



number of key areas (Attachment 1).

At NPO7 in August 2009, meeting attendees discussed the application of the Interim Measures to the entire

Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, for use in assessing whether fishing activity would have SAIs on marine species or VMEs and in proposing management measures to prevent such impacts.

In accordance with paragraph 83(b) of Resolution 61/105, the Interim Measures provide for the collection of information to facilitate the scientific work associated with the implementation of the measures. To this end, the SWG has been working to identify and evaluate information necessary to identify VMEs, as well as information necessary to assess whether bottom fishing activities would have SAIs on VMEs, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals.

In accordance ti





Second Multilateral Meeting. The Terms of Reference (TOR) and the feasibility of developing Future Work Plan, etc., were discussed at the SWG1. TOR was accepted at NPO2.

At SWG2 in October 2007, the participants agreed on an “Interim Data Handling and Data Sharing Protocol,” which was adopted at NPO3. Participants presented results of recent research cruises and a stock assessment paper for alfonsoin. For the purposes of defining the “footprint” of the Northwestern Pacific bottom fisheries, in accordance with the adopted Interim Measures, the participants provided to the Interim Secretariat information on the number of vessels by gear type, size of vessels (tons), number of fishing days or days on the fishing grounds, total catch by species, and ar







taking place. Furthermore, within what is now the northernmost portion of the U.S

**New Mechanisms for Protection of  
Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and Sustainable Management of High Seas  
Bottom Fisheries in the Northwestern Pacific Ocean**

**Adopted on 2 February 2007, Busan, Republic of Korea**

**Revised on 26 October 2007, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States of America**

**Revised on 18 October 2008, Tokyo, Japan**

**Revised on 20 February 2009, Busan, Republic of Korea**

Recognizing the importance of collecting scientific data to assess the impacts of these fisheries on marine species and VMEs,

Concerned about possible adverse impacts of unregulated expansion of bottom fisheries on marine species and VMEs on the high seas of the Northwestern Pacific Ocean,

They will take, in accordance with the following, urgent action on an interim basis, while working to design and implement more permanent arrangements, to promote appropriate management of high seas bottom fisheries in the

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Interim Secretariat, who will notify the other Participating States so that appropriate measures can be adopted in respect of the relevant site. It is tentatively agreed that the cold water corals include: Alcyonacea, Antipatharia, Gorgonacea, and Scleractinia.

This paragraph will be reviewed by the Participating States, and may be modified from time to time as more information becomes available.

#### 5. Contingent Action

(a) In addition to the interim measures contained i

conservation and management measures, Participating States are to provide update information on an annual basis.

**B. Collection of Information**

(i) Collection of scientific information from each bottom fishing vessel operating in the area specified in paragraph 1.

- a. Catch and effort data
- b. Related information such as time, location, depth, temperature, etc.

(ii) As appropriate the collection of information from research vessels operating in the area specified in paragraph 1.

- a. Physical, chemical, biological, oceanographic, meteorological, etc.
- b. Ecosystem surveys.

and task allocation and a deadline were agreed, including the provisions of the work plan for identifying VMEs and assessing SAIs on VMEs.

8. Control of bottom fishing vessels

A. Participating States will exercise full and effective control over each of their bottom fishing vessels operating in the high seas of the Northwestern Pacific Ocean, including by means of fishing licenses, authorizations or permits, and maintenance of a record of these vessels will be ensured;

B. In accordance with article VI of the FAO Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels

[After December 31, 2008, any vessel authorized to continue fishing in the area [is advised to carry] [will carry] an observer on board.]

10. Secretariat function

For the purpose of facilitating implementation of this mechanism, Japan will take the role of Secretariat on an interim basis.

11. Other issues

These measures will be applied on a voluntary basis. Nothing in this mechanism affects or should be interpreted as affecting, the rights and obligations of States under international law including UNCLOS.

12. Implementation

The measures specified in Paragraph 4 will be effective upon adoption of this document. Unless specified otherwise, the remaining provisions will become applicable and operational no later than 31 December 2007.



**Interim Measures for Protection of  
Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in the Northeastern Pacific Ocean**

**Adopted on 4 March, 2011 in Vancouver, Canada.**

The following States and Fishing Entity: Canada, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, and Chinese Taipei;

Seeking to ensure the long term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources of the Northeast Pacific Ocean and, in so doing, protect the vulnerable marine ecosystems that occur there, in accordance with the Sustainable Fisheries Resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) including, in particular, paragraphs 66 to 71 of the UNGA59/25 in 2004, paragraphs 69 to 74 of UNGA60/31 in 2005, paragraphs 69 and 80 to 91 of UNGA61/105 in 2006, and paragraphs 113 to 124 of UNGA64/72 in 2009;

Recalling that paragraph 85 of UNGA 61/105 calls upon participants in negotiations to establish regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements with the competence to regulate bottom fisheries to adopt interim measures in respect of the area of application of the instruments under negotiation;

Noting that the States and Fishing Entity listed above are engaged in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization for the North Pacific Ocean, and that the multilateral meeting in which these negotiations are being conducted has previously adopted interim measures for the Northwest Pacific Ocean;

Conscious of the need to adopt comparable measures for the Northeast Pacific Ocean to ensure that this area is not left as the only major area of the Pacific Ocean where no such measures are in place;

Hereby express their intent to implement the following Interim Measures for bottom fisheries of the Northeast Pacific Ocean while working to develop and implement a more permanent management arrangement to govern these and other fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean.

Scope

1. These Interim Measures are to be applied to all bottom fishing activities throughout the high seas areas of the Northeastern Pacific Ocean, defined, for the purposes of this document, as those occurring in the Convention Area as set out in Article 4 of the Convention text to the east of the line of 175 degrees W longitude including all such areas and marine species other than those species already covered by existing international fisheries management

instruments, including bilateral agreements and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations or Arrangements.

2. For the purpose of these Interim Measures, the term vulnerable marine ecosystems is to be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with the International Guidelines on the Management of Deep Sea Fisheries on the High Seas adopted by the FAO on 29 August 2008.

3. The implementation of these Interim Measures will:

- be based on the best scientific information available,
- be in accordance with existing international laws and agreements including UNCLOS and other relevant international instruments,
- establish appropriate and effective conservation and management measures,
- be in accordance with the precautionary approach, and
- incorporate an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

Actions by Flag States and Fishing Entities

4. Each .15028(t)-0.57prc

determination called for in subparagraph (c) of this paragraph has been rendered and, where appropriate, managements measures have been implemented in accor

- (g) name and address of operator (manager) or operators (managers) (if any);
- (h) type of fishing method or methods;
- (i) gross register tonnage;
- (j) power of main engine or engines;
- (k) cubic meters of well volume.

8. Each Flag State and Fishing Entity will ensure that all bottom fishing vessels under its jurisdiction operating in the area covered by these Interim Measures is equipped with an operational real-time vessel monitoring system no later than August 1, 2011, or earlier if so decided by the flag State.

9. Each Flag State and Fishing Entity will ensure that all bottom fishing vessels under its jurisdiction operating in the area covered by these Interim Measures will be subject to one hundred percent observer coverage.

10. New and exploratory fishing will be subject to the exploratory fishery protocol included as Annex 1<sup>4</sup>.