Original: English

LETTER FROM COC CHAIR ON ESSENTIAL BUSINESS FOR THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

23 November 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I should like to briefly update everyone on the current status of the decision-making process as regards the Compliance Committee.

1. Review of CPC implementation of and compliance with ICCAT requirements, focusing on priority issues and/or cases

Any late reports, check sheets etc. were published as addenda to the existing documents. No new information has been received since 9 November.

A revised interim version of COC_308 has been published as <u>COC 308B</u> to take into account some late information and responses / explanations provided to date by CPCs. Some questions from CPC to CPC have been received and sent to the CPCs concerned, with the relevant deadlines. All questions and responses will be published as COC_320 once these deadlines have passed.

A revised version of the compliance tables will be published during the week to take into account developments in Panel 1 (reflecting the figures in PA1 502A, which I understand may be subject to some minor adjustments and will be available as PA1_502B once the Panel 1 deadline for comments has passed), and any carryovers of southern albacore requested through Panel 3. Once this version has been published, CPCs may send final comments **within ten days of their publication**, after which time they will be considered to be adopted by the Committee and sent to the Commission for formal adoption. I would therefore invite all CPCs to take note of new developments on the web site later in the week.

On 30 November, a final version of COC_308 (version C) will be published to take account of any additional information which becomes available by that time. This version will be used for the basis for the actions to be taken by the Committee.

2. Review of information relating to Non-CPCs

I have not received any comments regarding the information or lack thereof from non-CPCs. Should any CPC have any comment to make on these items, please inform me before **27 November 2020** in order to take these comments into account under item 3. For reference, information on Non-CPCs can be found, *inter alia*, in the COC Chair's letters to non-Parties and their responses in <u>COC 310A</u> and its <u>Annex</u>.

3. Determination of recommended actions to address issues of non-compliance by CPCs and issues relating to NCPs arising from item 2

On the basis of the above information, I will be circulating, in early December suggested actions to be taken by the Committee based on historical actions in similar situations. As indicated in <u>COC 300</u>, CPCs will be given a period of ten days to comment. Silence will be taken to mean assent with my suggestions.

As indicated in <u>COC 300</u>, the Secretariat will issue letters of prohibition to those CPCs which did not submit Task 1, unless this is rectified before **1 December 2020**. I would therefore urge those CPCs (shaded in grey in <u>Appendix 3A to COC 303)</u> to submit the missing data or confirmation of zero catch as soon as possible.

4. Review and decisions on Cooperating status renewals and requests

To date, comments on the renewal of cooperating status have been received from only one Contracting Party. These comments are contained in document COC 319. I would urge those cooperators mentioned in this document to provide the missing information or information requested before **27 November 2020**. Information for the review of cooperating status, including correspondence from cooperating non-parties, can be found in document COC-313, and correspondence between the COC Chair and cooperating non-parties concerning compliance issues identified at the 2019 Annual Meeting is contained in document COC 310A and its Annex.

5. Review of progress made by the online reporting working group and next steps

No comments have been received on this, and I therefore consider that there is support for this group continuing its work as outlined in the document.

6. Recommendations to the Commission based on findings of above

Once the process above has been completed, I will put forward the decisions of the Committee to the Commission for endorsement, with a target date of 14 December for completion of the 2020 compliance process.

I thank you all for your cooperation in this process.

Yours sincerely,

Leich Campbell

Derek Campbell