

33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 2011**Proposal to improve NCEM – Vessel type****Background:**

It is very difficult to plan and carry out an inspection and the surveillance by inspectors in the RR NAFO when a fishing vessel type unknown. The position data and some catch reports are the basic information held by the inspectors. It is possible to specify the type of vessel in the report "Notification" (Annex IV.A NCEM) but this requirement is not binding.

The definition "fishing vessel" (Article 2.1 NCEM) covers a wide range of vessels:

*"fishing vessel" means any vessel which is or has engaged in fishing activities, including fish processing vessels and vessels engaged in transshipment or any activity in preparation for or related to fishing, including experimental or exploratory fishing".*

This means that the supplying vessels, bunkering and other non-fishing vessels that support the fishing vessels are classified as "fishing vessels". However, codes of such vessels are absent in the Table "Fishing vessel Codes – Main Vessel Type" (Annex V.A NCEM).

**Proposal**

1. To bring the table "Fishing Vessel Codes – Main Vessel Type" (Annex V.A NCEM) into compliance with the definition "fishing vessel" it is necessary to supplement the table with at least the following FAO vessel codes:

Vessel type	Standard Abbreviation*
Support vessel	VOS
Bunker	VOB
Other non-fishing vessels	VOX

\* International Standard Classification of Fishery Vessels

2. To make the following change to the Annex IV.A NCEM (shown in bold):

Data element	Code	Mandatory /Optional	Remarks
Vessel Type	TP	<b>M</b>	Vessel characteristic, FAO vessel code (Annex V.A)