



SIXTH REGULAR SESSION
Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia
7-11 December 2009

**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE TO MONITOR LANDINGS OF
PURSE SEINE VESSELS AT PORTS SO AS TO ENSURE RELIABLE CATCH DATA
BY SPECIES**

Conservation and Management Measure 2009-10

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC),

Recalling that CMM 2008-01 was adopted at WCPFC5 to achieve a minimum of 30% reduction in bigeye tuna fishing mortality for the annual average during the period 2001-2004 or 2004;

Recognizing that, without acquiring reliable species and size composition data of purse seine catch in the region, the effectiveness of CMM 2008-01 cannot be measured;

Noting the high possibility that the reported bigeye catch by purse seine vessels are significantly lower than the actual bigeye catches because of the nature of purse seine operation – huge catches are piled up in a fish hold directly from nets, transshipped and sorted after landed – which causes difficulty in acquiring reliable species and size composition data on board;

Noting also that sorting and sizing at landing sites or canneries have been conducted as common commercial practice and that commercial entities have such species/size data, while the need for improvement of data quality is recognized.

Underlining the possibility to improve the purse seine catch data of bigeye tuna by establishing a mechanism to utilize existing sorting activities at landing sites and data compiled;

Further noting that substantial portion of purse seine catches in the Convention area is landed at ports of non-CCMs such as Thailand;

Recalling that, in accordance with paragraph 43 of CMM 2008-01, CCMs are responsible, where applicable, to conduct monitoring at landing ports and report the outcomes to the Commission annually;

Adopts, in accordance with Article 10 of the Convention that:

1. The Commission and the CCMs concerned shall work together to establish in 2010 an

arrangement with a Non-CCM to enable collection of species and size composition data from canneries in the Non-CCM regarding purse seine catch in the Convention area. The progress shall be reported to the Commission.

2. Data obtained under this CMM shall be handled as non-public domain data.