



International Consultations on the Establishment of the
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

SP-08-INF-02

**CHAIR'S INFORMAL DISCUSSION PAPER RELATING TO INTERIM MEASURES FOR
PELAGIC FISHERIES**

Period of Application and Review

1. These interim measures apply to fisheries for *Trachurus* species over which the SPRFMO Commission has competence in accordance with the Convention.
2. These interim measures are to be effective from 1 January 2010 and will be reviewed, and revised as appropriate, no later than 31 December 2012. These interim measures may be reviewed earlier than 31 December 2012 to take account of the work of the interim Scientific Working Group and other relevant information.
3. These interim measures are voluntary and are not legally binding under international law.

Effort management measures

4. Participants are to limit the number of vessels flying their flag and their corresponding gross tonnage (GT) to those that have been actively fishing in 2007 or 2008 or 2009 in the SPRFMO Convention Area, and are not to exceed such levels of total GT. Participants that have not already done so are to communicate to the Interim Secretariat the GT of those vessels flying their flag that have been actively fishing in 2009.
5. Participants will verify the effective presence of their vessels referred to in paragraph 4 through VMS records, catch reports, port calls or other means.

Catch management measures

6. Participants that communicated the number and GT of vessels flying their flag as actively fishing in 2007 are to limit catches to [average catches over a period of X years or a particular reference year(s), etc.] submitted to the Interim Secretariat in accordance with the SPRFMO Data Standards.
7. Participants that were not exercising fishing activities in 2007, but communicated the number and GT of vessels flying their flag as actively fishing in 2008 or 2009, are to limit catches to the [average level of catch recorded in 2008 and 2009 or the level of catch in 2008 or 2009, etc.] submitted to the Interim Secretariat in accordance with the SPRFMO Data Standards.
8. Those Participants that have communicated the number and GT of vessels flying their flag as actively fishing after [month 2009] are to limit catches to [the level of catch recorded up to month/year, etc.]
9. For the purposes of paragraphs 6-8 above, the limits relate to catches in the SPRFMO Convention Area unless a Coastal State agrees to include its catch wherever taken and thus limit its catch on a whole of range basis.

Monitoring and control measures

10. All Participants engaged in the fishery are to collect, verify, and provide all data to the Interim Secretariat in accordance with the SPRFMO Data Standards.
11. Participants are to provide catch data to the Interim Secretariat, as prescribed by the SPRFMO Data Standards, monthly. The Interim Secretariat will circulate such catch data, aggregated by flag State, to all Participants.
12. All Participants engaged in the fishery are to ensure a minimum of ten percent observer coverage of trips for vessels flying their flag and ensure that such observers collect and report data as described in the SPRFMO Data Standards.
13. All participants engaged in the fishery are to implement a vessel monitoring system (VMS) in accordance with the SPRFMO Data Standards, and ensure all vessels flying their flag are fitted with a fully operational automatic location communicator (ALC) and that such ALCs remain operational and report in accordance with the SPRFMO Data Standards at all times and in all areas while in the SPRFMO Convention Area.
14. Coastal States adjacent to the SPRFMO Convention Area are to inform the interim Secretariat of the conservation and management measures in effect for *Trachurus* species fisheries in waters under their national jurisdictions when these resources straddle areas under national jurisdiction and the SPRFMO Convention Area.
15. Implementation of these interim measures is to be kept under regular review by Participants during the interim period, including through meetings of the preparatory conference and the interim scientific and data and information working groups.

Scientific Research

16. In undertaking scientific research activities on mackerel fisheries in the SPRFMO Convention Area, including joint research, for assessment purposes, Participants are to do so in accordance with a research plan that has been provided to the Interim Secretariat for forwarding to the interim Science Working Group and all Participants, preferably 60 days prior to the commencement of that activity. Participants will provide promptly a report of the results of such scientific research activities to the interim Secretariat for circulation to all Participants.
17. Participants are to submit for review to the interim Science Working Group full and accurate data on their fishing activities and any stock assessments and research in respect of jack mackerel fisheries in the SPRFMO Convention Area and to promote the active participation of their scientific experts in the interim Science Working Group's Jack Mackerel subgroup and any associated jack mackerel workshops.