



November 21, 2024

ATTN: Heads of Delegation to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

24 Supply Chain Companies Call on the WCPFC to Adopt Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program Standards; Management Procedures and Reference Points for Key Tuna Stocks

The undersigned companies have made commitments to sourcing seafood responsibly, including tuna from the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO). Central to our sustainability efforts is increased observer coverage in industrial tuna fisheries, including electronic monitoring (EM). We see electronic monitoring as critical to effective fisheries management, compliance monitoring, and independent verification of catch, effort, species composition and bycatch.

Therefore, we call on the WCPFC to adopt interim electronic program standards at its upcoming annual meeting.

Further, we recognize that the adoption and implementation of comprehensive precautionary management procedures (i.e., harvest strategies) is fundamental to effective long-term management of tuna fisheries in the WCPO.

Therefore, we urge the Commission to adopt a management procedure for South Pacific albacore tuna and to adopt target reference points (TRPs) for bigeye and yellowfin tunas.

In addition, we also ask the WCPFC to further effective fisheries management by:

- Strengthening at-sea transshipment measures in line with best practices, such as those recommended in the [NGO Tuna Forum's Aligned Guidance on At-Sea Transshipment](#).
- Adopting a seabird conservation management measure that reflects up-to-date scientific advice on best practice.
- Adopting a crew welfare measure to ensure labor and safety standards for crew on fishing vessels that is consistent with relevant international labor conventions.

As companies engaged in the sourcing of tunas globally, we are seeking to ensure that your government supports efforts to address these key issues in the WCPFC.

We appreciate your delegation's commitment to addressing these issues and thank you in advance for your attention in this matter.

Kind regards,

