

8TH MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Port Vila, Vanuatu, 14 to 18 February 2020

COMM 8 – Obs 02

Information paper from CALAMASUR to the SPRFMO Commission

CALAMASUR



**Position Statement about the sustainability of the Jumbo Flying Squid by the
Committee for the Sustainable Management of the Southern Pacific Jumbo Flying
Squid (CALAMASUR)**

Lima, December 13, 2019

**Mr. Osvaldo Urrutia and Heads of Delegations
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SPRFMO**

In Lima on December 12 and 13, 2019, the members of CALAMASUR, economic stakeholders from Chile, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru, who participate in the Southern Pacific Jumbo Flying Squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) fishery, with the participation of observers and the support from independent scientists and technicians, met and wrote this statement to communicate our position about issues we consider relevant for the improvement of the resource management, in order to guarantee the conservation and sustainability.

Considering the discussions held on the Scientific Committee carried out in October in Havana, Cuba, we hereby provide you with our proposals in relation to the following aspects:

Fishing effort limitation

Taking into account the report issued by the review panel about OROP-PS performance, which recommended the implementation of a precautionary limit to fishery effort in jumbo flying squid fishery, and acknowledging that the lack of information should not be a excuse to delay the implementation of precautionary measures, we request the commission to urgently implement a precautionary limit to fishery effort in the jumbo flying squid fishery in the meeting the Commission will held on February in Vanuatu.

This limit should be based on a real measure of fishery effort, such as the total gross registered tonnage (GRT) of the fleet and not on the number of vessels, since this latter would not guarantee the effective limiting of fishery effort. Therefore, a period for each member and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCP) should be defined. This period should be based on the currently active vessels registry, which is held by the secretary's office, and in the total GRT of members and CNCP, during one year or the average of years, according to the Commission's decision.



For instance, the options include:

- i. Total GRT of members and CNCP fleet during one year (i.e., 2014); or
- ii. GRT Total Average of members and CNCP fleet during three years (i.e., 2012 - 2014); or
- iii. GRT Annual Maximum of the members and CNCP total fleet during three years (i.e., 2012-2014).

The election of the period should acknowledge and take into account the activity of artisanal fleets which work in international waters, which social welfare and food security strongly depends on this activity, despite these vessels may not be duly registered due to the limitations for carrying out these procedures in the coastal states and to the lack of support and subventions by their governments.

Improvement of distant-water fleet operation control

After reviewing the information available in public transparency platforms about fleet operations, which indicate a systematic breach of regulations in force, CALAMASUR request the commission to adequately control the activities of fleets authorized to fish jumbo flying squid within the convention area and to support the coastal states in the control and management of fishery activities within their waters. To this respect, we request:

- i. To OROP-PS and to the member states to take actions against the vessels that systematically carry out fishery operations turning off AIS within the convention area and the adjacent waters. For instance, considering actions such as the withdrawal of ships regional registration.
- ii. To the OROP-PS member states and CNCP, we request the implementation of measures aimed at strengthening the effective regulation and control of transshipments in offshore in jumbo flying squid fisheries, guaranteeing the transparency and accurateness of the information.

Onboard observers

Acknowledging the progress made in the scientific committee meeting in Havana, Cuba, in October 2019, in relation to the coverage of onboard observers, we strongly



encourage the commission to accept the recommendation by the scientific committee to increase the coverage of observers in the jumbo flying squid fishery.

However, we consider the proposed levels could be insufficient to deliver the required information quality to support the stock assessment and the adequate management of resources. Therefore, we encourage the commission to carry out all the effort available to increase the level of observer coverage to a 15% minimum level for each fleet.

Alfonso Miranda
Presidente

Pascual Aguilera
Delegado de Chile

Roberto Rumiche
Delegado de Perú

Rubén Rojas
Delegado de Chile

David Epstein
Delegado de Perú

Olmedo Zambrano
Delegado de Ecuador

David Monroy
Delegado de Ecuador

Juan Pedro Vela
Delegado de México

Juan Fidel Carranza
Delegado de México