

Technical and Compliance Working Group Meeting Report
19-20 March 2014

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The 1st Session of the TCWG was held on 19-20 March 2014 at Hakyo Hall, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology in Japan. The Interim Secretariat welcomed all participants. A list of attendees appears as Attachment 1.

2. Appointment of Chair and Rapporteur

Mr. Michael Clark (USA) was elected as Chair and Ms. Katie Moore (USA) as Rapporteur.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted after revision to include discussion of the implementation of interim measures which were tabled from SWG12 (Attachment 2). A document list was provided to the participants (Attachment 3).

4. Transshipment

(1) Transshipment information

- Japan reported that only the feasibility research activities for Pacific saury conducted at-sea transshipments since 2009. (TCWG1/Inf/J).
- The USA commented on the potential value of a standardized unit of weight for reporting.
- Chinese Taipei made a verbal briefing on the information based on the report, which includes number of fishing vessels, catch, and also included frozen and unprocessed catch of Neon flying squid and Pacific saury was transshipped from 2008-2012 (TCWG1/Inf/CT). China reported that over 200 vessels involved in transshipment are targeting Neon flying squid, and data was collected since 2012 (SWG/WP/CH).
- Korea provided a summary of its transshipment procedures (TCWG1/Inf/K Revised).
- Russia reported that the list of vessels also included mother ships (TCWG/Inf/R).

(2) Transshipment procedures

The draft transshipment procedures and prior comments were circulated (TCWG1/WP2). Participants provided comments and suggested text that the USA used to revise the draft for discussion on Day 2.

Participants reviewed the updated draft and provided further input that the USA will incorporate and provide to the Interim Secretariat by 28 March 2014 for distribution to the participants. Where consensus was not achieved, text remains bracketed, and participants will be prepared for further discussion at the next TCWG meeting (Attachment 4).

5. Boarding and inspection procedure

Discussion continued on the Chair's draft boarding and inspection procedures (TCWG1/WP3 (PC5/WP5)). On Day 1 participants provided comments and suggested text that Canada used to incorporate for Day 2. Day 2 discussions resulted in an updated draft reflecting consensus language on many points (Attachment 5). Where consensus was not achieved, text remains bracketed, and participants will be prepared for further discussion at the next TCWG meeting.

6. Other MCS Issues: Interim Measures for Bottom Fisheries Annual Reports

Participants who submitted reports (Japan, Korea, and Russia) presented an overview of their respective reports. Japan asked Korea about a vessel fishing in a closed area for 20 days and expressed concern about Korea's enforcement efforts. To facilitate compliance Korea has provided fishing vessels with translated NPFC management measures. Korea will make every effort to prevent future recurrences. Korea ensures real-time monitoring of fishing vessel activities with its newly established Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC), and it reaffirms its commitment to its fishing season closure. Korea committed to vigorously ensuring compliance and will continue to do so without delay.

Chinese Taipei suggested future annual reports on the implementation of interim measures include annual catch.

7. Planning of the next TCWG meeting

A proposal was to meet in coordination with SWG13. SWG13 is slated prior to PrepCon7 or the Commission meeting possibly in March 2015. Exact timing is to be decided at the PrepCon.

8. Adoption of the Record of the meeting

Participants approved the meeting record.

9. Closing of the Meeting

The 1st Session of TCWG was adjourned at 15:02.