSBI scheme. Others noted the interest in having Mexico's ongoing engagement as they fish shared stocks in IATTC, have not had a fishing vessel active in the CA, and that they understand that there are domestic constraints on applying measures where there is no treaty obligation.

Participatory rights of CNMs

The SWG agreed to recommend that the CNMs accepted by the WCPFC plenary (i.e. Ecuador, El Salvador, Liberia, Mexico, Panama, Thailand and Vietnam) have the same participatory rights in 2018 as they had in 2017.

WCPFC14 agreed to the following limits to be applied to the participatory rights of CNMs (Convention / CMM 2009-11):

a. In accordance with the WCPF Convention and its conservation and management measures and resolutions, the following participatory rights apply to Cooperating Non- Members (CNMs) for fisheries in the high seas within the WCPFC Convention Area.

b. In addition, unless otherwise specified below, CNMs may fish in waters under their national jurisdiction or other CCMs' national jurisdiction, in accordance with appropriate bilateral arrangements.

c. CNMs shall ensure vessels flying their flags comply with all provisions of the WCPFC Convention and the WCPFC conservation and management measures. In addition, CNM vessels will be placed on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels (WCPFC RFV).

d. CCMs shall ensure that CNM fishing activities that are conducted in waters under their national jurisdiction in accordance with bilateral arrangements are consistent with all relevant conservation and management measures and provisions of the WCPF Convention.

e. Renewal of CNM status by the Commission will take into account compliance with the national laws and regulations of any licensing CCM, and all conservation and management measures and provisions of the WCPFC Convention. CCMs shall identify any violations by vessels flagged to a CNM and report on any investigations of such violations to the Secretariat for attention by TCC.

Participatory rights of each CNM in 2018

Ecuador

The participatory rights for fishing in the WCPO are limited to purse seine fishing, with no participatory rights for fishing on the high seas for highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area. Any introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2009-11 and CMM 2016-01 or its replacement measure.

El Salvador

The participatory rights of El Salvador for fishing in the WCPO are limited to purse seine fishing only. The total level of effort by purse seine vessels of El Salvador on the high seas shall not exceed 29 days in the Convention Area. Any introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2009-11 and CMM 2016-01 or its replacement measure.

Liberia

The participatory rights of Liberia are limited to reefer vessels to engage in transshipment activities, and bunker and supply vessels to support fishing vessels in the Convention area.

Mexico

To be decided based on plenary discussion [[It was noted that Mexico had participated in the work of the Northern Committee (NC) at NC 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and, noting the need for cooperation with the work of the NC particularly in regard to Pacific bluefin tuna, encouraged

Mexico to continue to participate in the NC.]] Mexico does not intend to have a vessel presence in 2018. Any future introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2009-11 and CMM 2016-01 or its replacement measure. Their letter notes their commitment to comply with the legal provisions and obligations as a CNM.]]

Panama

The participatory rights of Panama in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels. Panama's participatory rights also apply to vessels that supply food, water and spare parts to carrier vessels that engage in transshipment activities, provided that these vessels do not engage in activities supporting fishing vessels, including providing and/or servicing FADs. The SWG also noted that this does not result in any additional participatory rights in 2018 to the participatory rights granted to Panama in 2017.

Thailand

The participatory rights of Thailand in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels only.

Vietnam

To be decided based on plenary discussion [[The participatory rights of Vietnam in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels only]].

WCPFC/IATTC Overlap Area

74. In accordance with the decision of WCPFC9 regarding the management of the overlap area of 4°S and between 130°W and 150°W, vessels flagged to Ecuador, El Salvador and Mexico will be governed by the IATTC when fishing in the overlap area.

75. In accordance with the Data Exchange MOU agreed by both Commissions, fishing vessels flying the flag of a member of either the IATTC or WCPFC shall cooperate with the RFMO to which they are not a member by voluntarily providing operational catch and effort data for its fishing activities for highly migratory species in the overlap area.

76. For the purpose of investigation of possible IUU fishing activities and consistent with international and domestic laws, vessels flying the flag of a CNM that is a Contracting Party to the IATTC will cooperate with those coastal State members of the WCPFC whose EEZs occur in the overlap area by voluntarily providing VMS reports (date, time and position) to those coastal States when operating in the overlap area.

Implementation of changes to the CNM request template

77. As agreed at WCPFC13 a column was included in the CNM application template where CNM applicants could indicate their interest in becoming a member of the Commission.

