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Via email to: ljoy@fisheries.gov.vu, tonjeyalda@fisheries.gov.vu and ttaleo@vanuatu.gov.vu;

**RE: Data Request for StarKist Pacific Ocean Longline Tuna Fishery Improvement Project Vessels**

Dear Lucy, Jeyalda and Tony,

The submission of this letter is a formal request for data pertaining to Vanuatu flagged vessels included in the Fishery Improvement (FIP) Pacific Ocean Longline Tuna Fishery (StarKist). The data request is made on behalf of the vessels in **Table 1**.

The fishery targets albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) and catches bigeye (*T. obesus*) and yellowfin (*T. albacares*). The pelagic longline vessels are flagged to Taiwan, China, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Fiji, American Samoa, Samoa, French Polynesia and Panama and fish on the high seas in the Pacific. The fishery is managed regionally by the WCPFC and by the IATTC.

This FIP aims to meet the rising global demand for tuna in a sustainable manner by assuring catches do not exceed sustainable levels, promoting the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management and strengthening policy and governance systems in the region. The end goal is to achieve certification under the Marine Stewardship Council Fisheries Standard by 2025.

To find more information on the present FIP please view the [FisheryProgress profile here](#).

Currently to meet many of these aims, vessel catch, and operational data is required. Although the vessels within the FIP collect catch statistics, they are currently not sufficient in their scope and depth (species classifications, volumes etc.) to address many aims of the FIP - such as understanding the impacts of the fishery on non-target and endangered, threatened and protected (ETP) species. This data will be used for this fishery to achieve MSC certification.

As one of the governing authorities we are writing to you to please help us with the acquiring of this data. If we are taking the wrong way about submission for this request, it would be appreciated if you could direct us to the appropriate mechanisms/channels.

**Data request**

In line with the Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission (as revised by WCPFC4 2007), on behalf of vessel owners, we please request observer catch data for, if possible, the past 5 years (understanding the impacts COVID had on observer coverage) for the longline vessels in this StarKist Pacific Ocean Longline Tuna Fishery.

This data will go towards helping to adopt an ecosystem-based approach to the FIPs management plans. Please see **Table 1** for vessel name, IMO and flag state. If possible, information such as the below would be beneficial:

- Number of sets
- Fishing locations of sets
- Type of set (floating object or free school)
- Bycatch information, such as species, fate and condition if released
- FAD deployment information
- Estimate of weight (or number of individuals) caught of ETP species

If you require any further information that will help with the data request, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,



Tom Evans

Director, Key Traceability

## Appendix I:

Table 1: Data request for Vanuatu flagged vessels in the StarKist Pacific Ocean longline tuna

Supplier	Vessel Name	IMO Number	Flag
Ouranos Fishery Co., Ltd	Aristotle 68	9971587	Vanuatu
Ouranos Fishery Co., Ltd	Aristotle 69	9693226	Vanuatu
Yu Fa Fishery (Vanuatu) Co., Ltd.	Fu Kuan Yu No.6 Formally Toamoana No.6	8524064	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Gilontas No. 313	8668781	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Gilontas No. 323	8668793	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Gilontas No. 353	8668810	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Gilontas No. 363	8668822	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Gilontas No. 386	8668779	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Gilontas No. 393	8668834	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Golden Riches 6	9856347	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Golden Riches 8	9856505	Vanuatu
Longbow Fishery Co., Ltd	Grand East	8821072	Vanuatu
Golden Ocean Fish Ltd	Gui Yuan Yu 60003	8656269	Vanuatu
Fue Shin Fishery Ltd.	Kouryo	8670710	Vanuatu
Longbow Fishery Co., Ltd	Longbow No.1	8996114	Vanuatu
Longbow Fishery Co., Ltd	Longbow No.7	8956683	Vanuatu
Fue Shin Fishery Ltd.	Ocean Harvest	8977027	Vanuatu
Fue Shin Fishery Ltd.	Ocean Star 8	8717037	Vanuatu
Fue Shin Fishery Ltd.	Ocean Trinity	8915017	Vanuatu
Star Trading Corporation Limited	Pioneer	8814976	Vanuatu
Fue Shin Fishery Ltd.	Shun Meng	9192961	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Tuna Lane No.1	9715103	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Tuna Lane No.2	9715646	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Chang No.1	8664242	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Chang No.11	8664292	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Chang No.2	8664254	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Fa No.8	8664357	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Fa No.88	8666953	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Pao No.12	8664278	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Sheng No.1	9893981	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Sheng No.2	9910791	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Yi No.16	8664216	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Yi No.21	8664228	Vanuatu
Yuh Yow Fisheries Co., Ltd.	Yuh Yi No.22	8664230	Vanuatu