

**Report of the Data and Information Working Group
Viña del Mar, Chile**

29 October 2010

1. Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chair, Ms. Kelly Denit (United States).

2. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted with minor amendments and is provided as Annex DIWG-01.

3. Administrative matters

A list of participants is attached as Annex DIWG-02.

3.1. Meeting documents

A list of documents from the meeting is provided as DIWG-08-02.

3.2. Meeting arrangements

The Interim Secretariat provided logistic and administrative information to the participants.

4. Election of Rapporteur

Mr. Gerry Geen was elected rapporteur for the meeting.

5. Intersessional Work Items

5.1. Standard for Transshipment data

The proposed transshipment data standard was re-circulated (DIWG-08-09). Participants were reminded that at the Canberra meeting in 2008, the DIWG reached consensus on a transshipment data standard. At that time, the Plenary expressed a desire to see the transshipment and landings standards adopted together and so did not adopt the transshipment standard. With minor edits, the transshipment data standard was agreed by Participants.

5.2. Standard for Landings data

The landings data standard, which had been previously discussed was re-circulated (DIWG-08-10). With minor edits, the landings data standard was agreed by Participants.

5.3 Addition of annual aggregated data standard

The Interim Secretariat presented its paper DIWG-08-04. There was significant discussion concerning the different interpretations of nominal catch. In an effort to clarify the specific annual catch data that should be reported, the Participants agreed to submit raised live weight by species on an annual basis. Participants were asked to submit a table of conversion factors that are used to calculate raised live weight, including the time period when those conversion factors were applicable.

6. Report by the Interim Secretariat on some standard data types used by RFMOs

The Interim Secretariat presented its paper (DIWG-08-05). The Participants agreed to the recommendations put forward by the Interim Secretariat including: use of FAO species codes, removal of “school association” from certain Data Standards, codes for potting types, bait types, hook types and leader types. It was noted that the FAO species code list is in the process of being updated and any changes will be provided to the Interim Secretariat by FAO. With respect to the use of species codes, it was noted that some participants may use different codes for certain species or when FAO species codes are not available. The Interim Secretariat will provide a list to FAO of those species from the SPRFMO area, which do not currently have an FAO species code. Variations in reporting of non-target species may occur and therefore Participants should report data to the lowest known taxonomic level.

7. Review of data submitted to the Interim Secretariat

The Interim Secretariat presented paper DIWG-07-INF-01. Main differences between this report and previous years reports are: removal of 5x5 degree catch data totals, and inclusion of summary observer and VMS data received. The Interim Secretariat noted that data submitted after October 15 was not included in this paper. The Interim Secretariat was asked whether any observer data had been submitted. They indicated detailed observer data has been submitted, but the information was not included in this paper.

8. Update on the SPRFMO database

The Interim Secretariat presented an update on development of the SPRFMO database (DIWG-07-INF-02). Participants thanked the Interim Secretariat for their report and were very impressed with the progress made since the last meeting. Validation checks are ongoing and online access to the database is forthcoming. The Interim Secretariat agreed to circulate a letter to Participants once the validation and security checks have been completed successfully.

9. Editorial changes to the Data Standards

The DIWG reviewed the suggested changes to the Data Standards (DIWG-08-06). The main changes that were agreed included: adding an “unknown” category to the bycatch element of various gear type data standards, and “school association” was removed from the purse seine data standard. New Zealand agreed to evaluate the need for inclusion of data fields related to line weighting for bottom line gear during the intersessional period. All of the agreed changes to the Data Standards from the meeting were incorporated into a revised version and are attached as Annex DIWG-03.

10. SPRFMO/FAO catch data comparison for main species caught within the SPRFMO Area

The Interim Secretariat presented its joint paper with the FAO comparing catch data (DIWG-07-03). The paper reviewed the consistency between reported catch data to FAO and the SPRFMO within the Convention Area. The paper identified information gaps and differences between reported catches in each database. Some of the differences may be due to the inclusion of catch from within EEZ as well as differences in the agencies submitting catch information to the FAO and SPRFMO. Participants were asked to review the data presented in the paper and address any discrepancies with the Interim Secretariat or FAO. The Interim Secretariat requested Participants coordinate internally to ensure one data set is submitted to SPRFMO. A question with respect to changes in FAO statistical area boundaries was asked. FAO noted that historical data was expected to be updated by Participants to reflect the new boundary at the time the boundary change was implemented.

11. Report from the Interim Secretariat on Data Confidentiality

The Interim Secretariat presented its paper DIWG-08-07. Overall, the intent is to update the data confidentiality rules to be in line with SPRFMO practices and reflect practices by other RFMOs. The Participants agreed that this matter should be referred to the next meeting of the DIWG to allow time for internal consultations. There were also suggestions that the number of data fields that would be made public with respect to vessel data could be simplified.

12. DIWG Chairmanship

Kelly Denit was elected to serve as the Chair of the DIWG.

13. Next DIWG meeting

DIWG participants supported the idea that meetings should be held on an annual basis and in conjunction with the meeting of the Science Working Group. To be most productive, these meetings should be held after the deadline for data submission.

The inter-sessional work plan for the DIWG includes further consideration of the proposed revisions to the data confidentiality provisions. The proposed changes are attached as Annex DIWG-04.

14. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

15. Adoption of the Report

The report was adopted by consensus.

**Data and Information Working Group
Chile, 27-29 October 2010**

**DIWG-08-01
Agenda**

1. **Opening of the Meeting**
 2. **Adoption of Agenda**
 3. **Administrative Arrangements**
 - 3.1. **Meeting documents**
 - 3.2. **Meeting arrangements**
 4. **Election of Rapporteur**
 5. **Intersessional Work Items**
 - 5.1. **Standard for Transshipment**
 - 5.2. **Standard for Landings data Addition of annual aggregated data standard to the “Data on the Fishing Activities and the Impacts of Fishing” section of the Data Standards**
 6. **Report by Interim Secretariat on some standard data types used by RFMOs (see Agenda item 6.0 [Report of 7th meeting](#))**
 7. **Review of Data submitted to the Interim Secretariat**
 8. **Update on SPRFMO database**
 9. **Editorial changes to Data Standards**
 10. **SPRFMO/FAO catch data comparison for main species caught within the SPRFMO Area**
 11. **Report from Interim Secretariat on Data Confidentiality**
 12. **DIWG Chairmanship**
 13. **Next DIWG meeting**
 14. **Other Business**
 15. **Adoption of the Report**
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Standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data

6 October 2008 (as amended on ...)

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 for each calendar year, Participants collate annual catch totals raised to 'live' weight for all species/ species groups caught during that year, and that these are collated as described in Annex 14. Participants will provide by the 30th September, their previous (January to December) year's data on fishing activities and the impacts of fishing;
- (b) 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;
 - (iv) For squid jigging, Participants are to collect the data described in Annex 4.
 - (v) For potting methods, Participants are to collect the data described in Annex 5.
 - (vi) For drop/ dahn lining methods, Participants are to collect the data described in Annex 6.
- (c) Ensure that data to assess the impacts of fishing on non-target and associated or dependant species are collected from vessels.
- (d) Ensure that data on landings and transshipment are collected from vessels according to Annexes 12 and 13 respectively
- (e) 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 June, 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 7;
- (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. Observer Data

(a) Implementation of Observer Programmes

Participants are to develop, implement and improve Observer Programmes to attain the following objectives:

- i) To collect vessel information, effort and catch data for all fisheries and fished species in the Area, including target, by-catch and associated and dependent species.
- ii) To collect biological or other data and information relevant to the management of fishery resources in the Area, as specified in these standards, or as identified from time to time by the Science Working Group or through processes identified by the Commission.
- iii) To collect relevant scientific information related to the implementation of the provisions of the Interim Measures adopted by the Participants to the negotiations for the formation of a South Pacific RFMO.
- iv) To collect representative data, including length-frequency and biological samples, across the Area, distribution of fishing effort, seasons, fishing fleets and fleet types.

(b) Information and Data to be Collected

All national observer programmes operating in the SPRFMO Area should provide the information in Annex 8.

(c) Data Provision

Observer data should be provided to the interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO in a standardised format, to be included in a SPRFMO Observer Database. Specifications and standards for Observer data submissions are on the SPRFMO website. Until the Interim Secretariat determines a change is

needed, observer data will be submitted in Microsoft Excel format. Participants will provide by the 30th September, their previous (January to December) year's data.

(d) Annual Reporting

All SPRFMO participants should provide annual observer implementation reports, which should include sections covering: observer training, programme design and coverage, type of data collected, and any problems encountered during the year. These reports shall be adequate enough to allow the Data & Information Working Group, the Scientific Working Group or the Commission to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of observer programmes implemented under this standard.

(e) Maintenance of Confidentiality

The interim Secretariat of the proposed SPRFMO is to compile and disseminate accurate and complete observer data to ensure that the best scientific evidence is available, while maintaining confidentiality where appropriate. In doing so, the Interim Secretariat is to follow the procedures specified in Section 8.

4. Vessel Monitoring System data

(a) Implementation of Vessel Monitoring Systems

Participants are to develop, implement and improve systems to:

- (i) Ensure that all of their vessels fishing in the Area are fitted with fully operational automatic location communicator (ALC) reporting back to the flag state.
- (ii) Ensure that ALC on their vessels remain operational, and report in accordance with this standard, at all times and in all areas while operational in the SPRFMO area.
- (iii) Maintain a record of all vessel position information reported while these vessels are operational in the SPRFMO area, such that this information may be used to document vessel activity in the SPRFMO area, and to validate fishing position information provided by those vessels.

(b) Frequency and Accuracy of VMS Position Reports

Participants are to ensure that:

- (i) VMS position reports are reported by each of their vessels:
 - (1) at least once every 2 hours if fishing using benthic or benthopelagic¹ trawling or if operating within 20nm of an EEZ boundary;
 - (2) at least once every four hours in other circumstances.
- (ii) All VMS Position reports are made in accordance with the specification in paragraph (c) of this standard.

¹ Benthopelagic trawling is interpreted here to mean trawling with a mid-water net where the net has a likelihood of coming into contact with the seabed at any time during the trawling operation.

- (iii) Under normal satellite navigation operating conditions, positions derived from the data reported are to be accurate to within 500²m.

(c) Content of VMS Position Reports

Participants are to ensure that all VMS Position Reports made by their vessels include at least the following information:

Category	Data Element	Remarks
Vessel registration	Static unique vessel identifier	For example, country code followed by national vessel registration number
Activity detail	Latitude	Position latitude (decimal degrees, to the nearest 0.01 degree)
Activity detail	Longitude	Position longitude (decimal degrees, to the nearest 0.01 degree)
Message detail	Date	Position date in UTC
Message detail	Time	Position time in UTC

5. 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 - 6;
- (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 - 6;
- (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 7.

² 500m should be adequate for scientific purposes but for compliance purposes a greater accuracy may be required.

6. 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.

7. 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 9 of this document.

8. 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 ISO/IEC27002:2005 (updates ISO/IEC 17799:2005) international standard for information security management³. SPRFMO specific data security standards will be developed over time;

³ www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/popstds/informationsecurity.html

- (c) Compile and disseminate to Participants or their designates non-public domain data (being any data not described in 8(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.

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
(use appropriate bottom or midwater trawl codes from the standard ISCCFG fishing gear standards attached at Annex 10)
 - (m) Type of trawl: single, double or triple (S, D or T).
 - (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/unknown – Y,N,U)

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) Catch retained on board by species in live weight
 - (n) An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by species if possible
 - (o) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught (yes/no/unknown – Y,N,U)

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/unknown – Y,N,U)

Annex 4

Standard for squid jigging fishing activity data

1. Data are to be collected on a daily 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) Date of fishing activity
 - (f) Position at start of drift (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (g) Position at end of drift (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (h) Echo Sounder (Yes/No)
 - (i) Number of crew
 - (j) Number of single jig machines
 - (k) Number of double jig machines
 - (l) Number of jigs per line
 - (m) Operating depth
 - (n) Total deck light power (kW)
 - (o) Total hours fished
 - (p) Catch retained on board by species in live weight
 - (q) An estimation of the amount of living marine resources discarded by species if possible
 - (r) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught (Yes/No/Unknown – Y,N,U)

Annex 5

Standard for potting methods 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) Start of set position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (j) End of set position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (k) Intended target species
 - (l) Depth at start of set
 - (m) Depth at end of set
 - (n) Type of pots
 - (o) Total number of pots set
 - (p) Type of bait used
 - (q) Catch retained by species in live weight
 - (r) An estimate of the amount of living marine resources discarded by species if possible
 - (s) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught (Yes/No/Unknown – Y,N,U)

Annex 6

Standard for drop/dahn lining fishing activity data

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (series by series) 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) Start of set position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (j) End of set position (1/10th degree resolution)
 - (k) Intended target species
 - (l) Depth at start of set
 - (m) Depth at end of set
 - (n) Total number of hooks in the set
 - (o) Number of hooks lost
 - (p) Type of hooks used
 - (q) Type of leader used
 - (r) Total number of line lifts in the set
 - (s) Type of bait used
 - (t) Catch retained by species in live weight
 - (u) An estimate of the amount of living marine resources discarded by species if possible
 - (v) Were any marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught
(Yes/No/Unknown – Y,N,U)

Annex 7

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
(Use appropriate ISSCFV codes, Annex 11)
 - (j) Type of fishing method(s)
(Use appropriate ISSCFG codes, Annex 10)
 - (k) When built
 - (l) Where built
 - (m) Length
 - (n) Length type *e.g.* "LOA", "LBP"
 - (o) Moulded depth
 - (p) Beam
 - (q) Gross Tonnage – GT (to be provided as the preferred unit of tonnage)
 - (r) Gross register tonnage – GRT –
(to be provided if GT not available; may also be provided in addition to GT)
 - (s) Power of main engine(s)
 - (t) Hold capacity
 - (u) Name of owner(s)
 - (v) Address of owner(s)
 - (w) Name of operator(s)
 - (x) Address of operator(s)
 - (y) Vessel authorisation start date
 - (z) Vessel authorisation end date

Annex 8

Standard for Observer Data

A. Vessel & Observer Data to be Collected for Each Observer Trip

1. Vessel and observer details are to be recorded only once for each observed trip.
2. The following vessel data are to be collected for each observed trip:
 - a) Current vessel flag.
 - b) Name of vessel.
 - c) Name of the Captain.
 - d) Name of the Fishing Master.
 - e) Registration number.
 - f) International radio call sign (if any).
 - g) Lloyd's / IMO number (if allocated).
 - h) Previous Names (if known).
 - i) Port of registry.
 - j) Previous flag (if any).
 - k) Type of vessel (use appropriate ISSCFV codes, Annex 11)
 - l) Type of fishing method(s) (use appropriate ISSCFG codes, Annex 10)
 - m) Length (m)
 - n) Length type e.g. "LOA", "LBP"
 - o) Beam (m).
 - p) Gross Tonnage – GT (to be provided as the preferred unit of tonnage)
 - q) Gross register tonnage – GRT
(to be provided if GT not available; may also be provided in addition to GT)
 - r) Power of main engine(s) (kilowatts).
 - s) Hold capacity (cubic metres).
 - t) Record of the equipment on board which may affect fishing power factors (navigational equipment, radar, sonar systems, weather fax or satellite weather receiver, sea-surface temperature image receiver, Doppler current monitor, radio direction finder), where practical.
 - u) Total number of crew (all staff, excluding observers).
3. The following observer data are to be collected for each observed trip:
 - a) Observer's name.
 - b) Observer's organisation.
 - c) Date observer embarked (UTC date).
 - d) Port of embarkation.
 - e) Date observer disembarked (UTC date).
 - f) Port of disembarkation.

B. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Trawl Fishing Activity

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (tow by tow) basis for all observed trawls.
2. The following data are to be collected for each observed trawl tow:
 - a. Tow start date.
 - b. Tow start time (the time gear starts fishing).
 - c. Tow end date.
 - d. Tow end time (the time haul back starts).
 - e. Tow start position (Lat/Lon, 1 minute resolution).
 - f. Tow end position (Lat/Lon, 1 minute resolution).
 - g. Intended target species.
 - h. Type of trawl, bottom or mid-water
(use appropriate bottom or midwater trawl codes from the standard ISCCFG fishing gear standards attached at Annex 10)
 - i. Type of trawl: single, double or triple (S, D or T).
 - j. Height of net opening.
 - k. Width of net opening.
 - l. Mesh size of the cod-end net (stretched mesh, mm) and mesh type (diamond, square, etc).
 - m. Gear depth (of footrope) at start of fishing.
 - n. Bottom (seabed) depth at start of fishing.
 - o. Catch of all species retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg).
 - p. Record of the numbers by species of all marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught.
 - q. Record of sensitive benthic species in the trawl catch, particularly vulnerable or habitat-forming species such as sponges, sea-fans or corals.
 - r. Estimate of the amount (weight or volume) of remaining marine resources discards, split to the lowest known taxon, unless the species is less than 100 kg per tow.
 - s. Record any bycatch mitigation measures employed.

C. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Purse Seine Fishing Activity

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis for all observed purse-seine sets.
2. The following data are to be collected for each observed purse-seine set:
 - a) Total search time before this set, since the last set.
 - b) Set start date.
 - c) Set start time (the time gear starts fishing).
 - d) Set end date.
 - e) Set end time (the time haul back starts).
 - f) Set start position (Lat/Lon, 1 minute resolution).
 - g) Net length (m).
 - h) Net height (m).
 - i) Net mesh size (stretched mesh, mm) and mesh type (diamond, square, etc)
 - j) Intended target species.
 - k) Catch of all species retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg).
 - l) Record of the numbers by species of all marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught.
 - m) Estimate of the amount (weight or volume) of remaining marine resources discards, split to the lowest known taxon, unless the species is less than 100 kg per set.
 - n) Record any bycatch mitigation measures employed.

D. Catch & Effort Data to be Collected for Bottom Long Line Fishing Activity

1. Data are to be collected on an un-aggregated (set by set) basis for all observed longline sets.
2. The following fields of data are to be collected for each set:
 - a) Set start date.
 - b) Set start time.
 - c) Set end date.
 - d) Set end time.
 - e) Set start position (Lat/Lon, 1 minute resolution).
 - f) Set end position (Lat/Lon, 1 minute resolution).
 - g) Intended target species.
 - h) Total length of longline set (km).
 - i) Number of hooks for the set.
 - j) Bottom (seabed) depth at start of set.
 - k) Number of hooks actually observed during the haul.

- l) Catch of all species retained on board, split by species, in live weight (to the nearest kg).
- m) Record of the numbers by species of all marine mammals, seabirds or reptiles caught.
- n) Record of sensitive benthic species in the catch, particularly vulnerable or habitat-forming species such as sponges, sea-fans or corals.
- o) Estimate of the amount (weight or volume) of remaining marine resources discards, split to the lowest known taxon, unless the species is less than 100 kg per set.
- p) Record any bycatch mitigation measures employed.

E. Length-Frequency Data to Be Collected

Representative and randomly sampled length-frequency data are to be collected for the target species and, time permitting, for other main by-catch species. Length data should be collected and recorded at the most precise level appropriate for the species (cm or mm and whether to the nearest unit or unit below) and the type of measurement used (total length, fork length, or standard length) should also be recorded. If possible, total weight of length-frequency samples should be recorded, or estimated and the method of estimation recorded, and observers may be required to also determine sex of measured fish to generate length-frequency data stratified by sex.

Commercial Sampling Protocol

- i) Fish species other than skates, rays and sharks:
 - fork length should be measured to the nearest cm for fish which attain a maximum length greater than 40cm fork length
 - fork length should be measured to the nearest mm for fish which attain a maximum length less than 40cm fork length;
- ii) Skates and rays
 - maximum disk width should be measured
- iii) Sharks
 - Appropriate length measurement to be used should be selected for each species (see FAO technical report 474 on measuring sharks). As a default, total length should be measured.

Scientific Sampling Protocol

For scientific sampling of species length Measurements may need to be made at a finer resolution than specified above.

F. Biological Sampling to be Conducted

1. The following biological data should be collected for representative samples of the main target species and, time permitting, for other main by-catch species contributing to the catch:
 - a) Species
 - b) Length (mm or cm), with record of the type of length measurement used. Measurement precision and type should be determined on a species by species basis consistent with that defined in Section E above.
 - c) Sex (male, female, immature, unsexed)
 - d) Maturity stage
2. Observers should collect tissue, otolith and/or stomach samples according to pre-determined specific research programmes implemented by the Scientific Working Group or other national scientific research.
3. Observers are to be briefed and provided with written length-frequency and biological sampling protocols, where appropriate, and priorities for the above sampling specific to each observer trip.

G. Data to be Collected on Incidental Captures of seabirds, mammals, and reptiles (turtles)

1. The following data are to be collected for all seabirds, mammals, and reptiles (turtles) caught in fishing operations:
 - a) Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible, or accompanied by photographs if identification is difficult) and size.
 - b) Count of the number caught per tow or set.
 - c) Life status (vigorous, alive, lethargic, dead) upon release.
 - d) If dead, then collect adequate information or samples for onshore identification in accordance with pre-determined sampling protocols. Where this is not possible, observers may be required to collect sub-samples of identifying parts, as specified in biological sampling protocols.

H. Detection of Fishing in Association with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems

1. For each observed trawl, the following data are to be collected for all sensitive benthic species caught, particularly vulnerable or habitat-forming species such as sponges, sea fans, or corals:
 - a) Species (identified taxonomically as far as possible, or accompanied by a photograph where identification is difficult).
 - b) An estimate of the quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m³)) of each listed benthic species caught in the tow.
 - c) An overall estimate of the total quantity (weight (kg) or volume (m³)) of all invertebrate benthic species caught in the tow.
 - d) Where possible, and particularly for new or scarce benthic species which do not appear in ID guides, whole samples should be collected and suitably preserved for identification on shore.

I. Data to be Collected for all Tag Recoveries

1. The following data are to be collected for all recovered fish, seabird, mammal or reptile tags if the organism is dead, to be retained, or alive:
 - a) Observer name.
 - b) Vessel name.
 - c) Vessel call sign.
 - d) Vessel flag.
 - e) Collect, label (with all details below) and store the actual tags for later return to the tagging agency.
 - f) Species from which tag recovered.
 - g) Tag colour and type (spaghetti, archival).
 - h) Tag numbers (The tag number is to be provided for all tags when multiple tags were attached to one fish. If only one tag was recorded, a statement is required that specifies whether or not the other tag was missing) If the organism is alive and to be released, tag information should be collected in accordance with pre-determined sampling protocols.
 - i) Date and time of capture (UTC).
 - j) Location of capture (Lat/Lon, to the nearest 1 minute)
 - k) Animal length / size (cm or mm) with description of what measurement was taken (such as total length, fork length, etc).
Length measurements should be collected according to the criteria defined in Section E above.
 - l) Sex (F=female, M=male, I=indeterminate, D=not examined)
 - m) Whether the tags were found during a period of fishing that was being observed (Y/N)
 - n) Reward information (e.g. name and address where to send reward)

(It is recognised that some of the data recorded here duplicates data that already exists in the previous categories of information. This is necessary because tag recovery information may be sent separately to other observer data.)

J. Hierarchies for Observer Data Collection

1. Recognising that observers may not be able to collect all of the data described in these standards on each trip, a hierarchy of priorities is to be implemented for collection of observer data. Trip-specific or programme-specific observer task priorities may be developed in response to specific research programme requirements, in which case such priorities should be followed by observers.
2. In the absence of trip- or programme-specific priorities, the following generalised priorities should be followed by observers:
 - a) Fishing Operation Information
 - All vessel and tow / set / effort information.
 - b) Reporting of Catches
 - Record time, weight of catch sampled versus total catch or effort (e.g. number of hooks), and total numbers of each species caught.
 - Identification and counts of seabirds, mammals, reptiles (turtles), sensitive benthic species and vulnerable species.
 - Record numbers or weights of each species retained or discarded.
 - Record instances of depredation, where appropriate.
 - c) Biological Sampling
 - Check for presence of tags.
 - Length-frequency data for target species.
 - Basic biological data (sex, maturity) for target species.
 - Length-frequency data for main by-catch species.
 - Otoliths (and stomach samples, if being collected) for target species.
 - Basic biological data for by-catch species.
 - Biological samples of by-catch species (if being collected)
 - Take photos

- The reporting of catches and biological sampling procedures should be prioritised among species groups as follows:

Species	Priority (1 highest)
Primary target species (such as jack mackerel, for pelagic fisheries, and orange roughy for demersal fisheries)	1
Seabirds, mammals, and reptiles (turtles)	2
Other species typically within top 5 in the fishery (such as blue mackerel for pelagic fisheries, and oreos and alfonsino for demersal fisheries)	3
All other species	4

The allocation of observer effort among these activities will depend on the type of operation and setting. The size of sub-samples relative to unobserved quantities (e.g. number of hooks examined for species composition relative to the number of hooks set) should be explicitly recorded under the guidance of member country observer programmes.

K. Coding Specifications to be Used for Recording Observer Data

- Unless otherwise specified for specific data types, observer data are to be provided in accordance with the same coding specifications as specified in Annex 9 of the SPRFMO Data Standards.
- Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is to be used to describe times.
- Decimal degrees are to be used to describe locations.
- The following coding schemes are to be used:
 - Species are to be described using the FAO 3 letter species codes⁴.
 - Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG - 29 July 1980) codes – Annex 10.
 - Types of fishing vessel are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes – Annex 11.
- Metric units of measure are to be used, specifically:
 - Kilograms are to be used to describe catch weight.
 - Metres are to be used to describe height, width, depth, beam or length.
 - Cubic metres are to be used to describe volume.
 - Kilowatts are to be used to describe engine power.

⁴ www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp

Annex 9

Specifications for the exchange of data

1. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is to be used to describe times, using the following submission format:

YYYY-MON-DDThh:mm:ss

Where:

YYYY - represents a 4-digit year e.g. "2007"
MON - represents a 3-character month abbreviation e.g. "APR"
DD - represents a 2-digit day e.g. "05"
T - is a space separator
hh - represents hours based on the 24hr clock (length = 2 digits) e.g. "16"
mm - represents minutes (length = 2 digits) e.g. "05"
ss - represent seconds (length = 2 digits) e.g. "00"

Example

2003-JUL-17T13:10:00 1.10pm (1310h), 17 July 2003

2. Decimal degrees (WGS84) are to be used to describe locations.

The following standard should be used for the submission of latitudinal/longitudinal information:

- Northern latitudes and eastern longitudes should be indicated by the use of [un-signed] positive decimal degree values
- Southern latitudes and western longitudes should be indicated by the use of negative decimal degree values

Latitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degrees: Represented as positive (unsigned) or negative numbers from 0 to 89.99 E.g. If value = 83.2, this means 83.2° N E.g. if value = -83.2, this means 83.2° S
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Longitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degrees: Represented as positive (unsigned) or negative numbers from 0 to 179.99 E.g. If value = 83.2, this means 83.2° E E.g. if value = -83.2, this means 83.2° W
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3. The following coding schemes are to be used:
 - (a) Species are to be described using the FAO 3 letter species codes⁵
 - (b) Fishing methods are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishing Gear (ISSCFG - 29 July 1980) codes⁶ - Annex 10
 - (c) Types of fishing vessel are to be described using the International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels (ISSCFV) codes⁷ - Annex 11

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

⁵ www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp

⁶ <http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp/handbook/M> - see “Annex M I”

⁷ <http://www.fao.org/fishery/cwp/handbook/L> -see “Annex L.II”

ANNEX 10
ISSCFG Codes
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF FISHING
GEAR (ISSCFG) (29 July 1980)

Gear Categories Abbreviation Code	Standard Abbreviations	ISSCFG
SURROUNDING NETS		01.0.0
With purse lines (purse seines)	PS	01.1.0
- one boat operated purse seines	PS1	01.1.1
- two boats operated purse seines	PS2	01.1.2
Without purse lines (lampara)	LA	01.2.0
SEINE NETS		02.0.0
Beach seines	SB	02.1.0
Boat or vessel seines	SV	02.2.0
- Danish seines	SDN	02.2.1
- Scottish seines	SSC	02.2.2
- pair seines	SPR	02.2.3
Seine nets (not specified)	SX	02.9.0
TRAWLS		03.0.0
Bottom trawls		03.1.0
- beam trawls	TBB	03.1.1
- otter trawls ⁸	OTB	03.1.2
- pair trawls	PTB	03.1.3
- nephrops trawls	TBN	03.1.4
- shrimp trawls	TBS	03.1.5
- bottom trawls (not specified)	TB	03.1.9
Midwater trawls	03.2.0	
- otter trawls ¹	OTM	03.2.1
- pair trawls	PTM	03.2.2
- shrimp trawls	TMS	03.2.3
- midwater trawls (not specified)	TM	03.2.9
Otter twin trawls	OTT	03.3.0
Otter trawls (not specified)	OT	03.4.9
Pair trawls (not specified)	PT	03.5.9
Other trawls (not specified)	TX	03.9.0

⁸ Fisheries agencies may indicate side and stern bottom, and side and stern midwater trawls, as OTB-1 and OTB-2, and OTM-1 and OTM-2, respectively

DREDGES		04.0.0
Boat dredges	DRB	04.1.0
Hand dredges	DRH	04.2.0
LIFT NETS	05.0.0	
Portable lift nets	LNP	05.1.0
Boat-operated lift nets	LNB	05.2.0
Shore-operated stationary lift nets	LNS	05.3.0
Lift nets (not specified)	LN	05.9.0
FALLING GEAR		06.0.0
Cast nets	FCN	06.1.0
Falling gear (not specified)	FG	06.9.0
GILLNETS AND ENTANGLING NETS		07.0.0
Set gillnets (anchored)	GNS	07.1.0
Driftnets	GND	07.2.0
Encircling gillnets	GNC	07.3.0
Fixed gillnets (on stakes)	GNF	07.4.0
Trammel nets	GTR	07.5.0
Combined gillnets-trammel nets	GTN	07.6.0
Gillnets and entangling nets (not specified)	GEN	07.9.0
Gillnets (not specified)	GN	07.9.1
TRAPS		08.0.0
Stationary uncovered pound nets	FPN	08.1.0
Pots	FPO	08.2.0
Fyke nets	FYK	08.3.0
Stow nets	FSN	08.4.0
Barriers, fences, weirs, etc.	FWR	08.5.0
Aerial traps	FAR	08.6.0
Traps (not specified)	FIX	08.9.0
HOOKS AND LINES		09.0.0
Handlines and pole-lines (hand-operated) ⁹	LHP	09.1.0
Handlines and pole-lines (mechanized) ¹⁰	LHM	09.2.0
Set longlines	LLS	09.3.0
Drifting longlines	LLD	09.4.0
Longlines (not specified)	LL	09.5.0
Trolling lines	LTL	09.6.0
Hooks and lines (not specified)	LX	09.9.0

⁹ Including jigging lines

¹⁰ Code LDV for dory-operated line gears will be maintained for historical data purposes

GRAPPLING AND WOUNDING		10.0.0
Harpoons	HAR	10.1.0
HARVESTING MACHINES		11.0.0
Pumps	HMP	11.1.0
Mechanized dredges	HMD	11.2.0
Harvesting machines (not specified)	HMX	11.9.0
MISCELLANEOUS GEAR¹¹	MIS	20.0.0
RECREATIONAL FISHING GEAR	RG	25.0.0
GEAR NOT KNOWN OR NOT SPECIFIED	NK	99.0.0

¹¹ This item includes: hand and landing nets, drive-in-nets, gathering by hand with simple hand implements with or without diving equipment, poisons and explosives, trained animals, electrical fishing

ANNEX 11
ISSCFV Codes
INTERNATIONAL STANDARD STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF FISHERY VESSELS
BY VESSEL TYPES (approved by CWP-12, 1984)

Code	VesselType	Standard Abbreviation	Code
FISHING VESSELS			
01.0.0	TRAWLERS	TO	
	Side trawlers	TS	01.1.0
	Side trawlers wet-fish	TSW	01.1.1
	Side trawlers freezer	TSF	01.1.2
	Sterntrawlers	TT	01.2.0
	Sterntrawlers wet-fish	TTW	01.2.1
	Sterntrawlers freezer	TTF	01.2.2
	Sterntrawlers factory	TTP	01.2.3
	Outrigger trawlers	TU	01.3.0
	Trawler nei	TOX	01.9.0
02.0.0	SEINERS	SO	
	Purse seiners	SP	02.1.0
	North American type	SPA	02.1.1
	European type	SPE	02.1.2
	Tuna purse seiners	SPT	02.1.3
	Seiner netters	SN	02.2.0
	Seiner nei	SOX	02.9.0
03.0.0	DREDGERS	DO	
	Using boat dredge	DB	03.1.0
	Using mechanical dredge	DM	03.2.0
	Dredgers nei	DOX	03.9.0
04.0.0	LIFT NETTERS	NO	
	Using boat operated net	NB	04.1.0
	Lift netters nei	BOX	04.9.0
05.0.0	GILL NETTERS	GO	
06.0.0	TRAP SETTERS	WO	
	Potvessels	WOP	06.1.0
	Trap setters nei	WOX	06.9.0
07.0.0	LINERS	LO	
	Handliners	LH	07.1.0
	Longliners	LL	07.2.0
	Tuna longliners	LLT	07.2.1
	Pole and line vessels	LP	07.3.0
	Japanese type	LPJ	07.3.1
	American type	LPA	07.3.2
	Trollers	LT	07.4.0
	Liners nei	LOX	07.9.0
08.0.0	VESSELS USING PUMPS FOR FISHING	PO	

11.0.0 MOTHERSHIPS		HO	
	Salted-fish motherships	HSS	11.1.0
	Factory motherships	HSF	11.2.0
	Tuna motherships	HST	11.3.0
	Motherships for two-boat purse seining	HSP	11.4.0
	Motherships nei	HOX	11.9.0
12.0.0 FISH CARRIERS		FO	
13.0.0 HOSPITAL SHIPS		KO	
14.0.0 PROTECTION AND SURVEY VESSELS		BO	
15.0.0 FISHERY RESEARCH VESSELS		ZO	
16.0.0 FISHERY TRAINING VESSELS		CO	
99.0.0 NON-FISHING VESSELS nei		VOX	

Source: CWP Handbook of fishery statistical standards (p.206). FAO, Rome. 2004.

Annex 12

Standard for Landings Data: Fishing and Reefer Vessels

With regard to the fishing vessels flying their flag that directly harvested non-highly migratory fishery resources in the Area-

Participants are to:

1. Collect data on an individual landings basis
2. Collect the following fields of data:
 - a) Current vessel flag
 - b) Name of vessel
 - c) Registration number of vessel
 - d) International radio call sign (if any)
 - e) Lloyd's / IMO number (if allocated)
 - f) Date entered SPRFMO Area
 - g) Date exited SPRFMO Area
 - h) Landing date
 - i) Area catch taken (FAO area¹²)
 - j) Country of Landing (standard ISO 3-alpha country codes)
 - k) Port/ Point of Landing
 - l) Landed State¹³ by species (see footnote)
 - m) Landed (live) weight by species

¹² FAO statistical area codes

¹³ Landed state: This means the 'state' in which the fish was landed. States may include 'live' (fish has not been processed and no part of the fish has been removed), or other states for example headed and gutted, filleted, etc.

- n) Containers – Type by species (if applicable)
- o) Containers – Number by species (if applicable)
- p) Containers – Total Content weight for all containers by species (if applicable)
- q) Port of previous landing
- r) Date of arrival at previous port

Verification (if applicable):

- s) Name of observer
- t) Authority

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

Participants are to:

1. Collect data on an individual unloading (landing) basis
2. Collect the following fields of data:

Vessel

- a. Current flag state.
- b. Name of vessel.
- c. Registration number of vessel
- d. Radio call sign (If any).
- e. IMO number/Lloyd number (if allocated).
- f. Name of charter party or owner.

General Information on the unloading (landing)

- g. Country of landing (using 3 alpha ISO codes).
- h. Port/point of landing.
- i. Landing date.
- j. Port of previous destination if in Convention Area.

Landing description split by species, for each species

- k. Landed state*.
- l. Containers - Type.
- m. Containers – Number.
- n. Containers – Total Content weight for all containers.

Transshipment (if within the Convention Area).

- o. Name(s) of fishing vessel(s) (delivering).
- p. IMO number/Lloyd number (if allocated).
- q. Total net weight(s) of product transshipped by species by vessel(s).
- r. Date(s) of transshipment activities by vessel(s).

Verification (if applicable)

- s. Name of observer.
- t. Port authority.

Annex 13

Standard for Transshipment Data

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

Participants are to:

1. Collect data on an individual transshipment basis.
2. Collect the following fields of data:

Details of transshipping vessel (delivering)

- a. Name of vessel.
- b. Registration number.
- c. Radio call sign.
- d. Vessel flag state.
- e. IMO number/ Lloyd number (if allocated).
- f. Master of transshipping vessel.

Details of Reefer Vessel (receiving)

- g. Name of vessel.
- h. Registration number.
- i. Radio call sign.
- j. Vessel flag state.
- k. IMO number/ Lloyd number (if allocated).
- l. Master of reefer vessel.

Transshipment operation.

- m. Date and time of commencement of transshipment.
- n. Date and time of completion of transshipment.
- o. Position (nearest 1/10th degree) at commencement of transshipment.
- p. Position (nearest 1/10th degree) at completion of transshipment.
- q. Description of product type by species (e.g. whole, frozen fish in 20 kg cartons).
- r. Number of cartons, net weight (kg) of product, by species.
- s. Total net weight of product transshipped (kg).
- t. Hold numbers in reefer vessel in which product is stowed.
- u. Destination port of reefer vessel.
- v. Arrival date estimate.
- w. Landing date estimate.

Verification (if applicable)

- x. Name of observer
- y. Authority

Annex 14

Standard for Annual Catch Data

Annual catch summaries should list all species/groups caught in the SPRFMO Area during the Calendar year.

For a calendar year, and for each distinct combination of Sea Type, FAO statistical area, and FAO species/ group name (for that calendar year), provide the following data:

- a) Calendar year
- b) Sea Type (either 'HS' – High Seas - or 'EEZ' – Exclusive Economic Zone)
- c) FAO Statistical Area (e.g. FAO87)
- d) Species/ group name (e.g. orange roughy)
- e) Species/ group code (FAO 3-alpha code¹⁴, e.g. ORY)
- f) Annual catch total – tonnes raised to 'live' weight

¹⁴ www.fao.org/fi/statist/fisoft/asfis/asfis.asp

DIWG-08-07 Review of Public Domain Data Rules

Introduction

Part 8 of the “[Standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data](#)” ([Data Standards](#)) provides the rules for the maintenance of confidentiality of SPRFMO data (Annex 1). Public domain data are described as:

1. data on fishing activities aggregated by flag state, calendar year, and 5° by 5° areas, except where such data describes the activities of three or less vessels (in which case a lower resolution is to be used);
2. data on the number and type of vessels authorised to fish, aggregated by flag state and calendar year.

Non public domain data are to be disseminated to participants in response to a written request from the collective Parties to the Negotiation, for the purposes documented by those Parties.

Comment

The categories of data described to be in the public domain, particularly for vessels, are quite restrictive compared to those of other RFMOs. This paper suggests some areas in which more data might be put in the public domain, for the consideration of the Working Group.

In respect of fishing activities generally, the aggregation of catch and fishing effort data to levels of years and 5° by 5° areas might be relaxed to months and 1° by 1° areas, subject to the requirement of never presenting information from fewer than 3 vessels. In respect of vessels, it is a normal practice established by other RFMOs to provide names, vessel types, and principal dimensions publically (for example [CCSBT authorised vessels](#)). Further the name, flag, length and radio call sign of vessels with IMO numbers are available on other web sites, for example www.vesseltracker.com. The SPRFMO description of public domain data in respect of vessels could be widened to include all the information in 2(a)-(t) and (y) and (z) of Annex 7 Standard for vessel data of the Data Standards without adversely affecting commercial confidentiality.

The description of public domain data only deals with data on fishing activities and fishing vessels. SPRFMO data also include fishing effort data and those biological data for which templates are provided (length, sex, maturity). However, the application of transparency in respect of these data is more difficult. While in principle it would be good practice to make them widely available, they generally require some processing using other detailed data, which are not usually in the public domain before they are useful. For, example, fishing effort needs to be standardised and biological data are

generally collected as samples which must be raised using information on the sampling framework, that might include catches on individual unloadings. Therefore, it might be more productive to urge participants to make available estimates of derived quantities such as standardised CPUE and length and sex compositions of catches than to specify which biological or fishing effort data should be in the public domain.

International Consultation decisions affecting transparency made after the adoption of the Data Standards

[The 2009 Revised Interim Measures for Pelagic Fishing](#) (RIM), which apply only in respect of *Trachurus* species, require that the Interim Secretariat posts a register of authorized vessels on the web site. The register should note which of the vessels are actively fishing in the Convention Area. This requirement implicitly extended the description of public domain vessel data by listing individual vessels authorised to fish for *Trachurus* species and indicating whether the vessels were known to be actively fishing. The data posted on the web site in response to the RIM include vessel flag, name, previous name, previous flag, IHS-Fairplay(IMO) - formerly Lloyds/IMO number, Gross tonnage and an indication of whether the vessel is actively fishing in the SPRFMO area. There seems to be no reason for restricting this information only for vessels fishing *Trachurus* species.

[The Interim Benthic Assessment framework envisages](#) the mapping of a joint trawl footprint at a resolution of 20 minutes by 20 minutes during 2002-2006. During the development of the framework it was noted in the report of the 4th Science Work (subsequently adopted by the 4th round of the International Consultations) that the footprint would essentially have to be publically available. This suggests that any occurrence of bottom trawling or bottom fishing generally within a 20 minute block during 2002-2006 should be considered to be in the public domain. The period 2002-2006 was chosen in 2007 as a recent period and there seems to be no reason not to continue treating such data as being in the public domain in succeeding years, nor to restrict the method to trawling.

Recommendation

Annex 2 contains a proposal for a revision of the rules for the maintenance of confidentiality. It is recommended that the Data and Information Working Group review the proposed rules and to recommend changes to the Data Standards to the Preparatory Conference.

Annex 1
Existing rules

8. 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:

- (d) 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;
- (e) 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 ISO/IEC27002:2005 (updates ISO/IEC 17799:2005) international standard for information security management¹⁵. SPRFMO specific data security standards will be developed over time;
- (f) Compile and disseminate to Participants or their designates non-public domain data (being any data not described in 8(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.

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

¹⁵ www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/popstds/informationsecurity.html

Annex 2

Proposed new rules for Section 8

8. 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 month and 1 degree by 1 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 for vessels authorized by Participants shall include flag, name, registration number, international radio call sign, IHS-Fairplay (IMO) number, previous names, port of registry, previous flag, type of vessel, types of fishing methods, where built, when built, length, length type, depth, beam, gross tonnage (and or gross register tonnage), power of main engine, hold capacity, vessel authorisation start and end dates.
 - (iii) The occurrence of bottom fishing within a 20 minute block (without specifying flag, any vessel identification, or measure of fishing effort)
- (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 ISO/IEC27002:2005 (updates ISO/IEC 17799:2005) international standard for information security management¹⁶. 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 8(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.~~

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

¹⁶ www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/popstds/informationsecurity.html