



Proposals related to the giant squid fishery in international waters of the South Pacific to be discussed during the thirteenth meeting of the SPRFMO Commission

Below is a matrix of proposals related to the giant squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) fishery submitted by Member States of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO). These proposals will be discussed during the plenary meeting of the SPRFMO Commission, to be held in Santiago, Chile, from February 17 to 21, 2025.

#	Proponent	Title	Description	Proposal Details
Use of the Spanish language in the SPRFMO				
1	Chile	Use of English and Spanish in official communications, as well as simultaneous interpretation during scientific and Commission meetings.	The aim is to increase the participation of scientists and fisheries managers from Spanish-speaking Member States and potential Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCP), ensuring that documents are available in Spanish and meetings include simultaneous interpretation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Commission will allocate funds in its annual budget to cover responsibilities for translation and simultaneous interpretation, while also encouraging voluntary contributions from Members and CNCPs
2	Ecuador	Establishment of a Special Fund for simultaneous interpretation into Spanish during scientific and Commission meetings.	This proposal aims to promote equity, inclusion, and transparency while facilitating the active participation of Spanish-speaking countries in the scientific and Commission meetings of the SPRFMO.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An annual contribution of up to US\$40,000 from the Secretariat's budget and contributions from Spanish-speaking members and volunteers is established to fund simultaneous interpretation into Spanish at scientific and Commission meetings The Executive Secretary will manage the interpretation services and report annually on the fund's use during the Finance and Administrative Committee (FAC) Meeting.
Measures to strengthen Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCV) and discourage Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing				



3	New Zealand	Amendment to CMM 04-2020 - IUU Vessel List	<p>The proposal seeks to prohibit Members and CNCPs from granting subsidies to vessels listed as engaging in IUU activities, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.6 and the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It states that Members and CNCPs may not grant or maintain subsidies to vessels included in the IUU Vessel List, or to their owners or operators. ● A vessel or operator will be considered involved in IUU fishing if the SPRFMO Commission makes an affirmative determination, based on the definitions provided in CMM 04-2020. These vessels will subsequently be included in the IUU list.
4	United States	Amendment to CMM 04-2020 – IUU Vessel List	<p>This proposal encourages Members and CNCPs to take measures against activities that undermine SPRFMO conservation and management measures, whether by their vessels or nationals, and to report these measures in their annual implementation report to the Commission.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It states that member countries and CNCPs must share information with other members and the Executive Secretary about fishing activities in their national waters that violate current conservation and management rules, including IUU fishing activities. ● It establishes that measures be taken to discourage these practices whether they are carried out by foreign ships, their own vessels and that they report annually on the actions taken in their implementation report as indicated in the conservation and management measure CMM 10-2020.

5	Ecuador	Amendment to CMM 06 - VMS	<p>The measure seeks to strengthen the monitoring, control and surveillance capacities of coastal States and ensure that vessels covered by the SPRFMO Satellite Monitoring System (VMS) do not engage in fishing activities contrary to their authorized operations under international law.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Secretariat, at the request of a member or NCCP, may provide VMS data for a specific vessel navigating through their jurisdictional waters, regardless of its flag, to confirm positioning and activity. ● The Secretariat shall provide the vessel's tracking data from the time it entered until it left the waters under the national jurisdiction of the requesting Member or CNCP, together with any relevant information the Secretariat may have on the vessel's activities.
Strengthening fisheries data standards for proper management				
6	Ecuador	Extension of Deadline and Update of Data Requirements for the Squid Fishery	<p>It seeks to strengthen the system of data collection, standardization, and transparency system within the framework of the SPRFMO to improve the sustainable management of giant squid.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The proposal is aligned with the recommendations of the Scientific Committee at its 12th meeting and highlights the importance of transparency and availability of data to assess the giant squid stock and improve current management approaches. ● Members and CNCPs must record and share data on giant squid fisheries in their jurisdictional waters, submit annual reports starting in 2025, and allow the Scientific Committee to review this information to strengthen stock assessment and sustainable management.

7	Peru	CMM 02-2022 - Data Standard	<p>It seeks the implementation of an alternative mechanism for the standards for data collection, reporting, verification, and exchange of data on fishing activities of artisanal giant squid fleets within the Convention area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It establishes that catch and effort data will be collected at port by observers or through digital logs, including basic vessel information, fishing position, effort, total catch and, where possible, biological samples. The use of fishing logs prepared by fishing skippers will complement the data obtained by port observers. ● It proposes collecting whole specimens at port to record mantle length, weight (total and eviscerated), sex, maturity stage, and signs of mating, prioritizing specimens differentiated by capture zone.
8	Peru	Amendment to CMM 16-2024 on the SPRFMO Observer Programme	<p>It proposes an adjustment to the minimum observer standards and their functions for artisanal fleets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It proposes implementing an alternative mechanism for observers on artisanal vessels, based on observers at landing points who collect scientific data equivalent to that obtained on board, to ensure effective monitoring of the giant squid fishery.

9	Peru	Amendment to CMM 18-2024 on SPRFMO Squid	<p>It proposes ensuring effective coverage in the collection and reporting of data in the giant squid fishery, especially for artisanal fleets.</p>	<p>The proposal establishes two measures for artisanal vessels registered in the SPRFMO and engaged in giant squid fishing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It proposes a minimum coverage of 80% of landings through port observers, who will record data on catches, fishing areas and fishing effort. ● It proposes coverage of 90% of trips through a real-time traceability application, where fishermen will report detailed information about their activities directly from their mobile phones.
Spatiotemporal measures for the protection of giant squid				
10	Ecuador	Establishment of a Buffer Zone, Research and Management for the Giant Squid in the South Pacific High Seas	<p>It seeks to establish a buffer zone within of the Convention area, 10 nautical miles from the jurisdictional waters of Chile, Ecuador, and Peru.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It is proposed to create a 10-nautical-mile buffer zone in high seas (from mile 200 to mile 210), adjacent to the jurisdictional waters of Chile, Ecuador (including Galápagos), and Peru. The purpose is to protect the giant squid and ensure its sustainability without reducing fishing capacity. ● The measure adopts a precautionary approach to avoid conflicts and strengthen the Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) capacities of coastal states in their jurisdictional waters, due to the high concentration of fishing vessels targeting giant squid in high seas areas adjacent to their waters. ● The proposal suggests its entry into force in June 2025 and plans for an evaluation of its effectiveness in 2029, based on the advice of the Scientific Committee.



11	Ecuador	Establishment of a spatiotemporal closure in the giant squid fishery	<p>The protection of the reproductive cycles of the giant squid is proposed to guarantee its sustainability and optimize its management through a spatiotemporal closure in a critical fishing area on the high seas, located at the boundaries of the jurisdictional waters of Chile and Peru.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A fishing closure is established during the austral summer (December 21 to March 21) to protect the reproduction of the giant squid and maximize its population productivity. Data collection on catches, reproductive conditions, and size structure of the giant squid is included to improve scientific assessments.
Protection of crew members' labor rights				
12	New Zealand	Establishment of measures on labor standards	<p>With the aim of improving working conditions on board and mitigating the risks of labor rights violations of crew members, binding conservation and management measures are proposed for Member States and CNCPs, in line with the concrete actions established in SPRFMO Decision 18-2024.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The proposal develops in detail elements such as the implementation of minimum work standards on board, the formalization of clear and accessible written contracts for crew members, the guarantee of decent living conditions, the regulation of reporting and response mechanisms for labor incidents, as well as specific protocols to address situations of forced labor, mistreatment, serious illness, disappearances or fatalities of the crew. ● The proposal suggests its implementation starting 1 January 2028, although Member States and CNCP are encouraged to implement it as soon as possible. ● It is proposed that Member States and CNCPs report annually to the Commission on the implementation of obligations related to labor incidents, such as fatalities, serious illnesses, disappearances, forced labor, or mistreatment, including progress in investigations.