



**INAUGURAL SESSION
9-10 December 2004
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia**

Cooperating Non-Members¹

Conservation and Management Measure – 2004 – 02

In giving effect to article 32 of the Convention:-

1. A non-member of the Commission, whose vessels intend to fish in the Convention Area, , may request the Commission for the status of a Cooperating non-member. Any such request shall be received by the Executive Director at least 90 days in advance of the annual meeting of the Commission at which the request will be considered. The Executive Director shall notify all members of the Commission of any such request.
2. A non-member seeking the status of Cooperating non-member shall include with its request:
 - (a) an indication of its views on ratification of or accession to the Convention;
 - (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 under it;
 - (c) 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 members of the Commission are required to submit, in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the Commission;
 - (e) details on its current fishing presence in the Convention Area, including the number of its vessels and their characteristics;
 - (f) results from research programmes it has conducted in the Convention Area; and

¹ As contained in Annex I of the Final Report of Working Group III [WCPFC/PrepCon/46]

- (g) any further relevant information as determined by the Commission.
3. Cooperating non members shall:
- (a) Comply with all conservation and management measures in force in the Convention Area;
 - (b) Provide all the data members of the Commission are required to submit, in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the Commission;
 - (c) Inform the Commission annually of the measures it takes to ensure compliance by its vessels with the Commission's conservation and management measures;
 - (d) Respond in a timely manner to alleged violations of conservation and management measures by its vessels, as requested by a member of the Commission or determined by the appropriate subsidiary bodies of the Commission and communicate to the member making the request and to the Commission, the actions it has taken against the vessels in accordance with the provisions of Article 25 of the Convention.
4. The Commission shall accord Cooperating non-member status on an annual basis. It may renew the conferral of status subject to a review of the Cooperating non-member's compliance with the Convention's objectives and requirements.
5. The Commission shall, in determining whether a non-party is accorded Cooperating non-member status, have regard to:
- (a) the views of the non-member applicant on ratification of or accession to the Convention;
 - (b) the status of the stocks and the existing level of fishing effort in the fishery; and
 - (c) its record of compliance with the provisions of the Convention and the conservation and management measures developed by the Commission and other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs).
6. Cooperating non-members are entitled to participate at meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies as Observers.
7. A Cooperating non-member is invited to make a financial contribution commensurate with the benefits it enjoys from participation in the fishery. If a Cooperating non-member makes a voluntary contribution in any financial year and then subsequently becomes a member of the Commission in that financial year, its voluntary contribution will be offset against its assessed contribution for that financial year.
8. Cooperating non-members seeking to renew their status as a Cooperating non-member shall comply with any reasonable requirements the Commission may prescribe to ensure compliance with Commission conservation and management measures.
9. The Commission shall also consider information available from other RFMOs relating to non-members seeking Cooperating non-member status, as well as data submitted by such non-members to the Commission. Caution shall be used so as not to introduce into the Convention

Area the excessive fishing capacity of other regions or IUU fishing activities in granting Cooperating non-member status to such non-members.

10. The Commission shall monitor the activities of nationals and fishing vessels of Cooperating non-members, including their record of compliance with the provisions of the Convention and conservation and management measures adopted under it and the willingness of such Cooperating non-members to voluntarily contribute to the work of the Commission.

11. The Commission shall revoke the status of any such Cooperating non-member whose nationals or fishing vessels have undermined the effectiveness of conservation and management measures adopted pursuant to the Convention.

12. The Executive Director shall contact each year all non-members whose vessels fish in the Convention Area for species under the Commission's competence to urge them to become a member of the Commission or to apply for the status of Cooperating non-member. In doing so, the Executive Director shall provide a copy of all relevant recommendations and resolutions adopted by the Commission.
