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**PREPARATORY CONFERENCE FOR THE COMMISSION  
FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF  
HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN  
AND CENTRAL PACIFIC**

Sixth session  
Bali, Indonesia  
19 – 23 April 2004

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17 April 2004

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INFORMATION PAPER ON EXPANSION OF FISHING CAPACITY IN THE WCPFC AREA  
DURING THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE PROCESS

Submitted by the delegation of Japan

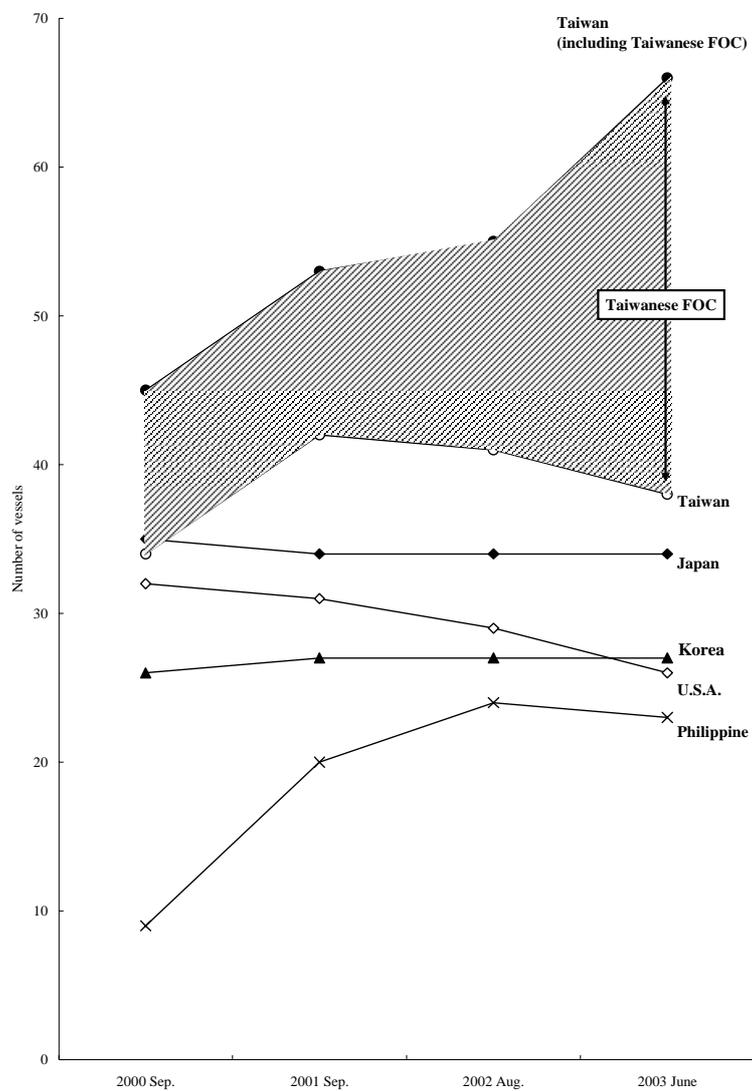
I. INTRODUCTION

The fifth session of the PrepCon adopted a resolution on the fishing capacity titled “RESOLUTION OF THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COORDINATING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT”. This resolution requested the members to report “any information on activities contrary to provisions of this resolution”. The past resolutions of MHLC and PrepCons also requested provision of the information on the activities undermining those resolutions. Japan, therefore, engaged in an effort to collect such information and found that the fishing industry of one member still continues to breach all the past resolutions of MHLC and PrepCons calling for restraint over any expansion of fishing effort and capacity in the Convention area. The following is the information collected and reported to the sixth PrepCon in Bali for its consideration.

II. PURSE SEINE FISHERY

1. The vessels on the FFA Regional Vessel Registry were reviewed in respect of major fishing members (those who have more than ten purse seiners) during the period of the PrepCon process. Figure 1 shows the result. The Taiwanese FOC vessels were identified based on the Registry as well as owner names, their addresses and other information collected from the Japanese trade data. Twenty eight (28) large purse seiners were identified as Taiwanese FOC vessels currently existing. There exist other vessels for which the available information suggests but is not sufficient to identify as Taiwanese FOC vessels. The numbers of the Taiwanese FOC vessels in Figure 1 should, therefore, be considered as minimum estimates. Furthermore, most of those purse seiners are large; seven of them are over 2,200 GRT class; each of them is catching more than 10,000 MT of tunas annually. In short, it is surprisingly evident that the Taiwanese fishing industry increased its purse seine fishing capacity dramatically by use of FOC, whereas all other major fishing fleets were restrained to the stable level of fishing capacity or even reduced. It was reported that construction of large purse seiners was still under way in Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

Figure1. Number of Purse Seiners of Major Fishing Members registered on FFA Regional Register

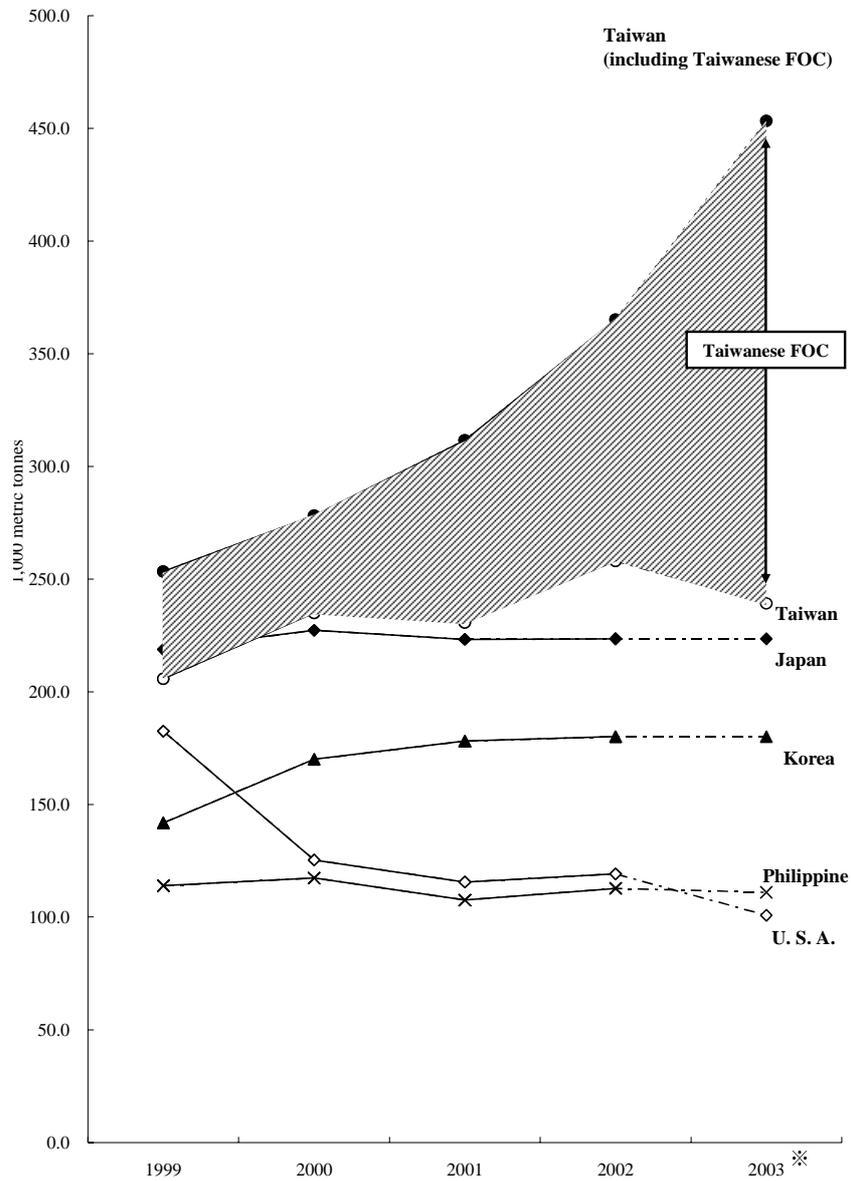


	2000 Sep.	2001 Sep.	2002 Aug.	2003 June
Taiwan	34	42	41	38
<b>Taiwanese FOC</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>28</b>
Japan	35	34	34	34
Korea	26	27	27	27
U.S.A.	32	31	29	26
Philippine	9	20	24	23

(Data Source : FFA Regional Register List)

2. Figure 2 shows catches of the same fishing fleets in the same period. Again the Taiwanese industry increased the catch as a result of its dramatic expansion of fishing capacity, whereas all other fishing members' catches were stable or declined.

Figure2. Purse Seine Catches by Major Fishing Members in the WCPO



(Data Source : SPC YEAR BOOK 2002)  
 Note : 2003 catches were estimated based upon the past fishing performances and vessel numbers.

3. Detailed information on the Taiwanese FOC purse seiners is provided in Table 1. Only seven (7) Taiwanese companies own all the twenty eight (28) FOC purse seiners. All of the companies are located in Taiwan. One of them used to have Taiwanese licensed purse seine vessels, while all other companies currently own Taiwanese licensed fishing vessels, either purse seiners or large tuna longliners. Above all one company owns six (6) FOC purse seiners as well as eight

(8) Taiwanese licensed purse seiners: fourteen (14) large purse seiners in total operating in the Convention area. Another company owns five (5) FOC purse seiners and four (4) FOC longliners as well as seven (7) Taiwanese licensed purse seiners and five (5) licensed longliners: twenty one (21) large fishing vessels in total operating in the Convention area. Three of those seven companies engaged or engage in fishing vessel construction business. It seems obvious that all of the seven Taiwanese companies intentionally circumvented the government licensing control by use of FOC so as to have their excessive fishing capacity for tunas in the Convention Area.

Table1. List of the Taiwanese FOC Purse Seiners

Name	Flag	GRT	Year of built	Place of built	Owner	Address	
K00' S 101	Marshal 1	996.00	1990	Taiwan	榮星企業(股) 公司 K00' S FISHING COMPANY LIMITED	台北市復興北路 167号7棟之3 (Taipei)	
K00' S 102	Marshal 1	996.00	1991	Taiwan			
K00' S 103	Marshal 1	1,198.00	1992	Taiwan			
K00' S 106	Marshal 1	1,096.00	1999	Taiwan			
K00' S 107	Marshal 1	1,096.00	1999	Taiwan			
K00' S 108	Marshal 1	1,099.00	2002	Taiwan			
FAIR CHAMPION 707	華滿707	Vanuatu	1,280.00	2003	Taiwan	華偉漁業(股) 公司 Fair Well Fishery Co, LTD.	高雄市漁港南一路 15号4F (Kaohsiung)
FAIR PIONEER 707	HUA FONG 華穩707	Vanuatu	1,060.00	1999	Taiwan		
FAIR VICTORY 707	華勝707	Vanuatu	1,280.00				
FAIR WINNER 707	HUA FONG 華豐707	Vanuatu	1,060.00	1998	Taiwan		
FONG SEONG 168	豐祥168	Vanuatu	2,380.00			豐誠漁業(股) 公司 Fong Cherng Fishery Co, LTD.	高雄市鼓山區濱海一路69号 (Kaohsiung)
FONG SEONG 196	豐祥196	Vanuatu	2,386.00				
FONG SEONG 666	豐祥666	Vanuatu	2,234.00	1999	Taiwan		
FONG SEONG 668		Vanuatu	2,386.00				
FONG SEONG 696	豐祥696	Vanuatu	2,234.00	1999	Taiwan		
FONG SEONG 818	豐祥818	Vanuatu	1,152.00	2002	Taiwan		
EASTERN MARINE	東方海 洋	Vanuatu	1,099.00	1999	Taiwan	豐國水產(股) 公司 Fong Kuo Fishery Co, LTD.	高雄市前鎮區漁港東二路3号(423室)(K aohsiung)
EASTERN STAR		Vanuatu	2,386.				

			00				
ORIENTAL MARINE	遠東海洋	Vanuatu	1,099.00	1999	Taiwan		
TUNA CATCHER	鮪魚獵人	Vanuatu	1,099.00				
TUNA QUEEN	鮪魚后	Vanuatu	1,099.00				
HF 88	鴻福88	Vanuatu	1,284.00			鴻福漁業(股)公司 Hong Fu Fishery Co, LTD.	高雄市臨海一路22号 (Kaohsiung)
HSIANG FA 8	祥發08	Vanuatu	1,284.00			中信造船	高雄市前鎮區漁港北一路46號? (Kaohsiung)
HSIANG HAO 8	祥豪08	Vanuatu	2,200.00				
HSIANG SHENG 6	祥勝06	Vanuatu	1,150.00	2002	Taiwan		
SHUN FA 8	順撥08	Vanuatu	1,280.00				
YUNG DA FA 168	永大撥168	Vanuatu	1,152.00			錦輝漁業(股)公司 Jin Hui Ocean Enterprises	高雄市前鎮區漁港東二路3號316室? (Kaohsiung)
YUNG DA FA 668	永大撥668	Vanuatu	1,152.00				

4. As shown in Table 2, the Taiwanese fishing industry has continued construction of FOC purse seiners since 1999. Particularly after the Manila PrepCon meeting, where the resolution was adopted, again, to restrain the capacity expansion, the construction was accelerated further.

Table 2. Taiwanese FOC Purse Seiners

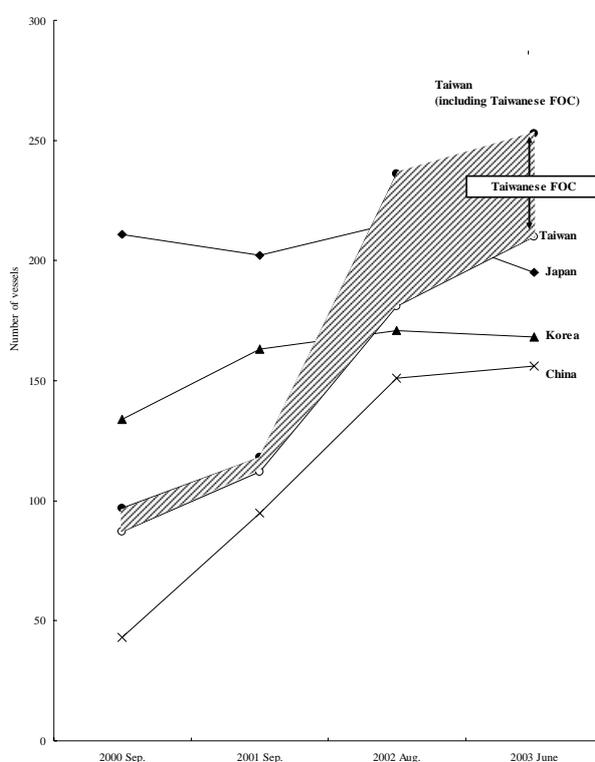
Sep-01			Aug-02			Jun-03			Feb-04		
Name	Flag	GRT	Name	Flag	GRT	Name	Flag	GRT	Name	Flag	GRT
KOO'S 101	MH	996	KOO'S 101	MH	996	KOO'S 101	MH	996	KOO'S 101	MH	996
KOO'S 102	MH	996	KOO'S 102	MH	996	KOO'S 102	MH	996	KOO'S 102	MH	996
KOO'S 103	MH	1198	KOO'S 103	MH	1198	KOO'S 103	MH	1198	KOO'S 103	MH	1198
KOO'S 106	MH	1096	KOO'S 106	MH	1096	KOO'S 106	MH	1096	KOO'S 106	MH	1096
KOO'S 107	MH	1096	KOO'S 107	MH	1096	KOO'S 107	MH	1096	KOO'S 107	MH	1096
EASTERN MARINE	VU	1099	EASTERN MARINE	VU	1099	EASTERN MARINE	VU	1099	EASTERN MARINE	VU	1099
FAIR CRYSTAL 707	VU	1060	FAIR CRYSTAL 707	VU	1060	FAIR PIONEER 707 ※	VU	1060	FAIR PIONEER 707	VU	1060
FAIR WINNER 707	VU	1060	FAIR WINNER 707	VU	1060	FAIR WINNER 707	VU	1060	FAIR WINNER 707	VU	1060
FONG SEONG 666	VU	2234	FONG SEONG 666	VU	2234	FONG SEONG 666	VU	2234	FONG SEONG 666	VU	2234
FONG SEONG 696	VU	2234	FONG SEONG 696	VU	2234	FONG SEONG 696	VU	2234	FONG SEONG 696	VU	2234
<u>ORIENTAL MARINE</u>	<u>VU</u>	<u>1099</u>	<u>ORIENTAL MARINE</u>	<u>VU</u>	<u>1099</u>	<u>ORIENTAL MARINE</u>	<u>VU</u>	<u>1099</u>	<u>ORIENTAL MARINE</u>	<u>VU</u>	<u>1099</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11 vessels</b>		<b>FAIR VICTORY 707</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>FAIR VICTORY 707</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>FAIR VICTORY 707</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1280</b>
			<b>HF 88</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1284</b>	<b>HF 88</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1284</b>	<b>HF 88</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1284</b>
			<b>HSIANG FA 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>HSIANG FA 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>HSIANG FA 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>
			<b>Total</b>	<b>14 vessels</b>		<b>KOO'S 108</b>	<b>MH</b>	<b>1099</b>	<b>KOO'S 108</b>	<b>MH</b>	<b>1099</b>
						<b>FAIR CHAMPION 707</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1280</b>	<b>FAIR CHAMPION 707</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1280</b>
						<b>FONG SEONG 168</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2380</b>	<b>FONG SEONG 168</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2380</b>
						<b>FONG SEONG 196</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2386</b>	<b>FONG SEONG 196</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2386</b>
						<b>FONG SEONG 818</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1152</b>	<b>FONG SEONG 818</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1152</b>
						<b>HSIANG HAO 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2200</b>	<b>HSIANG HAO 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2200</b>
						<b>HSIANG SHENG 6</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>HSIANG SHENG 6</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>
						<b>SHUN FA 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>SHUN FA 8</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1150</b>
						<b>TUNA CATCHER</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1099</b>	<b>TUNA CATCHER</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1099</b>
						<b>Total</b>	<b>23 vessels</b>		<b>EASTERN STAR</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2386</b>
									<b>FONG SEONG 668</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>2386</b>
									<b>TUNA QUEEN</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1099</b>
									<b>YUNG DA FA 168</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1152</b>
									<b>YUNG DA FA 668</b>	<b>VU</b>	<b>1152</b>
									<b>Total</b>	<b>28 vessels</b>	

※ FAIR CRYSTAL 707 was re-named FAIR PIONEER 707.

### III. LONGLINE FISHERY

1. The same review was made for longline fishing vessels of major fishing members (those who have over fifty longline vessels) on the FFA Regional Vessel Registry. The result is shown in Figure3. The Taiwanese fishing industry increased both FOC and Taiwanese licensed longline vessels operating in the Convention area, whereas the numbers of Japanese and Korean longliners remained at a stable level. China increased longliners, but most of them are relatively small ones with low productivity. Their catch of tunas did not increase significantly.

Figure3. Number of Longliners of Major Fishing Members registered on FFA Regional Register

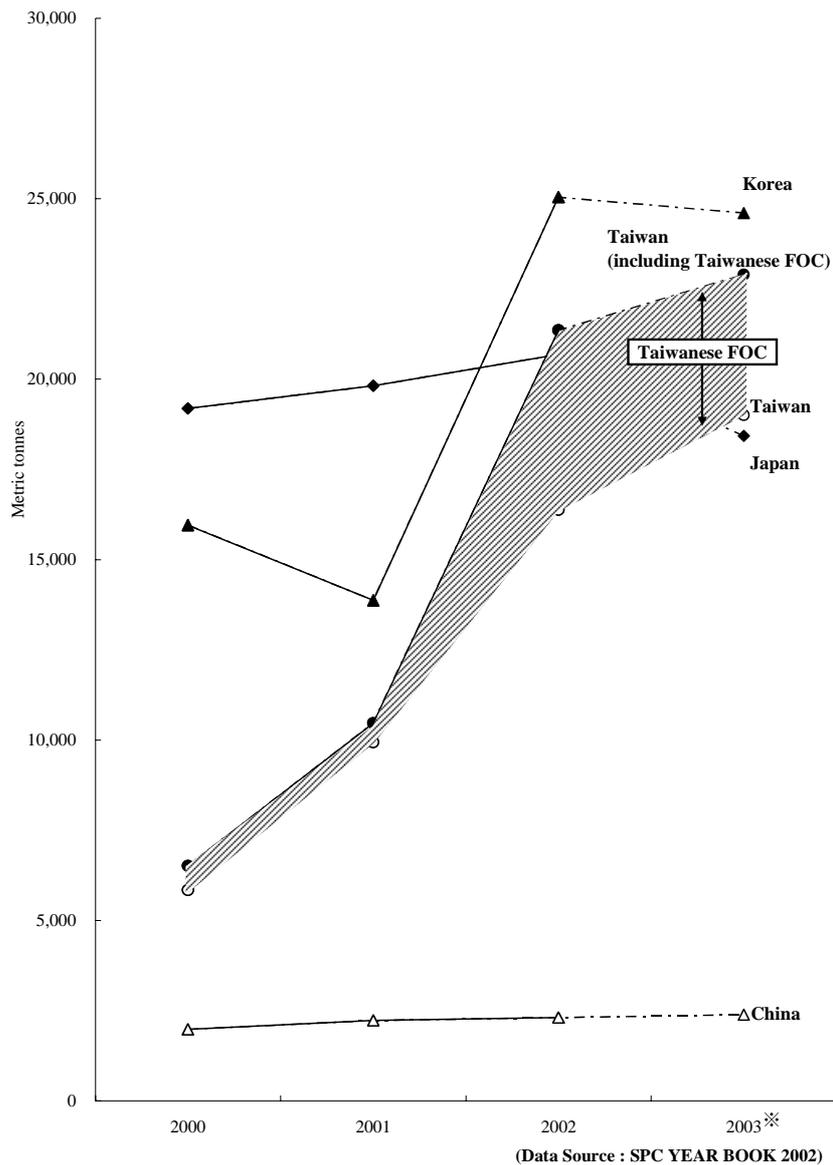


	2000 Sep.	2001 Sep.	2002 Aug.	2003 June
Taiwan	87	112	181	210
<b>Taiwanese FOC</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>40</b>
Japan	211	202	216	195
Korea	134	163	171	168
China	43	95	151	156

(Data Source: FFA Regional Register List)

2. Figure4 shows the bigeye catch by longline vessels. The Taiwanese industry increased the catch dramatically, whereas the catches of all other major fishing members were stable or fluctuated.

Figure4. Longline Bigeye Catches by Major Fishing Members in the WCPO



Note : 2003 catches were estimated based upon the past fishing performances and vessel numbers.