

**WORKING GROUP 3 (MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE): NEEDS OF
THE COMMISSION WITH RESPECT TO MONITORING, CONTROL AND
SURVEILLANCE**

Prepared by the Chairman of WG.III

1. In accordance with the decision of the Preparatory Conference at its second session (WCPFC/PrepCon/16, paragraph 17), WG.III is to begin its work during the third session. It will be recalled that the terms of reference for WG.III are contained in document WCPFC/PrepCon/13.

2. The following suggested list of needs of the Commission with respect to monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) is based on the needs identified by WG.I at the first session of the Preparatory Conference (see document WCPFC/PrepCon/5). For the purposes of WG.III, the list has been amended and expanded to reflect the more technical and detailed focus of the Working Group on the range of MCS issues under consideration. The list identifies, in particular, those issues and tasks that will form the core of the Working Group's work programme, taking into account the terms of reference. In this regard, WG.III should also consider the draft programme of work, which appears at Annex I.

3. In order to meet the needs of the Commission with respect to MCS issues, it is suggested that WG.III should perform the following tasks:

(a) Define and establish the MCS component of the Commission's observer programme and develop such a programme consistent with the Convention (Article 28) (see attached draft elements in Annex II).

(b) Establish procedures for practical implementation of a boarding and inspection scheme (Article 26) (see attached draft elements in Annex II).

(c) Establish standards, specifications and procedures for the operation of a vessel monitoring system (Article 24(8) and (9)).

(d) Develop guidelines for regulating and monitoring transshipment (Article 29).

(e) Develop guidelines for creation of national vessel registries (Article 24(4)) and the regional vessel registry (Article 24(7)).

(f) Establish a process for reviewing and assessing implementation of and compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission (Article 23).

(g) Develop catch and effort monitoring and verification schemes.

(h) Other (includes provisions for port inspections, non-discriminatory trade measures, vessel and gear markings and other issues).

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Annex I

WORKING GROUP III: TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAMME

First Meeting

Discuss and, if possible adopt:

- Needs of the Commission with respect to MCS;
- Tentative work programme;
- Elements for boarding and inspection scheme and observer programmes.

Begin discussions (time permitting) on broader MCS issues. Wide-ranging discussion to include boarding and inspection, observers, VMS, transshipment, vessel registers, reporting requirements and other issues that participants may raise. Establish inter-sessional tasks for Chair and/or Secretariat.

Second Meeting

- Elaboration of draft boarding and inspection plan for substantive discussion.
- Establish procedures for regional vessels register; authorization to fish.
- Begin discussions (time permitting) on observer programme, VMS, vessel and gear markings.

Third Meeting

- Conclude discussions on boarding and inspection scheme.
- Adopt, if possible, draft boarding and inspection scheme to recommend to the Commission.
- Continue discussions on observer programme, VMS, vessel and gear marking.

Fourth Meeting

- Conclude discussions on observer programme, VMS and vessel and gear marking.
- Adopt recommendations on the above for the Commission.
- Begin discussions on monitoring of transshipment, port state inspections.

This tentative work programme will be re-evaluated on a periodic basis and modified as necessary.

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Annex II

A. POSSIBLE ELEMENTS FOR PROCEDURES ON BOARDING AND INSPECTION

- Definition and Scope of Boarding and Inspection Scheme;
- Register of Vessels Authorized to Conduct Enforcement Activities in the Convention Area;
- Standardized Training for Enforcement Personnel;
- Guidelines Governing Boarding and Inspections Procedures including Provisions for Ensuring the Safety of the Boarding Party, Vessels and Crew;
- Guidelines Governing Use of Force;
- Coordination Between the Secretariat and Enforcement Authorities of Parties Conducting High Seas Boarding and Inspection, and between Respective Enforcement Authorities of Parties.

B. POSSIBLE ELEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF OBSERVER PROGRAMMES

- Parameters and Guidelines for Observer Programs with Respect to MCS functions;
- Guidelines to Determine Effective Level of Coverage (which could vary from fishery to fishery depending on the specific needs with respect to specific species, fleet, or geographic area);
- Possible Phase-in or Incremental Approach to Commission Observer Program for Various Fleets and Fisheries;
- Provisions Regarding the Deployment of Observers on Board Various Fleets, Including the Possible Hiring by the Commission of Nationals of Fishing States/Entities for Deployment as Commission Observers on Vessels of that State/Entities;
- Guidelines for Observer, Captain and Crew with Respect to Observer Safety, Duties and Responsibilities, Accommodations, Access, etc.;
- Standardized Observer Training.

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