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Taiwan (R.O.C.)

Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Ministerie van LVV)  
Letitia Vriesdelaan 8-10  
Paramaribo, Suriname

30 July 2024

Via email to [lvvinformatie@gmail.com](mailto:lvvinformatie@gmail.com)

**RE: Introductions and Observer Data Request for Atlantic Ocean LL Tuna FIP (Star Trading) Fishery Improvement Project Vessels**

Dear Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Ministerie van LVV),

We are writing to introduce our new Fishery Improvement Project as we understand the importance of maintaining open and constructive communication between seafood producers and regulatory authorities. As well, the submission of this letter is a formal request for data pertaining to vessels included in the Fishery Improvement (FIP) 'Atlantic Ocean LL Tuna FIP (Star Trading)' The data request is made on behalf of all companies involved and signatories can be seen in the appendix.

Briefly, the fishery targets albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) tuna, bigeye (*T. obesus*) and yellowfin (*T. albacares*) tunas. The 17 pelagic longline vessels are flagged to Suriname and fish exclusively on the high seas in the Atlantic. The fishery is managed regionally by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) in the Atlantic Ocean. The project is now being led by Key Traceability (KangTai).

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 2029.

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 are required. Although the vessels within the FIP collect catch information, 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. Once this is understood, the FIP can develop and implement appropriate management plans based on best available data. Therefore, the FIP requires data obtained through observer programmes to provide the scope and depth needed to address these aims.

As a Flag state of some of the FIPs vessels, we are writing to you to please help us with the acquiring of this data. The FIP has tried contacting ICCAT directly for this data however we have been requested to go through the Flag State to contact the ICCAT Secretariat to receive this data. If this is also not the appropriate channel to submit this request, it would be appreciated if you could direct us so we may follow the proper procedures.

**Data request**

This data will go towards helping to adopt an ecosystem-based approach to the FIP's management plans. Please see appendix 1 for vessel name, supplier, IMO, flag state, and appendix 2 for letters to boat owners and their signatures. Data includes but is not limited to:

- Number of sets
- Fishing locations of sets
- Bycatch information, such as species, fate and condition if released
- Bycatch mitigation deployed



- 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 – FIP Manager



**Tom Evans**

Director at Key Traceability & KangTai

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**Appendix 1. Data request for vessels for years 2017 through to 2019 (three years):**

Vessel Name	Size	Gear	Flag	Owner Name	IMO
Chung Kuo No. 21	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2555499
Chung Kuo No. 23	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2555487
Chung Kuo No. 24	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2560303
Chung Kuo No. 25	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2560315
Chung Kuo No. 27	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2582648
Chung Kuo No. 29	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2582612
Chung Kuo No. 280	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2723759
Chung Kuo No. 281	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2723761
Chung Kuo No. 282	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2723773
Chung Kuo No. 283	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	8525197
Chung Kuo No. 285	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2723785
Chung Kuo No. 286	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2723797
Chung Kuo No. 287	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2723802
Chung Kuo No. 33	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	8661953
Chung Kuo No. 35	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	8661965
Gilontas No. 230	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2403361
Gilontas No. 232	Large	Longline	Suriname	Paramount Fishery N.V.	2403373

**Appendix 2: Signatories of the companies making data request**

**Name of Company:** Paramount Fishery N.V.

**Date:** 2024/08/13

**Name of Authorised Company Representative:** Justin Chen

**Signature of Authorised Company Representative:** 