

**CONSERVATION MEASURE 01/05
TO MONITOR THE FISHERIES IN THE SEAFO CONVENTION AREA**

The Parties to the SEAFO Convention :

Noting that there is insufficient information regarding the fishing activities undertaken in the SEAFO Convention Area, and in order for the Scientific Committee to have the necessary information regarding fishing activities in the development of its advice;

Considering that all possible methods need to be considered in the development of an integrated observation, inspection, compliance and enforcement system as required by the SEAFO Convention, and the role that this system can play in the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities;

Recognising that a satellite based vessel monitoring system would constitute an effective mechanism to ensure the respect of the conservation and management measures adopted by SEAFO;

Conscious of the need to ensure that the Scientific Committee of SEAFO is provided with the appropriate information to enable it to fulfil its functions to its best capability;

Considering the importance of the collection of reliable biological and catch data for the fisheries in the SEAFO Convention Area, and that this requirement can be best achieved through the obligatory placement of scientific observers on all fishing vessels operating in the SEAFO Convention Area;

Have agreed as follows :

1. Minimum Standards For The Establishment Of A Satellite Based Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)

1.1 Each vessel fishing for species not subject to the management and conservation regimes of other competent regional fisheries organisations, operating in the SEAFO Convention Area, shall implement, by 1 April 2006, a satellite based vessel monitoring system and :

- (a) Be equipped with an autonomous system able to automatically transmit a message to the land based Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) of its Flag State allowing a continuous tracking of the position of the fishing vessel by the Flag State.
- (b) The satellite tracking device fitted on board the fishing vessel shall enable the vessel to continuously collect and transmit, at any time, to the FMC of the Flag State the following data :

- The fishing vessel's identification;

- The most recent geographical position of the fishing vessel (longitude and latitude) with a margin of error lower than 500 metres, with a confidence interval of 99%;
 - The date and time that the position of the fishing vessel has been notified.
- 1.2 Each Flag State shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the FMC receives through the VMS the messages required in paragraph 1 b).
- 1.3 Each Flag State shall ensure that the masters of the fishing vessels flying its flag shall ensure that the satellite tracking devices are permanently operational and that the information referred to in paragraph 1 b) is collected and automatically transmitted at least every 2 hours. In the event of a technical failure or non-operation of the satellite tracking device fitted on board a fishing vessel, the device shall be repaired or replaced within a month. After this period, the master of a fishing vessel is not authorised to begin a fishing trip with a defective satellite tracking device. Furthermore, when a device stop functioning or has a technical failure during a fishing trip lasting more than one month, the repair or the replacement has to take place as soon as the vessel enters a port; the fishing vessel shall not be authorised to begin a fishing trip without a satellite tracking device having been repaired or replaced.
- 1.4 Each Flag State shall ensure that a fishing vessel with a defective tracking device shall communicate to the FMC, at least daily, reports containing the information in paragraph 1 b) by other means of communication (radio, fax or telex).
- 1.5 Each Flag State shall provide a copy of the reports required in accordance with paragraphs 1.1 to 1.5 to the Executive Secretary, as soon as possible after receipt, but not later than 24 hours following the receipt of the reports and messages by the FMC.
- 1.6 Each Flag State shall ensure that the reports and messages transmitted to the Secretariat shall be in accordance with the data exchange format in the attached Annex.

2. Scientific Observers

- 2.1 All fishing vessels operating in the SEAFO Convention Area, and targeting species not subject to the conservation and management regimes of other competent regional fisheries organisations, shall carry qualified scientific observers from 1 January 2006. Flag States shall ensure that the relevant data is transmitted to Secretariat in a format specified by the Scientific Committee.

ANNEX

The first transmitted position report in the Convention Area detected by the FMC of the Flag State shall be identified as “ENT” . All subsequent position reports shall be identified as “POS” except the first position report identified outside the Convention Area which shall be identified as “EXI” .

If a Flag State so requests, the Secretariat shall confirm receipt of all electronic reports using a return message identified as “RET” .

The sequence of messages shall be as follows :

Report:	Code:	Remarks:
Entry	ENT	The first position report from a vessel detected to be inside the Convention Area
Position	POS	Position report every two hours
Exit	EXI	The first position report from a vessel detected outside the Convention Area

The reports identified above shall contain the following information :

Data Element	Code	Mandatory/ Optional	Remarks
Start Record	SR	M	System detail: indicates start of record
Address	AD	M	Message Detail; Destination SEAFO Secretariat (XSE)
Type of message	TM	M	Message detail; Message type; ENT, POS, EXI relating to entry, position or exit, as appropriate
Radio Call Sign	RC	M	Vessel Registration Detail ; International Radio Call Sign
Trip Number	TN	O	Activity Detail; Fishing trip serial number in current year
Vessel Name	NA	O	Vessel Registration Detail; Vessel name
Internal Reference Number	IR	O	Vessel Registration Detail; Unique Flag State Vessel Number: ISO-3Flag State code followed by number
External Registration Number	XR	O	Vessel Registration Detail; the side number of the vessel
Latitude (decimal)	LT	M	Activity Detail; Vessel position at time of transmission
Longitude (decimal)	LG	M	Activity Detail; Vessel position at time of transmission
Date	DA	M	Message Detail; Date of Transmission
Time	TI	M	Message Detail; Time of Transmission
End of Record	ER	M	System Detail; Indicates the end of the Record

Each data transmission shall be structured as follows:

- double slash (//) and the characters “SR” indicate the start of a message,
- a double slash (//) and the field code indicate the start of a data element,
- a single slash (/) separates the field code and the data,
- pairs of data are separated by a space,
- the characters “ER” followed by a double slash (//) indicate the end of a record.