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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES

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M. Antonio Schiappa Cabral
Long Distance RAC
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28001 Madrid
SPAIN

Subject: LDRAC recommendation on new interim measures for the South Pacific RFMO's Jack Mackerel fisheries

Ref: Your letter R-05-9/WG3 of 16 October 2009.

Dear M. Cabral,

Thank you for your letter concerning the LDRAC recommendation on new interim measures for the South Pacific RFMO's Jack Mackerel fisheries.

As you are aware, the 8th international meeting for the establishment of South Pacific RFMO took place on 8-14 November 2009 in Auckland, New Zealand. I am extremely pleased to say that the participants to these negotiations agreed on the text of the SPRFMO Convention, which is due to be open for signature on 1 February 2010. Furthermore, in line with your recommendation, the participants agreed on revised interim measures for *Tracharus* species, due to enter into force on 1 January 2010.

The revised interim measures stipulate as follows:

- 1) A freezing of capacity based on the vessels active and fishing in 2007, 2008 and 2009, starting as from 1 January 2010 (with a small derogation in terms of GT for China and Korea);
- 2) Vessels actively fishing in 2007 or 2008 are to exercise a catch limitation based on a reference levels represented by the best fishing year in either 2007, 2008 and 2009, with small *exceedances* allowed;
- 3) For vessels which entered the fishery in 2009, there is no catch limitation limit but a voluntary restraint is to be applied;
- 4) An improved monitoring and reporting system with a monthly reporting obligation;

5) A minimum of 10% observer coverage of the vessel trips while ensuring that such observers collect and report data as described in the SPRFMO Data Standards.

I believe that the above reflects LDRAC views contained in the abovementioned recommendation. I am looking forward to hearing your views in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Fokion FOTIADIS