



**INAUGURAL SESSION
9-10 December 2004
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia**

RESOLUTION ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Conservation and Management Measure – 2004 – 04

The Commission For The Conservation And Management Of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks In The Western And Central Pacific Ocean,

Resolves as follows:

WORK BY THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEES

1. Utilising the transitional arrangements for the provision of the Commission's scientific advice and taking into consideration the management options identified as feasible by the Scientific Coordinating Group, the following advice shall be given to the Commission at its second annual session:

(a) Estimates of both sustainable catch and effort levels for bigeye, yellowfin and South Pacific albacore;

(b) Five and ten year projections of total biomass and spawning stock biomass for bigeye and yellowfin tuna under: 2003 catch and effort levels, and possible scenarios of changes in catch and effort (i.e. separate analysis of catch limits and effort limits) in the Convention Area for the purse seine, longline and other surface fisheries which have a major impact on bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna (both separately and combined); including the effects on the stocks of possible time/area closures by fishing method for bigeye and yellowfin tuna;

(c) The effects on the stocks of measures to mitigate the catch of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin including controls on setting on floating objects; and

(d) Estimates of the mortality of non-target species with an initial focus on seabirds, turtles and sharks.

2. The preliminary analyses shall be completed, reviewed by the Scientific Committee, and made available to the Commission at least sixty (60) days in advance of its second session.

3. The Technical and Compliance Committee shall provide advice in advance of the second annual session of the Commission on the issues that may require consideration for the effective

implementation of possible conservation and management measures including time/area closures or alternative measures to control sets on floating objects.

ADOPTION OF CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES AT WCPFC 2

4. In responding to the advice of the Scientific Committee and the Technical and Compliance Committee and any information provided by members at least thirty (30) days in advance of the second annual session, the Commission shall adopt in accordance with article 5 of the Convention conservation and management measures necessary to address sustainability concerns. Such measures may include, *inter alia*,

- (a) Catch and/or effort limits;
- (b) Capacity limits for large-scale tuna fishing vessels;
- (c) Measures to address impacts of large-scale tuna fishing vessels so as to ensure compatibility between measures applied outside areas of national jurisdiction and measures being applied by coastal states to manage fishing by such vessels within their zones;
- (d) Time and area closures; and
- (e) Mitigation measures to address the mortality of non-target species e.g. seabirds, turtles and sharks.

5. In accordance with article 6 of the Convention the precautionary approach will be applied and the absence of adequate scientific information shall not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE

6. The Technical and Compliance Committee shall consider the regional observer programme as well as the VMS programme as a matter of priority at its 2005 meeting.

CARRY OVER PROVISIONS OF PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS

7. The Resolutions of the MHLCC and the Preparatory Conference (adopted at the fourth and fifth sessions of the MHLCC and Preparatory Conference resolutions WCPFC/PrepCon/22 and WCPFC/PrepCon/34) calling for measures including reasonable restraint in the expansion of fishing effort and capacity in the Convention Area continue to apply.