



CCSBT-ESC/2308/05 (Rev.1)

## Draft High Level Electronic Monitoring/Systems (EM/S) Guiding Principles for CCSBT

### 1. Background

In 2022, the third meeting of the Technical Compliance Working Group (TCWG 3) discussed the potential role that the electronic monitoring (EM) could play in the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) fishery. The TCWG 3 recommend to the eighteenth meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC 18) that an intersessional working group be established and meet virtually to consider some of the key issues discussed, including data requirements for EM, and that the Executive Secretary and CC Chair prepare a discussion paper for this meeting. Further, it was agreed that any work or future recommendations should be provided to the ESC for their consideration and input. These recommendations were agreed by the Commission and included into the CC's Work Program for 2023.

In accordance with the CC Work Program for 2023, the Electronic Monitoring Workshop was held online from Wednesday 17 to Thursday 18 May 2023. The EM Workshop considered the discussion paper on EM and associated systems prepared by the CC Chair and the Executive Secretary, and developed a draft High Level Electronic Monitoring/Systems (EM/S) Guiding Principles for CCSBT, which is shown at **Attachment A**.

### 2. Revised CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards (SOPS) and Members' EMS activities

At the Extended Scientific Committee of the Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Scientific Committee (ESC 27) in 2022, New Zealand proposed to update SOPS to incorporate EM, for the use of electronic monitoring systems (EMS) to meet monitoring requirements in SBT fisheries. After the extensive discussion, ESC 27 made some minor revisions to the draft revised SOPS provided by New Zealand and recommends that the revised SOPS be adopted by the EC. This [revised SOPS](#) was adopted by the EC in October 2022.

ESC 27 also agreed that EMS activities should be reported to the ESC in Member's National Reports, in the relevant areas of Section 7 and Annex 1 of the ESC annual report template. The information reported should include:

- How EMS has been implemented, particularly in the context of the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program;
- How observer coverage has been calculated;
- What information previously collected by human observers is no longer collected; and
- What information cannot be collected by EMS.

### **3. Action Required**

The ESC is requested to:

- *Consider the draft High Level Electronic Monitoring/Systems (EM/S) Guiding Principles for CCSBT in **Attachment A**;*
- *Review information provided by Members through their National Reports on EMS activities; and*
- *Make any recommendations to the EC and/or CC on EM/S from the ESC's perspective as appropriate.*

**Prepared by the Secretariat**

## High Level Electronic Monitoring/Systems (EM/S) Guiding Principles for CCSBT

### **CCSBT Definition(s)<sup>1</sup>**

#### ***Electronic Monitoring (EM):***

*The use of electronic devices to record fishing vessels' activities using video technology linked to a Global Position System (GPS), which may include sensors.*

#### ***Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS):***

*The system comprising the vessel and shore-based components for collecting, transmitting and reviewing EM records, reporting of EM data and implementing an EM Program.<sup>2</sup>*

#### ***Primary Objectives of EM/S***

The use of EM/S is voluntary and, if used, can complement or supplement human observer programmes.

The CCSBT EM/S should be compatible with the EM/S utilised in other relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs).

There is potential for CCSBT EM/S data and information to be used to assist with the assessment and reporting of Members' compliance with CCSBT Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) in future if agreed by Members. This does not prevent Members choosing to use their own EM/S data and information to support compliance with CCSBT CMMs.

EM/S can be used to contribute to meeting the scientific observer coverage requirements as described in CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards (SOPS).

In cases where EM/S can be utilised, the data and information collected by EM/S should, at a minimum, be as robust as that collected by human observers.

EM/S can be used across all SBT fishing activities.

#### ***Information Objectives***

EM/S can be used as a primary data collection tool and/or to verify data collected by other methods.

#### ***Data Review Objectives***

The review of EM footage should be representative as defined in the CCSBT SOPS.

Onshore scientific observers/analysts should:

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<sup>1</sup> These definitions are consistent with the definitions used (in 2023) by the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

<sup>2</sup> EM Program was defined by IOTC in paper [IOTC-2022-WPDCS18-32](#) as, "a process administered by a national or regional administration that regulates the use of EMS on vessels to collect and verify fisheries data and information responsible through an implementation of an EMS in a defined area and/or fishery"

- Have a similar level of qualifications and training as at-sea scientific observers, and
- Meet CCSBT's independence and integrity requirements as defined in the CCSBT SOPS.

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be considered once AI has demonstrated its applicability in the context of CCSBT EM/S.

***Security, Privacy and Confidentiality***

EM/S and the information and data collected by those systems must be tamper-proof.

Members may choose to share information collected from EM/S. The sharing of EM/S information shall be done in accordance with CCSBT's confidentiality rules.