

Standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data

30 April 2007

With regard to the fishing vessels flying their flag and fishing for non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Area -

1. Data on fishing activities and the impacts of fishing

Participants are to develop, implement and improve systems to:

- (a) Ensure that data on fishing activities are collected from vessels according to the operational characteristics of each fishing method.
 - (i) For trawling methods Participants are to collect the data described in annex 1;
 - (ii) For purse seining methods Participants are to collect the data described in annex 2;
 - (iii) For bottom long lining methods Participants are to collect the data described in annex 3.
- (b) Ensure that data to assess the impacts of fishing on non-target and associated or dependant species are collected from vessels.
- (c) Compile data on fishing activities and the impacts of fishing and provide these in a timely manner to the interim Secretariat of the proposed South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO). Such data are to be provided in sufficient detail to facilitate effective stock assessment. Participants will provide by the 30th September, their previous (January to December) year's data on fishing activities and the impacts of fishing.

2. Vessel data

Participants are to:

- (a) Establish a national record of vessels authorized to fish in the Area;
- (b) Collect vessel related data for standardizing fleet composition and vessel fishing power and for converting between different measures of effort in the analysis of catch and effort data. Participants will collect the data described in annex 4;
- (c) Compile vessel data and provide them in a timely manner to the interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO. Participants are to provide data on vessels that they have authorized to fish in the following year, at least 3 months prior to the start of that year. Additionally, Participants are to provide data on vessels that they newly authorize to fish during a year, or when authorizations to fish are revoked during a year, within 1 month of granting or revoking such an authorization.

3. Historical data

Participants are to:

- (a) Collate pre-2007 data on fishing activities in the Area and provide these to the interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO by 30th September 2007, in sufficient detail to facilitate effective stock assessment and in a format as close as is practical to that described in annexes 1, 2 and 3;
- (b) Because of the value of such data for stock assessments - at their discretion collate pre-2007 data on fishing activities by vessels flying their flag and fishing within areas under their national jurisdiction, and provide these to the interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO by 30th September 2007 in

sufficient detail to facilitate effective stock assessment and in a format as close as is practical to that described in annexes 1, 2 and 3;

- (c) Collate pre-2008 vessel data and provide these to the interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO by 30th September 2007, in a format as close as is practical to that described annex 4.

4. Data verification

Participants are to ensure that fishery data are verified through an appropriate system. Participants are to develop, implement and improve mechanisms for verifying data, such as:

- (a) Position verification through vessel monitoring systems;
- (b) Scientific observer programmes to collect verification data on catch, effort, catch composition (target and non-target), discards and other details of fishing operations;
- (c) Vessel trip, landing and transshipment reports; and
- (d) Port sampling.

5. Data exchange

When Participants provide data to the interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO, they will do so in accordance with the specifications and format described in annex 5 of this document.

6. Maintenance of confidentiality

The interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO is to compile and disseminate accurate and complete statistical data to ensure that the best scientific evidence

is available while maintaining confidentiality where appropriate. Specifically the interim Secretariat is to:

- (a) Compile and disseminate on request the following “public domain” data:
 - (i) Data on fishing activities, aggregated by flag state and calendar year and 5 degree by 5 degree areas, except in those cases where such data describes the activities of less than 3 vessels (in which case a lower resolution will be used);
 - (ii) Data on the number and type of vessels authorized to fish, aggregated by flag state and calendar year;
- (b) Operate comprehensive and robust processes to maintain the confidentiality of the non-public domain data that Participants provide to it. These processes will be based on the ISO17799 international standard for information security management¹. SPRFMO specific data security standards will be developed over time;
- (c) Compile and disseminate to Participants or their designates non-public domain data (being any data not described in 6(a)):
 - (i) In response to a written request from the collective Parties to the Negotiation, for the purposes documented by those Parties; and
 - (ii) In the absence of a written request from the collective Parties to the Negotiation - only with the authorization of the Participant(s) that originally provided that data.

In the case that an interim Secretariat has not been established, the Convener of the Data and Information Working Group will assume the roles of the interim Secretariat with regard to the Maintenance of Confidentiality.

¹ www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/popstds/informationsecurity.html

These standards will be reviewed periodically to ensure that they are adequate for the current and foreseeable needs of the proposed SPRFMO.

Annex 1**Standard for trawl fishing activity data**

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (tow by tow) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
 - (a) Vessel flag
 - (b) Vessel name
 - (c) Vessel call sign
 - (d) Registration number of vessel
 - (e) Tow start date
 - (f) Tow start time
 - (g) Tow end date
 - (h) Tow end time
 - (i) Tow start position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (j) Tow end position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (k) Intended target species
 - (l) Type of trawl, bottom or mid-water.
 - (m) Type of trawl, single, double or triple.
 - (n) Height of net opening
 - (o) Width of net opening
 - (p) Gear depth at start of fishing
 - (q) Bottom depth at start of fishing
 - (r) Catch retained on board by species in live weight
 - (s) An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by species if possible
 - (t) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught (yes/no)

Annex 2**Standard for purse seine fishing activity data**

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
 - (a) Vessel flag
 - (b) Vessel name
 - (c) Vessel call sign
 - (d) Registration number of vessel
 - (e) Set start date
 - (f) Set start time
 - (g) Set end date
 - (h) Set end time
 - (i) Set start position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (j) Net length
 - (k) Net height
 - (l) Intended target species
 - (m) School association
 - (n) Catch retained on board by species in live weight
 - (o) An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by species if possible
 - (p) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught (yes/no)

Annex 3

Standard for bottom long lining fishing activity data

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
 - (a) Vessel flag
 - (b) Vessel name
 - (c) Vessel call sign
 - (d) Registration number of vessel
 - (e) Set start date
 - (f) Set start time
 - (g) Set end date
 - (h) Set end time
 - (i) Set start position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (j) Set end position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (k) Intended target species
 - (l) Number of hooks
 - (m) Bottom depth at start of set
 - (n) Catch retained on board by species in live weight
 - (o) An estimation of the amount of living marine resources
discarded by species if possible
 - (p) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught
(yes/no)

Annex 4
Standard for vessel data

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (vessel by vessel) basis.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected:
 - (a) Current vessel flag
 - (b) Name of vessel
 - (c) Registration number
 - (d) International radio call sign (if any)
 - (e) Lloyd's / IMO number (if allocated)
 - (f) Previous Names (if known)
 - (g) Port of registry
 - (h) Previous flag (if any)
 - (i) Type of vessel
 - (j) Type of fishing method(s)
 - (k) When built
 - (l) Where built
 - (m) Length
 - (n) Moulded depth
 - (o) Beam
 - (p) Gross register tonnage
 - (q) Power of main engine(s)
 - (r) Hold capacity
 - (s) Name of owner(s)
 - (t) Address of owner(s)
 - (u) Name of operator(s)
 - (v) Address of operator(s)

Annex 5

Specifications for the exchange of data

1. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is to be used to describe times.
2. Degrees, Minutes and Seconds are to be used to describe locations. Where locations are required to be provided at the 1/10th of a degree resolution, this is to be achieved by rounding to the nearest 6 seconds.
3. The following coding schemes are to be used:
 - (a) Species are to be described using the FAO 3 letter species codes²
 - (b) Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG - 29 July 1980) codes³
 - (c) Types of fishing vessel are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes⁴
4. Metric units of measure are to be used, specifically:
 - (a) Kilograms are to be used to describe catch weight
 - (b) Metres are to be used to describe height, width, depth, beam or length
 - (c) Cubic metres are to be used to describe volume
 - (d) Kilowatts are to be used to describe engine power

² www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp

³ <ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/DOCUMENT/cwp/handbook/annex/AnnexM1fishinggear.pdf>

⁴ <ftp://ftp.fao.org/FI/DOCUMENT/cwp/handbook/annex/annexLII.pdf>