



8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Compliance Committee (CC8) and 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties (MoP11)

Seoul, Republic of Korea, 26–28 June 2024 and 01-05 July 2024

MoP-11-28

# Intersessional Work on the Conservation and Management Measure Establishing a Port Inspection Scheme (CMM 08(2020) Port Inspection)

Australia on behalf of the Intersessional Working Group

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<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) has adopted a port inspection measure, CMM 08 (2020) “Conservation and Management Measure establishing a Port Inspection Scheme (Port Inspection)”. The measure creates obligations and procedures for inspecting fishing vessels in port. The measure, however, is restricted to the ports of CCPs which are adjacent to the agreement area. The measure also sets a mandatory inspection rate for vessels carrying toothfish (<i>Dissostichus</i> spp.) but no inspection rate applies to vessels carrying other SIOFA fishery resources. In 2023, the SIOFA Performance review panel recommended that SIOFA’s port inspection scheme apply to all ports of CCPs and that a minimum standard for inspection coverage of fishing vessels</p>

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be adopted. At the tenth SIOFA Meeting of the Parties in 2023, the MoP agreed to review the scope of SIOFA's port inspection scheme and consider a minimum standard for port inspection coverage. Australia offered to develop a proposal for amending the port inspection measure based on the recommendations from the Performance Review Panel and the survey responses of CCPs on their views

We surveyed CCPs on their opinions of the SIOFA performance review recommendations and potential amendments to address these (SIOFA CIRCULAR n° 2023/54). Five CCPs responded to the survey, and the responses are presented in detail in the annex to this paper (see also SIOFA Circular n° 2024/02). Four CCPs supported the expansion of the application of port inspection measures, however, one CCP disagreed. Four CCPs agreed that there should be a mandatory inspection rate for species other than toothfish, however, one disagreed. There were also differing opinions on the rates of inspection and focal species. The responding CCPs proposed some approaches for inspection rates and focal species that should be discussed further by CCPs before an amendment to the measure can be proposed.

We propose that these issues be discussed as part of Eighth SIOFA Compliance Committee Meeting in June 2024. The outcome of these discussions should inform the proposed amendments to CMM 08(2020), which may be submitted for consideration in 2025. This working paper summarises the views of surveyed CCPs and puts forward recommendations for the Compliance Committee to consider.

### Recommendations

The intersessional group recommended the following:

- the SIOFA Port Inspection measure (CMM 08 (2020) apply to the ports of every CCP, as recommended by the SIOFA Performance Review Panel. If CCPs cannot reach consensus on expanding the application of the measure to all CCPs, we suggest deleting para 31 while retaining para 32 of CMM 08 (2020).
- CMM 08 (2020) include a mandatory inspection rate for species other than toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp).
- CCPs consider the following options for selecting species for a minimum inspection rate for species other than *Dissostichus* spp: a single inspection rate for non-toothfish species; and a single inspection rate for alfonfino and orange roughy.
- the intersessional group's proposed approaches be discussed during the 8th Meeting of the SIOFA Compliance Committee. Following these discussions, one or many CCPs can propose draft amendments to the port inspection measure for consideration in 2025.