



November 21, 2024

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

18 Leading Tuna NGOs Call on the WCPFC to Adopt Electronic Monitoring (EM) Program Standards; Management Procedures and Reference Points for Key Tuna Stocks

The upcoming WCPFC Commission, scheduled for 28 November - 3 December 2024, provides an important opportunity for the WCPFC to demonstrate its ongoing leadership and progressive management to preserve the health of tuna fisheries that are a vital source of economic development and food security for the region.

As organizations focused on the sustainability of tuna stocks and their ecosystems, we urge the WCPFC to:

- Adopt interim electronic monitoring program standards at its upcoming annual meeting.
- Adopt a management procedure for South Pacific albacore tuna.
- 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 organizations engaged in tuna fishery sustainability efforts 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,

