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SC-11-50

Proposal to amend Annex 1 of CMM17(2015), New and Exploratory Fisheries

Delegation of Japan

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Abstract	<p>Established fisheries in SIOFA are described in the table in Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries), which sets out multiple components such as species, gear, participant, and area. The current table may be read as if species were the primary organising element, with the other components presented as attributes of each listed species. However, Japan considers the gear component to be the most important factor in describing established fisheries, as differences in gear result in different impacts on target species, ecologically related species, and VMEs. Noting this point, at MoP12, Japan suggested that the SC review Annex 1 of CMM 17 and provide its advice to the MoP. Japan further suggested that the review should consider: (1) whether a different structure — for example, one oriented by gear — would be more appropriate; and (2) how to accommodate other primary species (paras. 230–231 of the SIOFA MoP12 Report). In line with this suggestion, Japan proposes revisions to Annex 1 for further discussion at SC11. The purpose of these revisions is to restructure the table so that it better reflects a gear-oriented approach, rather than the current species-based structure. In addition, because a gear-oriented table is better suited to capturing other commercially valuable species that have been taken by CCPs but are not currently listed, Japan proposes to include a footnote enabling the incorporation of such species into Annex 1, provided that they are identified in a BFIA submitted by the CCP.</p>

¹ Restricted documents may contain confidential information. Please do not distribute restricted documents in any form without the explicit permission of the SIOFA Secretariat and the data owner(s)/provider(s).

² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Recommendations

- For SC11 to review the proposal, revise the proposed table as necessary, and recommend its adoption to MoP13.
- For MoP13 to review and adopt the proposal.

Proposal to amend Annex 1 of CMM17(2015), New and Exploratory Fisheries

Background

Established fisheries in SIOFA are described in the table in Annex 1 of CMM 17(2024) (New and Exploratory Fisheries), which sets out multiple components such as species, gear, participant, and area. The current table may be read as if species were the primary organising element, with the other components presented as attributes of each listed species. However, Japan considers the gear component to be the most important factor in describing established fisheries, as differences in gear result in different impacts on target species, ecologically related species, and VMEs.

Noting this point, at MoP12, Japan suggested that the SC review Annex 1 of CMM 17 and provide its advice to the MoP. Japan further suggested that the review should consider: (1) whether a different structure — for example, one oriented by gear — would be more appropriate; and (2) how to accommodate other primary species (paras. 230–231 of the SIOFA MoP12 Report).

Proposals

Japan proposes revisions to Annex 1 of CMM17 for further discussion at SC11. The purpose of these revisions is to restructure the table so that it better reflects a gear-oriented approach, rather than the current species-based structure. In addition, because a gear-oriented table is better suited to capturing other commercially valuable species that have been taken by CCPs but are not currently listed, Japan proposes to include a footnote enabling the incorporation of such species into Annex 1, provided that they are identified in a BFIA submitted by the CCP.

In converting the current table to the proposed structure, Japan suggests placing the gear component as the leftmost column, because gear is the primary factor. Furthermore, Japan proposes that the area component be positioned immediately after the gear component, given that the combination of gear and area defines the operational context and has a direct link to potential impacts on VMEs and ecologically related species.

Where multiple fishing gears are currently grouped together (e.g. set longlines and traps for toothfish), each gear type should be separated into distinct entries. In such cases, Japan has provisionally retained the same contents for the other components, recognizing that these may need revision as a consequence of the gear-based disaggregation.

Japan therefore requests SC participants to review the proposed table, make any necessary adjustments, and recommend a revised Annex 1 to MoP13 for adoption.

Annex 1 – Established fisheries in the SIOFA Area³

<u>Fishing gear</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Targeted⁴ species⁵/fisheries</u>	<u>Participants</u>
Bottom trawl	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, Cook Islands, Japan. Underwater topographic features in SIOFA sub-areas 1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5 and 6.	Orange roughy,	Australia, Cook Islands, Japan, China, Mauritius
Midwater trawl	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, Cook Islands and Japan. Underwater topographic features in SIOFA sub-areas 1, 2, 3a, 3b, 4, 5 and 6.	Alfonsino	Australia, Cook Islands, Japan, Korea,
Trawl (nei)	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand.	Brushtooth lizardfish and scads	Thailand
Single boat otter board trawl	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand.	Brushtooth lizardfish and scads	Thailand
Bottom trawl: shallow water (<200m)	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand. SIOFA sub-area 8 (mainly Saya de Malha Bank)	Shallow-water (<200m) , Carangoides spp., snappers, emperors and groupers	EU (France), Mauritius, Thailand, Comoros
Traps: deep water (>200m)	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, EU (Spain), Japan, and France (Overseas Territories). SIOFA sub-areas 3b and 7	Patagonian toothfish	Australia, EU (Spain), France (Overseas Territories), Japan, Korea
Traps: shallow-water (<200m)	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand. SIOFA sub-area 8 (mainly Saya de Malha Bank)	Shallow-water (<200m) , Carangoides spp., snappers, emperors and groupers	EU (France), Mauritius, Thailand, Comoros
Set longline: deep water (>200m)	Designated fishing footprints of Australia, EU (Spain), Japan, and France (Overseas Territories). SIOFA sub-areas 3b and 7	Patagonian toothfish	Australia, EU (Spain), France (Overseas Territories), Japan, Korea
Set longline: deep water (>200m)	Designated fishing footprints of the EU (Spain) and Australia. SIOFA Subareas 2, 3a, 3b and 4.	Deep water (>200m) Snappers, lutjanids, hapuka	Australia, China, EU (Spain)
Set longline: shallow water (<200m)	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand.	Shallow-water (<200m) ,	EU (France), Mauritius,

³ Annex 1 may be updated by the Meeting of the Parties upon the advice of the Scientific Committee concerning historical catch data and/or other information submitted by CCPs regarding their targeted fisheries.

⁴ As per the endorsed definition adopted by MoP10 (MoP10 Report Para 130).

⁵ [For each listed participant, an established fishery may include other primary and secondary species taken with the listed gear, provided that such species are identified in a relevant BFIA submitted by that participant](#)

Fishing gear	Area	Targeted⁴ species⁵/fisheries	Participants
	SIOFA sub-area 8 (mainly Saya de Malha Bank)	Carangoides spp., snappers, emperors and groupers	Thailand, Comoros
Hook and line (handlines): <u>shallow water (<200m)</u>	Designated fishing footprint of Thailand. SIOFA sub-area 8 (mainly Saya de Malha Bank)	<u>Shallow-water (<200m)</u> , Carangoides spp., snappers, emperors and groupers	EU (France), Mauritius, Thailand, Comoros
Dropline: <u>deep water (>200m)</u>	Designated fishing footprints of the EU (Spain) and Australia. SIOFA Subareas 2, 3a, 3b and 4.	<u>Deep-water (>200m)</u> snappers, lutjanids, hapuka	Australia, China, EU (Spain)
Dropline: <u>deep water (>200m)</u>	Southwest Indian Ocean	Oilfish	Chinese Taipei, Seychelles
Pelagic longline	Southwest Indian Ocean	Oilfish	Chinese Taipei, Seychelles
Light Seining	Designated fishing footprint of China. SIOFA Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.	Squid	China
Squid Jigging	Designated fishing footprint of China. SIOFA Subareas 1, 4, 7 and 8.	Squid	China