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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**

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**FLEET REDUCTION PROGRAMME**

Submitted by the delegation of Japan

In accordance with the paragraph 3 of the Interim Actions agreed at the WORKSHOP ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE MHLC AND WCPFC PrepCon RESOLUTIONS held in July this year in Sapporo, Japan, the Fleet Reduction Program of the purse seine vessels built in contravention of the MHLC and PrepCon resolutions shall be as follows.

**The number of vessels subject to the Program**

As a result of research and hearings into engine makers and shipyards, six (6) vessels built in 1999 out of 23 vessels listed in the Attachment of the Interim Actions have been confirmed to have begun its construction or have obtained the engine for its construction before the adoption of MHLC IV Resolution in 28 February, 1999. Thus, those six (6) vessels are excluded from the Reduction Program in accordance with the footnote of the Interim Actions, and remaining seventeen (17) vessels ( $23 - 6 = 17$ ) are subject to the Program.

**The number of vessels to be reduced by 31 July, 2007**

The Government of the Chinese Taipei has already suspended eight (8) its domestic purse seine licenses since MHLC 4 resolution (42 in 1999; 34 at present), and those eight (8) licenses have been frozen by the Chinese Taipei government to avoid being used for further capacity increase. Therefore, the number of vessels to be reduced by the designated date in the Interim Action, 31 July, 2007, is nine (9) ( $17 - 8 = 9$ ).

**Method of reduction**

Equivalent capacity of those remaining nine (9) purse seine vessels will be reduced as follows:

- (a) to scrap the Chinese Taipei's licensed domestic purse seine vessels as replacements; or
- (b) to export the Chinese Taipei's licensed purse seine vessels to the other parties as replacement of old purse seine vessels of 1,000 GRT class fishing in the region, and scrap the replaced vessels.

In either case, the vacancies of Chinese Taipei's license will be frozen to avoid being used for further increase.

### **Reduction Schedule**

As provided in the Interim Actions, the reduction of those nine (9) vessels will be completed by 31 July, 2007 as follows, and the progress of the actions will be reported to the Commission annually:

First year	2 - 3 vessels
Second year	3 vessels
Third year	3 - 4 vessels

### **Cooperation among parties concerned**

Cooperation among all the parties concerned including flag states and licensing states is essential to implementation of the Fleet Reduction Program.

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