

The 2nd Technical and Compliance Working Group (TCWG) Meeting

Tokyo, Japan

31 August 2015

Meeting Report

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The 2nd Technical and Compliance Working Group Meeting was convened in Tokyo, Japan. Mr. Kengo Tanaka, the Interim Secretariat and the Government of Japan, welcomed participants and provided opening remarks. A list of participants is attached as Attachment 1.

2. Appointment of Chair and Rapporteur

Mr. Michael Clark (USA) was elected Chair and Ms. Cheri McCarty (USA) was elected Rapporteur by participants.

3. Adoption of Agenda

The draft agenda (TCWG2/WP1) was reviewed and adopted. A document list was provided to the participants (TCWG2/Inf1).

4. Terms of Reference of TCC

Participants discussed a process to develop and adopt terms of reference (TOR). Canada will draft a proposed TOR and submit it to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will circulate the proposed TOR intersessionally to participants for review/comment.

5. Transshipment

(1). Information on transshipments

Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei explained the status of their transshipment operations based on information provided to the Interim Secretariat in their respective reports (TCWG2/WP2/J, TCWG2/WP2/K and TCWG2/WP2/CT). Russia informed participants that it will provide its transshipment information to the Interim Secretariat shortly for circulation among participants to review it. China also provided its transshipment information to the Interim Secretariat (TCWG2/WP2/Ch).

(2). Transshipment procedure

Discussion continued on the draft paper on transshipment procedure for the NPFC prepared by the USA (TCWG2/WP3). Consensus was not reached regarding the scope of the transshipment procedures. Some participants suggested that the transshipment procedures should be applied in a step-by-step manner and initially only apply to bottom fisheries and the second phase would also include Pacific saury fisheries. Other participants wanted the transshipment procedures to initially apply to both bottom and pelagic fisheries. The United States agreed to amend the transshipment procedures document intersessionally to reflect the view that the transshipment procedures would apply to bottom fisheries at the time of adoption by the Commission in 2016 and expand to Pacific saury fisheries in 2017.

6. Boarding and Inspection Procedure

Discussion continued on the draft paper on high seas boarding and inspection procedures for NPFC prepared by the Chair of the Preparatory Conference for the NPFC (TCWG2/WP4). Participants agreed to forward the draft to the 7th Session of the Preparatory Conference for the NPFC for consideration (Attachment 2).

7. Vessel Information Requirements

Participants reviewed the draft proposal on NPFC Conservation and Management Measures Record of Vessels and Information Requirements prepared by the Interim Secretariat (TCWG2/WP5). Participants agreed to forward the draft to the 7th Session of the Preparatory Conference for consideration (Attachment 3).

8. Other issues

(1). Implementation Reports of Interim Measures for Bottom Fisheries

Japan, Korea, and Russia reported on implementation of interim measures for bottom fisheries in their respective reports (TCWG2/WP6/J, TCWG2/WP7/K and TCWG2/WP8/R).

(2). Cooperation with other frameworks

Mr. Christopher Barrows, appointed observer from the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, shared information on collaborative enforcement activities and strategy with NPFC. Participants noted it was important for the NPFC to undertake an initial analysis of MCS measures before discussing potential cooperation with other entities. It was noted that it will be important for NPFC to utilize assets and resources already in existence.

(3). Other matters

Following the discussion at the SWG13, Russia noted that the catch data for pelagic fish stocks provided by Chinese Taipei (SWG13/WP5/CT) included Pacific saury catch both in the Convention Area (CA) and areas within national jurisdiction of other NPFC participants. Russia and Japan called upon Chinese Taipei to provide the Secretariat for distribution among participants with detailed information on catch and number of vessels in the CA and areas within national jurisdiction of other NPFC participants. Russia will submit relevant information to the Secretariat for further distribution among participants. Chinese Taipei will submit relevant information to the Secretariat for clarification.

9. Planning of the Next TCC Meeting and Nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair

Participants discussed the timing of the 1st Meeting of the Technical and Compliance Committee. There was consensus that the TCC should be convened in advance of the 2nd meeting of the Commission in 2016. Participants agreed that a decision should be made at the 1st meeting of the Commission regarding the selection of an interim Chair.

10. Adoption of the Record of the Meeting

Participants reviewed and adopted this report of the meeting.

11. Closing of the Meeting

The 2nd Technical and Compliance Working Group meeting was adjourned at 17:56 on 31 August 2015.