

NPFC-2025-SC10-IP02



TCC UPDATE - SC09

10th Science Committee Meeting
December 2025, Nagoya



Update on TCC issues

1. Port State Measures Agreement
2. Historic Existing Level
3. Transshipment
4. Vessel Monitoring System
5. NPFC Regional Observer program
6. Data Standards
7. FAO 3 – Alpha Codes

1. Port State Measures Agreement

- A port inspection measure is under consideration and is expected to return to TCC in April
- Secretariat is working with FAO – GIES team to propose an appropriate data transfer option.

2. Historic Existing Level

- Discussions are ongoing on a definition of “Historic existing level”- and process to establish the levels required.
- Several options are under consideration, based on advice from TCC08 including using a time frame back from 1 to several years from the CMM adoption year (when the effort limitation became mandatory).

3. Vessel Monitoring System

- Effective 1 April 2026, all Members will be required to notify their entry and exit to and from the Convention Area via the VMS
- This provision is intended to enhance the quality of VMS data analyses, as entry and exit points currently need to be estimated in most cases
- By requiring these notifications, analyses will benefit from a clear and consistent definition of activities within the Convention Area, while also reducing the risk of errors being introduced.

4. Transshipment

- Implemented in July 2023, the Transshipment CMM provides data on transshipment activities in the Convention Area.
- Most transshipment data is currently submitted electronically, via API data transfer or through an online application developed for this purpose.
- As of 1 April 2026, the Secretariat will no longer accept emailed data forms, unless the online system is not functioning.
- The data to date confirms that there are slightly more than 2,000 fish transshipments annually which transfer approximately 50-60% of the fish harvested in the Convention Area.

5. NPFC Regional Observer Program

- The TCC workplan reflects an ongoing dialogue between SC and TCC (Chairs) to ascertain what types of data collection by observers would be useful to SC.
- SC members will recall a series of questions that were posed in 2024 and in 2025 by the TCC Chair on this topic and subsequent clarifications that remain under discussion.

6. Data Standards

- The EU proposal from COM 09 on the establishment of data standards has been under discussion at SC's Data WG, and TCC is looking forward to picking up this discussion in 2026.

7. FAO 3 Alpha Codes

It was realized in 2025 that the Secretariat has been collecting data for several species using incorrect FAO 3 alpha codes.

The Secretariat has been working with the service provider to correct the errors and the SC's SWG Data has been active in securing a solution, which is expected to be communicated shortly to Members.

Common name	Scientific name	Current Code	Replacement Code
Japanese pilchard (sardine)	<i>Sardinops melanostictus</i>	JAP	CHP
Other- Bottom Fish	N/A	OTH	GRO
Rough longnose dogfish	<i>Deania hystricosa</i>	SDH	DNA

