

TUNA COMPLIANCE NETWORK

Operational Framework

June 2017

1. Scope

The Tuna Compliance Network¹ comprises a Core Group of officers responsible for compliance from the tuna RFMOs (tRFMOs)², as well as an Extended Group of invited officers responsible for compliance in non-tuna RFMOs and invited Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) experts. From its inception and until 30 August 2018, the Network is supported by the Common Oceans Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Tuna Project, and hosted within the International MCS Network (IMCSN).

2. Objective

The Network is established to facilitate communication and cooperation between Network members with the objective of sharing best practice compliance processes associated mainly with, but not limited to, existing tRFMO conservation and management measures.

3. General Organisation

The Network shall consist of:

- a) a Core Group;
- b) a Chairperson;
- c) an Extended Group;
- d) a Coordinator and associated support to the Network.

3.1 Core Group

- a) The Core Group shall be composed of officers responsible for compliance from each of the five tRFMOs.
- b) Core Group members shall participate in all discussions regarding the Network.
- c) The Core Group operates by consensus.

3.2 Chairperson

- a) The Chairperson shall be elected from among the members of the Core Group for a period of one year³.
- b) The Chairperson shall have the following duties:
 - i. convene and Chair meetings of the Core Group or of the Core and Extended Groups combined;
 - ii. prepare draft agendas for meetings of the Network;
 - iii. approve a report of the proceedings of each meeting of the Network;

¹ Hereafter referred to as, “the Network”.

² The tuna RFMOs are comprised of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), and the Western and the Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

³ Or any other time-period as agreed by the Core Group.

- iv. ensure, especially in the interval between meetings, that the Work Plan of the Network is carried out efficiently and in accordance with the Network's objective.

3.3 Extended Group

- a) The Core Group may invite experts to join the Extended Group, including:
 - i. officers responsible for compliance in non-tuna RFMOs;
 - ii. MCS experts.

3.4 Coordinator and associated support to the Network

- a) The Network shall be supported by a Coordinator from the IMCSN.
- b) The Network shall also be supported by representatives of the Common Oceans Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Tuna Project, and staff of the International MCS Network (IMCSN).
- c) The Coordinator shall support the Network in the implementation of its Work Plan at least during the first 18 months following the Network's establishment.

4. General goals

In giving effect to its objective, the Network will, inter alia:

- a) facilitate communication and information exchange;
- b) identify and coordinate capacity building and training opportunities;
- c) foster joint efforts, including sharing the development of common tools and procedures and best practice compliance methodologies;
- d) enhance opportunities for sharing technology and technology transfer;
- e) improve awareness of new and existing measures, procedures and technologies within RFMOs;
- f) action any other objectives identified by the Core Group.

5. Activities of the Network

- a) Upon the establishment of the Network, the Core Group shall determine an initial Work Plan, which shall be revised at least annually.
- b) Activities will focus on the implementation of the Network's objective and will include, meetings of the Network, cooperation with other individuals, networks and organizations, capacity building activities, and activities to ensure the sustainability of the Network.