

Investigation Status Report

In accordance with its national laws and regulations, the investigation process conducted by Fisheries Agency, Council of Agriculture (FA) on alleged infringements is to review relevant data and information, including but not limited to logbooks, vessel position data, captain /fishing mater and crews' statement, transshipment notifications and declarations, landing declaration, and (debriefed) observer data, report and its attachments such as journals, photos and videos.

FA commenced investigation once it received the notification of alleged infringement from the Secretariat. As FA did not find sufficient evidence and /or information to make a conclusion of this allegation after conducting a preliminary investigation, FA therefore asked for the assistance of concerned observer provider(s) to provide observer report and its attachments on July 22, 2016 to conduct further investigation. By the time of writing this status report, FA received no response except from one concerned observer provider. This is the main reason that this investigation could not be completed prior to TCC meeting. FA will further contact related Member(s) to facilitate the submission of required observer report and its attachments. Sanctions would be imposed on concerned fishing vessels if it is confirmed that they violated relevant CMMs. As for the incidences reported by observers and notified by the Secretariat on August 4, 2016, FA is reviewing relevant information now, and will request for assistance of concerned observer providers if needed.

The anticipated timeframe for completing this investigation is within 6 months after receiving the completed observer report and attachments. FA will advise the Secretariat if additional time is needed for further investigation. The allegation regarding para.1 of CMM 2013-08, para.14 of CMM2014-01, and para.14 of CMM

2007-01, and the decisions related to this allegation will be reported to TCC as per WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme.