

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

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Amendment of the Conservation and Enforcement Measures

1. The NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures (CEM) do not provide for automatic communications of so-called administrative reports, i.e. notifications concerning fishing vessels operating in the Regulatory Area, cf. CEM, Part III, D. The CEM should be amended in order to allow the automatic communication of such administrative reports.

Automatic communication is understood as a system whereby such messages, defined in accordance with the syntax of the North Atlantic Format, can be submitted in computer readable form.

2. The CEM may include an optional system of Return messages (RET) whereby the sender receives verification that a message has been received with/without problems.

3. The Transhipment report should be extended to include identification of the client vessel, including whether transhipment has been to or from that vessel, by means of the field codes TT and TF.

4. A fishing vessel with a technical failure or non-operation of a defective satellite tracking device should submit manual Position reports at least every 6 hours instead of "at least daily" as required by the current rules. These messages should be submitted in computer readable form if possible, and such messages should be identified as MAN, cf. CEM, Part VI, B, paragraph 5.

5. The first VMS Position report automatically generated and communicated when a vessel enters the Regulatory Area should be identified as ENT (entry into the area), and the last automatically generated VMS Position report transmitted leaving the Regulatory Area should be identified as EXI (exit from the area).

Consequently, the codes of the current manually generated messages ENT and EXI should be changed and the following is proposed:

COE (catch on entry) instead of ENT; and

COX (catch on exit) instead of EXI, cf. CEM, Part III, Annex 1, 1.1 and 1.4

6. Automatically communicated reports required by the CEM should be transmitted via the Flag State Monitoring Centre (FMC) to the NAFO Secretariat (automatically routed to the Secretariat), cf. CEM, Part III, E, paragraph 1.

7. From 1 January 2001 all vessels fishing in the Regulatory Area shall be equipped with satellite tracking devices. According to the CEM, fishing vessels are thus no longer required to send messages concerning movement within the Regulatory Area, cf. CEM Part III, E, paragraph 4. Consequently points c) and d) of Part III, E of the CEM should be removed.