

Cooperating and sharing information to better manage distant water fisheries outside RFMO jurisdictions

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***We live in a system of sovereign
States, jealous of their powers.***

**Ambassador Arvid Pardo
Malta**



But...
we share one small planet

UN Law of the Sea and High Seas Fisheries

- **UN Law of the Sea assigns legal authority to flag States for vessels fishing on the high seas.**
- **Study will analyse all flag State policies and regulations that apply to vessels fishing in high seas where no RFMO/A exists (i.e unregulated fisheries).**

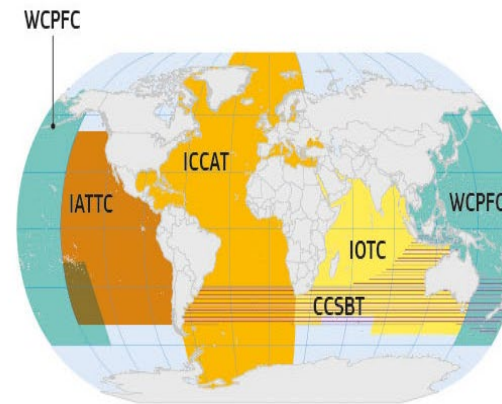
Identifying existing measures - Flag State Controls

- **Summary of Japan, Korea, China, Spain/EU analysis. Other flags forthcoming.**

Logbook and/or e-reporting	VMS/AIS	Observers and/or e-monitoring	Landings and/or transshipment	Conservation and Management	Crew Welfare	Science
All require some form of e-reporting and logbooks.	All require VMS, some also require AIS.	Some require observers and/or e-monitoring.	PSMA is applied. Some prohibit transshipment, while others regulate.	Some apply unilateral restrictions on fishing capacity, moratorium and other measures.	Various regulations. Some apply Work in Fishing Convention C188.	Some data and science requirements.

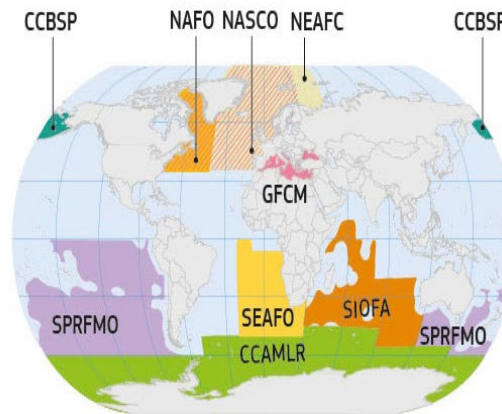
UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA)

- Law of the Sea expanded by UN Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA).
- Modernised fisheries management, strengthened duty to cooperate, implemented through regional fisheries management organisations or arrangements (RFMOs or RFMAs).



RFMOs for highly migratory fish stocks (tuna and associated species)

- CCSBT Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna
- IATTC Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
- ICCAT International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
- WCPFC Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
- IOTC Indian Ocean Tuna Commission



RFMOs for non-tuna species

- CCAMLR Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources
- CCBSPP Convention on the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea
- GFCM General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
- NEAFC North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission
- NASCO North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization
- NAFO Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization
- SEAFO South East Atlantic Fisheries Organization
- SPRFMO South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization
- SIOFA South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement

Sustainability of high seas fisheries depends on cooperation

- High seas fisheries inherently and legally require cooperation.
- Fisheries require conservation and management to limit fishing mortality and ensure long term sustainability.
- Ecosystem integrity requires protection of marine environment and associated and dependent species and habitats.
- Law of the Sea and UNFSA apply obligations to implement protections and apply a precautionary approach/ecosystem-based management.
- Further elaborated by Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement, now entered into force with 85 parties.

Mechanisms for cooperation - RFMOs and RFMAs

- **RFMOs and RFMAs exercise largely equivalent functions: cooperation, implementation and compliance; conservation and management; science and data; monitoring, control and surveillance**

RFMOs	RFMAs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formal intergovernmental organisations with legal personality• Have permanent bodies that operate autonomously (e.g., Secretariat)• Have decision-making powers• Established pursuant to a legally binding instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not autonomous intergovernmental organisations• Do not have legal personality• Decisions taken directly by the participating States during relevant meetings (e.g., Conference of Parties or Meeting of Parties)• Not necessarily established pursuant to a legally binding instrument

Thoughts on Cooperation... A pathway forward

- **Establishing mechanisms of shared governance for squid is a key challenge but also a major opportunity for enhanced economic and environmental sustainability.**
- **Initial cooperation could begin at scientific levels, noting useful precedents like the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish (SCTB).**
- **The SCTB was established in 1989 as an open forum to discuss scientific issues related to data, research and stock assessment for the western and central pacific tuna fisheries.**

Thoughts on Cooperation... a pathway forward

- **It was replaced in 2004 by the Scientific Committee of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), following its entry into force as the mandated RFMO.**
- **Inspired by this precedent, we're launching a new international research partnership to strengthen scientific collaboration and improve cooperative management in unregulated squid fisheries.**

Thoughts on Cooperation... a pathway forward

- **The partnership includes the following research institutions:**
 - Korean Maritime Institute (KMI)
 - Shanghai Ocean University (SHOU)
 - Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS)
 - Ocean Policy and Research Institute (OPRI)
 - National Sun Yat Sen University
 - Tohoku University
 - Spanish Institute of Oceanography (IEO-CSIC)
 - Umineko Sustainability Institute (USI)
 - And also leverages satellite and vessel activity data from Global Fishing Watch
- **We welcome interest in our research partnership.**

