
**PREPARATORY CONFERENCE FOR THE COMMISSION FOR
THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND
CENTRAL PACIFIC**

Second session
Madang, Papua New Guinea
25 February – 1 March, 2002

WCPFC/PrepCon/13
1 March 2002

WORKING GROUP III: MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE

Terms of Reference

1. Taking into account the outcomes of the informal consultations on mechanisms to promote participation held prior to the second session of the Preparatory Conference, and noting the concerns raised by delegations with respect to monitoring, control and surveillance issues as set out in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Report of the Chairman on the outcome of informal consultations on agenda item XI: 'Mechanisms to promote participation' (WCPFC/PrepCon/10), the Conference agrees to establish a working group on monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS). The purpose of establishing an MCS working group is to address, in a manner consistent with the Convention and paragraph 7 of Resolution I of MHLC, issues associated with MCS.
2. The tasks of the Working Group include:
 - (a) to identify the needs of the Commission relating to MCS;
 - (b) in consultation with Working Group II, to identify the objectives and priorities of the regional observer programme and to develop a scheme to deliver the programme in a manner consistent with the Convention. In addressing this matter the working group should consider *inter alia*:
 - (i) the rights, duties and responsibilities of observers and fishing vessel masters; and
 - (ii) the respective roles of the members of the Commission, including the role of the flag state, in the assignment and certification of observers.
 - (c) to develop procedures for practical implementation of a boarding and inspection scheme consistent with the provisions of article 26 of the Convention;
 - (d) to develop standards, specifications and procedures, consistent with the Convention, including article 24, for the operation of a vessel monitoring system (VMS);
 - (e) to provide options in relation to other monitoring, control and surveillance needs of the Commission;
 - (f) to consider and provide advice on such other matters as may be referred to it by the Preparatory Conference or by other working groups of the Conference.
3. The nature of some of the matters before the Working Group is such that there is a need for the group, at an early stage, to develop a method of work that will enable all issues to be identified and the necessary background information or expert advice sought, so that the Working

Group can identify the options or mechanisms whereby the MCS needs of the Commission can be provided.

4. In providing advice to the Preparatory Conference the Working Group should, in consultation with Working Group I, and taking into account the need for cost-effectiveness, identify the costs associated with the various mechanisms and processes identified.

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