



# South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation

## REPORT OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (CC) – 2017

**27 & 28 November 2017**

**Swakopmund**

**NAMIBIA**

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**REPORT OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (CC)**  
Swakopmund, Namibia 27,28 & 29 November 2017

**1. Opening of the meeting**

The Chairperson, Mr. Orlando Fachada, from the EU, opened the meeting, welcomed all delegates and expressed his wishes for a productive and efficient meeting.

**2. Appointment of Rapporteur**

The draft meeting report is prepared by Secretariat with the support of the Chairperson.

**3. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements**

The agenda was adopted with the addition ([DOC/CC/01/2017](#) and [DOC/CC/02/2017](#)) on the point, 6.1 on the "discussion on the vessel Argos Marine case" in order to allow Namibia to present the case and answer questions.

**4. Introduction of Contracting Party Delegates**

The Chairperson has reconfirmed Delegates since their introduction was already done in the Commission meeting. See the delegate list in [Appendix I](#).

**5. Introduction and admission of Observers**

Observers, all having participated at the Commission meeting, were also reconfirmed by the Chairperson.

**6. Executive Secretary's Report on Compliance**

The Compliance Review Report was presented by the Executive Secretary ([DOC/CC/03/2017](#)) and the following points were noted:

During 2017 four fishing vessels have been active in the SEAFO CA. Japan and Namibia were the two Contracting Parties involved in fishing during 2017. Global fishing effort increased in 2017 in terms of active vessels. However, catches still denote a long-term trend decrease, despite a particular rise in 2017.

Total Allowable Catches set by the Commission have been respected. Notwithstanding, the utilisation of fishing opportunities determined by TACs still tend to decrease.

Catch reporting revealed some discrepancies shown by different reporting sources (5 day catch reports, scientific observer, port inspection and quarterly reports) in the two active vessels targeting Deep-sea Red Crab.

The main catch discrepancies, referring to one of the above-mentioned vessels, reported in the port inspection report can be explained by the fact that Deep-sea Red Crab is processed on-board of this vessel and therefore quantities landed are substantially different than catches (conversion factor 2.63).

Discrepancies on catches by the other vessel targeting Deep-sea Red Crab could not be fully explained. The Executive Secretary indicated that normally the Scientific Committee uses the catches provided in the scientific observe report.

In both cases it was concluded that relevant authorities will closely monitor future catch reporting in order to make the reporting from different sources more consistent.

The Executive Secretary also presented the facts related to the activities of the Vessel Argos Marine that have been further discussed in point 6.1.

The Commission congratulated the secretariat with a well presented and complete compliance report.

### **6.1 Namibian vessel Argos Marine**

Namibia provided explanations and replied to questions concerning infringements by the vessel Argos Marine, including misreporting and fishing activities in a closed area. The above-mentioned infringements were mainly attributed to miscommunication between the Authorities and the ship-owner as well as the unfamiliarity of the ship-owner/master, fishing for the first time in the Convention Area, with obligations related to SEAFO including the Conservation and Management Measures.

It was also pointed out that Namibia will undertake remedial measures in the future to avoid the repetition of these kind of infringements, including more stringent VMS monitoring in the Convention Area, capacity building of its agents/observers controlling vessel's activities in the same area and ensure better communication with the industry.

## **7. Annual Review of the "SYSTEM"**

Norway proposed editorial amendments to Article 24 on inspections of the SEAFO System ([DOC/CC/05/2017](#)), to make the text more clear and in line with other provisions of the System and proposed the deletion of Article 26 on the Application of Port State Control, taking into account the entering into force of the Port State Measures Agreement and the fact that all Contracting Parties that do not fall in the category defined by Article 26 are now parties of the Agreement.

The Compliance Committee agreed to recommend to the Commission the adoption of the proposed changes from Norway as well as renumbering relevant articles.

Following discussions on "apparent infringements" the CC also recommends to amend paragraph 24 bis.

Contracting Parties that have not yet become Parties to the Port State Measures Agreement were encouraged to undertake the required internal procedures to join the Agreement.

## **8. Consideration of the provisional SEAFO IUU Vessel list cf. SEAFO "SYSTEM"**

SEAFO has a joint listing agreement with NEAFC, NAFO and CCAMLR and the PROVISIONAL IUU Vessel list prepared by the Executive Secretary contains the latest updates ([DOC/CC/06/2017](#)). It was noted that SIOFA do not have an IUU Vessel list yet.

The EU provided evidence about the IUU fishing activities of the vessel "Cape Flower" in the CA. The vessel was added to the Provisional IUU list. The Authorities of the Flag Country (Bolivia) were informed of this inclusion. Correspondence on the case [DOC/CC/07/2017](#) and other Supporting Documents [DOC/CC/08/2017](#) were also considered by the CC. CC agreed

unanimously that the seriousness of the infringements fully justify its inclusion in the Provisional IUU vessel list.

In conclusion, the CC agreed to recommend to the Commission the adoption of the provisional IUU Vessel list, including the vessel "Cape Flower".

## **9. Recommendation on additional Measures of Compliance**

There were no recommendations on additional compliance related measures.

## **10. Review of Recommendations from 2nd Performance Review (2016)**

### **10.1 Compliance review Country by Country**

The level of fishing activities in the Convention is globally unchanged and therefore the CC considers that the existing compliance review arrangements are adequate and should be maintained.

### **10.2 Training on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MSC) and request for training on compliance inspection reports ([DOC/CC/09/2017](#) and [DOC/CC/10/2017](#))**

The CC welcomed the invitation sent by the ABNJ Deep Seas Project regarding a workshop on MCS that is scheduled for March 2018 to be held in La Reunion. Relevant Contracting Parties are invited to participate in this workshop. South Africa considered that this workshop is addressing, among others, its request to organise a training session on compliance inspection reports and therefore related funds remain available. The ES will continue work together with the ABNJ Deep Seas Project coordinator and SIOFA in the planning of the workshop.

## **11. Any other Matters**

Japan confirmed Mr Ryo Omori as CC Vice-Chairperson.

## **12. Adoption of the Compliance Committee Report**

The meeting reviewed and adopted the Compliance Committee report to be presented by the Chair to the Commission.

## **13. Venue and date of the next meeting**

The next Compliance Committee meeting will coincide with the next Commission meeting and will therefore be decided in the Commission plenary session.

## **14. Closure of the meeting**

The Chair closed the meeting at 9h52 on 29 November 2017 and adjourned the meeting in good faith.

## APPENDIX I – List of Participants

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