



CCSBT-CC/2310/15

## Update on CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with Other Bodies and Organisations

### 1. Introduction

This paper updates Members on CCSBT's compliance relationships with the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network (IMCSN) and its associated networks, as well as with RFBs<sup>1</sup>/ RFMOs<sup>2</sup>, including the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)<sup>3</sup>, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN FAO) Fisheries and Aquaculture Division. An update concerning the relationship with Trygg Mat Tracking (TMT) and a Secretariat-requested report produced by TMT during 2023<sup>4</sup> is provided in paper CCSBT-CC/2310/14.

### 2. IMCSN

The IMCSN is a non-profit and informal organisation, established to facilitate bilateral and multilateral co-operation to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and associated activities led by Executive Director, Mr. Mark Young. The CCSBT became a member of the IMCSN in November 2013. The IMCSN has grown its RFMO membership to now include five RFMOs/ organisations with a conservation agreement with some of the attributes of an RFMO<sup>5</sup>.

The Compliance Manager attended the IMCSN's Business Meeting on 2 August 2023 in Halifax, Canada during GFETW7<sup>6</sup>. There was support for the IMCSN to progress its key recommendations which included directly engaging with IMCSN members to identify their needs and priorities, reviewing the IMCSN Strategic Plan, seeking and evaluating sustainable financing options for the future and ensuring the Executive Committee operates effectively.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop (GFETW7)

The Compliance Manager also attended the IMCSN's 7th Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop (GFETW7) in Halifax/Canada between 30 July and 4 August 2023. Note that in future it is intended that GFETWs will be held triennially.

The GFETW7 provided an opportunity to improve awareness of compliance monitoring activities being conducted by other organisations including applications of various technologies with respect to improving transparency/ catch monitoring, dark vessel detection programmes, methods for potential detection of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, and information about tailored re-runnable annual automated compliance monitoring

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<sup>1</sup> Regional Fisheries Bodies

<sup>2</sup> Regional Fisheries Management Organisations

<sup>3</sup> Both the IOTC and the GFCM are part of the FAO

<sup>4</sup> Using part of the existing contingency fund with TMT established in 2019

<sup>5</sup> CCAMLR, CCSBT, NEAFC, NPFC and SPRFMO are currently members of the IMCSN

<sup>6</sup> The 7th Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop

reports, specifically those being utilised by CCAMLR. Travel to the GFETW7 was an extension of already planned travel to Tokyo for the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of CCSBT's Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG).

#### ***Tuna Compliance Network (TCN)***

The TCN continues to function under the umbrella of the IMCSN. Ms. Sarah Lenel, who has been appointed by the IMCSN as Senior MCS Specialist (Projects and Partnerships), is supporting the TCN (and Pan-Pacific Fisheries Compliance Network<sup>7</sup>). An ABNJ-funded project to conduct a comparative review of the compliance assessment processes implemented by the five tuna RFMOs (tRFMOs), which TCN members had significant input into/ reviewed during 2022/23, was completed by Ms. Lenel during the first half of 2023 and released on 29 June 2023<sup>8</sup>.

The TCN held a virtual meeting during March 2023 as well as an in-person meeting in Tokyo, Japan between 26 – 30 June 2023<sup>9</sup>. These TCN meetings provided an opportunity for tRFMO compliance personnel to exchange information on relevant issues, in particular on transshipment measure strengthening and issues, developments in the Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) area, and opportunities for future work collaboration and analysis support through the IMCSN/ TCN Coordinator, and/or the Joint Analytical Cell (JAC), which is a collaborative initiative jointly established by the IMCSN, Global Fishing Watch (GFW) and Trygg Mat Tracking (TMT). The JAC's goal is to provide organisations with fisheries intelligence, data analysis and capacity building to help combat IUU fishing.

Dr. Lara Manarangi-Trott, WCPFC Compliance Manager, continued as TCN Chair until the in-person meeting where Ms. Jenny Cheatle, Head of Compliance at ICCAT, was elected as the new Chair commencing 29 June 2023. It has been proposed that the next in-person meeting of the TCN be convened in February/March 2024, most likely in the Seychelles.

#### ***Pan-Pacific Fisheries Compliance Network (PPFCN)***

Mr. Randy Jenkins of SPRFMO continues as the inaugural Chair of the informal, voluntary PPFCN and the group met a couple of times during 2023. The Compliance Manager attended a virtual meeting of the PPFCN held in April 2023 and also a joint PPFCN/TCN meeting held during the TCN in late June 2023.

### **3. CCAMLR, ICCAT and IOTC**

The CCSBT Secretariat has had regular interactions with CCAMLR, ICCAT and IOTC Secretariat compliance personnel since CC17, primarily concerning IUU Vessel Lists cross-listing matters as well as consultations concerning ICCAT/IOTC's Transshipment measures.

#### ***IOTC Working Group on the Development of Electronic Monitoring Standards (WGEMS)***

In addition, to assist with gathering information and learning more about EM prior to CCSBT's Electronic Monitoring Workshop held in mid-May 2023, the Compliance Manager attended two half-day virtual sessions of IOTC's WGEMS held on 15-16 March 2023.

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<sup>7</sup> Information is provided about the PPFCN in the next sub-section of this paper

<sup>8</sup> The study is available here: <https://imcsnet.org/resource/compliance-assessment-tuna-regional-fisheries-management-organizations-comparative-review>.

<sup>9</sup> The Compliance Manager's expenses to attend this TCN meeting were fully funded by the IMCSN

#### 4. WCPFC

A Transshipment Memorandum of Cooperation<sup>10</sup> (MoC) with WCPFC was signed by the CCSBT and WCPFC Chairs during 2017 but has not yet been operationalised as WCPFC transshipment observers cannot be cross-endorsed by CCSBT until CCSBT's transshipment observer standards are met. In the interim, SBT remains unable to be transhipped at-sea within the WCPFC Convention Area.

Since CCSBT29, some progress has been made in relation to WCPFC's transshipment observer standards. WCPFC's Compliance Manager advised that:

- The Commission at WCPFC19 (December 2022) adopted Minimum Data fields for Observer Transshipment Monitoring ([suppl\\_CMM 2009-06-3](#)) as data fields to be collected by transshipment observers during transshipment events, as of 1 April 2023 (WCPFC19 Summary Report paragraph 466 (i));
- WCPFC19 further agreed to require that “*For transshipment on the high seas, transshipment ROP providers shall send the agreed Minimum Data fields for Observer Transshipment Monitoring to the Commission Secretariat within 90 days of the disembarkation of the observer from the carrier.*” (WCPFC19 Summary Report paragraph 466 (ii)); and
- The IWG-ROP<sup>11</sup> has also been tasked to review the agreed Minimum Data fields for Observer Transshipment Monitoring and consider whether any revisions are necessary.

#### 5. UN FAO

The Compliance Manager attended small parts of two hybrid meetings convened by the UN FAO during December 2022. The first of these was the Sixth meeting of the Global Record Informal Open-Ended Technical and Advisory Working Group (GRWG6), and the second of these was the Third meeting of the PSMA Technical Working Group on Information Exchange (TWG-IE3).

#### 6. Starboard Maritime Intelligence (NZ)

During 2023 the Compliance Manager undertook a free trial of the [Starboard Maritime Intelligence](#) software which allows visual and analytical examination of primarily Automatic Identification System (AIS) data. The software was very useful in terms of providing real-time AIS data including some in-built analyses capabilities for checking vessel locations and potential transshipment events<sup>12</sup>. However, there are significant costs associated with access to this software with budgetary limitations meaning that a subscription cannot be considered.

#### 7. Recommendations

CC18 is invited to:

- Note the CCSBT's Compliance Relationships with other bodies and organisations.

**Prepared by the Secretariat**

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<sup>10</sup> Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on the Endorsement of WCPFC Regional Observer Programme Observers for Observing Transshipments of Southern Bluefin Tuna on the High Seas of the WCPFC Convention Area

<sup>11</sup> WCPFC's Intersessional Working Group – Regional Observer Programme

<sup>12</sup> Taking into account the potential limitations of AIS data.