

2025 FCF 3 FIPs Steering Group Meeting

Main Session – FIP-related and preparation for MSC

Date: 02.07.2025 11am,

Participants: Key Traceability, FCF, Bumble Bee

Agenda:

Overall	Agenda 1.1 Overall scope review of 3 FIPs
Progress	<p>✓ Pacific Ocean Flag State: China, Fiji, Taiwan, Vanuatu, Panama, and PNG in the future EEZ: Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea Landings: Taiwan, Fiji, Panama, Tonga, High Seas(TS)</p> <p>✓ Indian Ocean Flag State: Taiwan, China, Malaysia, Seychelles, Oman EEZ: Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles Landings: Taiwan, China, Mauritius, Seychelles, Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, High Seas(TS)</p> <p>✓ Atlantic Ocean Flag State: Taiwan, Panama, Belize, Namibia EEZ: Namibia Landings: South Africa, Trinidad, Cape Verde, Uruguay, High Seas(TS)</p> <p>Noted that the discussion should include: ✓ Taiwan – Namibia (Chartering agreement and quota sharing) ✓ Landing sites across 3 oceans to be assessed</p>
Discussion	For active improvement, both parties review the work plan for each group of suppliers and tailor the improvement actions.

Action Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A core group of vessels for the three ocean MSCs has been identified preliminarily as above in blue. It is suggested that the core group of vessels enter the assessment no later than the October 2027 deadline. <p><u>PO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check the number of FJ flag vessels that are not under any MSCs. FCF to convince them to join other existing fisheries. - Identify our FJ flag suppliers that only fish on the high seas. - Panama is likely deploying more EM due to signing the TNC pledge. - KT to contact TNC Ben to understand their plan – if there may be funds available for hardware, and the analysis will be covered by the county. - FCF to discuss with LL team regarding Gilontas’s PA vessels fleet, for the choice between implementing EM or removing them from our FIP scope. - FCF to study if there may be potential for advocating for our vessels to join Vanuatu’s EM program, which Satlink bid for. - Golden Ocean is looking at forming another Fiji MSC. FCF to discuss with the LL team if there may be any room for collaboration. - FCF to clarify with CAB: If new vessels are joining for MSC assessment, without past data, would they be applicable for the certification with observer coverage from day one? <p><u>IO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Both sides agree to exclude Oman from the MSC focus group but keep it in the FIP and reduce improvement efforts. <p><u>AO</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FCF to check if there are still PA vessels operating in AO
---------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FCF to check with BB to ensure if 70-80% of LL catch certified by May 2029 would suffice their needs on time. - FCF to review if vessels without MSC could join other MSC fisheries, by which we could leverage the efforts. - FCF to reach out to CAB in early 2026 to book their availability as their schedule are expected to be occupied. - FCF to work out the percentage of landings and dock site monitoring status of each landing port. The ports with minor landings might be dismissed by the assessor. - China is slightly concerning. KT to utilize their contract for Trinidad. Uruguay and others are approachable by Ray in the ICATT meeting.
Overall	Agenda 1.2 FIPs Re-assessment against MSC Standard v3.1
Progress	All certified fisheries must transition to MSC Standard v3.1 by November 2030, while FCF FIPs were assessed based on v2.0.
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any updates regarding the challenges in rolling out MSC Standard v3.1 by MSC, or potentially even a new version? • What is the strategy and timeline for FCF's FIP re-assessment, if considered necessary? • Regardless of whether a re-assessment is pursued, what PIs or key areas should FCF begin discussing with vessel owners to prepare for the evolving MSC Standard?
Action Points	
P2	Agenda 1.3 P2 Data re-analysis
Progress	The PI scores were based on data as old as 2017 and no longer reflect the current status of the fishery. In addition, there have been changes in the scope of our fisheries over the years. Therefore, re-analyzing the catch data is essential to ensure accuracy and relevance.
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore a data collection methodology or set of rules that is both efficient and representative enough to meet the needs for P2 reporting/scoring. • To clarify the data requirements for both e-logbook and observer data.
Action Points	- Push for the MSC priority group to share observer and

	<p>logbook data for 2022 onwards. FCF to first determine the priority group, then collect data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Put both human and EM data in one file. - “DD data” could serve as P2 engagement evidence, but likely not for data analysis of the fishery. FCF to share with KT what we ask the vessel before we organize what we have in hand.
P2	<p>Agenda 1.4</p> <p>Development of Materials for P2 and Catch Recording Form</p>
Progress	<p>Our P2 scores are currently low due to the lack of updated data. The available reporting data relies primarily on e-logbook entries, which provide catch details at various levels. To address this deficiency, it is essential to develop a consistent and standardized reporting approach.</p>
Discussion	<p>Looking back, most of the FIP's assessment and catching data come from RFMO-level sources, which may not reflect the specific P2 issues in these fisheries. This makes it harder to develop targeted actions or condition solutions. We might need to discuss whether to narrow the scope and collect more focused data within the FIP vessels, or continue using broad datasets. The goal is to avoid repeating these gaps when entering MSC full assessment.</p> <p>This activity involves the development or updates of two key tools and potentially others if helpful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Species Identification Guide <p>A booklet or poster designed to help identify the most commonly encountered species, based on observer and logbook data. This guide aims to support captains and crew members in improving the accuracy of logbook entries.</p> ✓ Catch Recording Form <p>A standardized form designed to improve the comprehensiveness of catch recording. It will enable crew members to systematically document bycatch species, including secondary species and ETP (Endangered, Threatened, and Protected) species.</p> <p>**Both parties shall review the past P2 work plan and progress achieved before the discussion.</p>
Action Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KT will share the ID guide and establish the recording form.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skipper training should have been done among the FIP and MSC group. - FCF to send a reminder to FIP participants that if
P2	Agenda 1.5 EM Deployment Plan
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployed 6 sets of mature EMS, and plan to deploy 7 more sets of mature EMS in 2025. • 2 ongoing trials of the Oceanbytes project and the Prime & Wistron project.
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To share FCF's plan for EM deployment, both long-term and short-term, including numbers and service providers, for KT's advice. • China piece - investigate Chinese vessels' EM effort invested • Current EM data report format review • Deficiency in PO EM deployment and the potential solutions • Review of Flag States' performance, including sampling efforts and data collection
Action Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KT shared that TFA wanted to know more about the EM data to contribute to national coverage. KT will provide more data to OFDC. FCF could bring this up in the next engagement with OFDC. - Share 2024 Satlink data with KT when ready. - FCF to survey our Chinese suppliers about their EM deployment status and share materials for future engagements. - WCPFC is likely to increase observer coverage or mandate EM, where the pressure is leaning towards the national level. Ray suggested that FCF should not support TFA on opposing it.
P2	Agenda 1.6 Bait Policy
Progress	KT has completed the preliminary draft policy. To be finalized by FCF for KT's further revision.
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on the adoption plan, including scope and priority • Further Guidelines or Procedure development upon finalizing the policyS
Action Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Species and stocks are the minimum required info for baits. - Share our comments on policy with KT by July 18. - To discuss our next step by next FIP call.

P2	Agenda 1.7	
	Ghost Gear Initiative	
Progress	The report of ghost gear published by MRAG includes some recommendations that FCF could potentially implement in our FIP.	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To evaluate the recommendations for implementation 	
Action Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KT to submit proposal to FCF regarding reviewing the FIPs under lens of GGGI. 	
P3	Agenda 1.8	
	P3 Updates and Harmonization	
Progress	From the Summary of Actions, there are a few P3 actions that remain outstanding.	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To summarize P3 actions that remain outstanding • To consider actions and strategy, bonded with timeline and priority for improvement 	
Action Points		
Overall	Agenda 1.9	
	Stakeholders' engagement for FIP improvement	
Progress	Currently, the stakeholders that FCF is working with for FIP-related environmental efforts are: Taiwan Bird Federation, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, National Taiwan Ocean University	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the established action plan, what areas are suitable for stakeholder engagement, and who are the appropriate stakeholders to involve? 	
Action Points		
AO	Agenda 2.1	
	Swordfish Condition	
Progress	In our AO assessment, it is requested that a regular review of the potential effectiveness and practicality of alternative measures to minimize UoA-related mortality of the unwanted catch of South Atlantic swordfish as the main primary species. Things required include: Carry out analysis and identify effective measures, implement the measures, training for mitigation measures, and regular reviews of the performance.	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To address the condition outlined above and consider its broader application within the AO FIP context 	
Action Points		

IO	Agenda 2.2	
	Long-snout lancet fish Condition	
Progress	The long-snout lancetfish is considered one of the primary species in the Indian Ocean and has triggered a Risk-Based Framework (RBF) assessment under the MSC standard. However, there are currently no management measures or consistent records for this species in our fishery.	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and recording should be improved as part of the overall P2 improvement actions • Other potential improvements include developing heat maps for our fisheries, as well as providing additional support or fostering collaboration for research 	
Action Points		
IO	Agenda 2.3	
	Hammerhead sharks Condition	
Progress	Hammerhead species are likely under-recorded and lack management measures in our fishery. Additionally, the existing e-logbook system requires details recording of only four specific hammerhead species.	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and recording should be improved as part of the overall P2 improvement actions • Other potential improvements include developing heat maps for our fisheries, as well as providing additional support or fostering collaboration for research 	
Action Points		

Side Session – Overall Review on Advocacy Planning

- Date: TBC
- Participants: Key Traceability, FCF
- Agenda:
 - **Key areas of advocacy**
 - ✓ Harvest Strategies at RFMO level: Press for RFMO actions on adoption of harvest strategies consistent with scientific advice and responsive to the state of the stock.
Key stock: IOTC Albacore & Yellowfin, ICCAT Southern Albacore, WCPFC South Pacific Albacore (Review of our Work Plans of P1)
 - ✓ Logbook Recording at National (Taiwan) Level and potentially others, upon collection of more data

✓ Others

- **Advocacy Plan and timeline**
- **Key stakeholders and partners of advocacy**