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FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**Busan, Republic of Korea  
8-16 August 2018**

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**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION  
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS**

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**WCPFC-SC14-AR/CCM-25  
Rev 2 (28 August 2018)**

**TONGA**



**Ministry of Fisheries**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF TONGA**

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WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC COMMISSION  
Fourteen Regular Session of the Scientific Committee  
8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2018

TONGA  
**Annual Fisheries Report Part 1<sup>1</sup>**  
**Information on Fisheries, Research and Statistics**



Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	<b>YES</b>
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<sup>1</sup> Revise to correct information on Appendix I - CMM Reporting in page 18 regarding CMM 2011-04

## 1.0 ABSTRACT

The tuna fishery in Tonga composed of National (Flag State) and Foreign longline fleets (Coastal state). The total estimated catch for tuna and tuna-like species for both national and foreign fishing fleets for 2017 was estimated to 2,675mt, a decrease by 10% from 2,973mt in 2016. The Tonga National fleet consists of six National long-line vessels with a total estimated catch for primary species, of 513mt which was an increase by 0.4% in comparison to 511mt in 2016. The Foreign fleets consist of 9 longline vessels with a total estimated catch, for primary species, of 2006mt, a decrease by 12% compared to 2268mt in 2016.

The national fleets' catches for 2017 were dominated by Yellowfin tuna with a total of 369mt and Mahimahi dominated the catches for non-target species with 121mt. The catch composition indicated that the National fleets targeted Bigeye and Yellowfin tuna for fresh fish market. The foreign fleets' catches for 2017 were dominated by Albacore tuna with 1008mt. Targeting of any sharks species is prohibited in Tonga according to the Term and Conditions for fishing licenses. According to the observer reports, Tonga's long-line fishery has no reported interactions with species of special interest (eg. turtle, marine mammals and seabirds).

The total tuna harvested by Tongan fleet in 2017 was still insignificant to pose any major impact on the whole stock in the region and the WCPO. Despite the ample room for improvement and development of tuna fleet in Tonga, high operation cost has been the main problem faced by the operators.

Tonga has no purse seine fisheries; therefore, some of the WCPFC measures regarding purse seine fisheries are not applicable to Tonga. But at the same time, Tonga has set an effort limit for Purse Seine fishing within its EEZ per calendar year to be not exceeded 150-200 days. The total number of days of Purse Seine fishing activity within Tonga EEZ for 2017 was eleven (11) fishing days by US Treaty Purse Seine vessels.

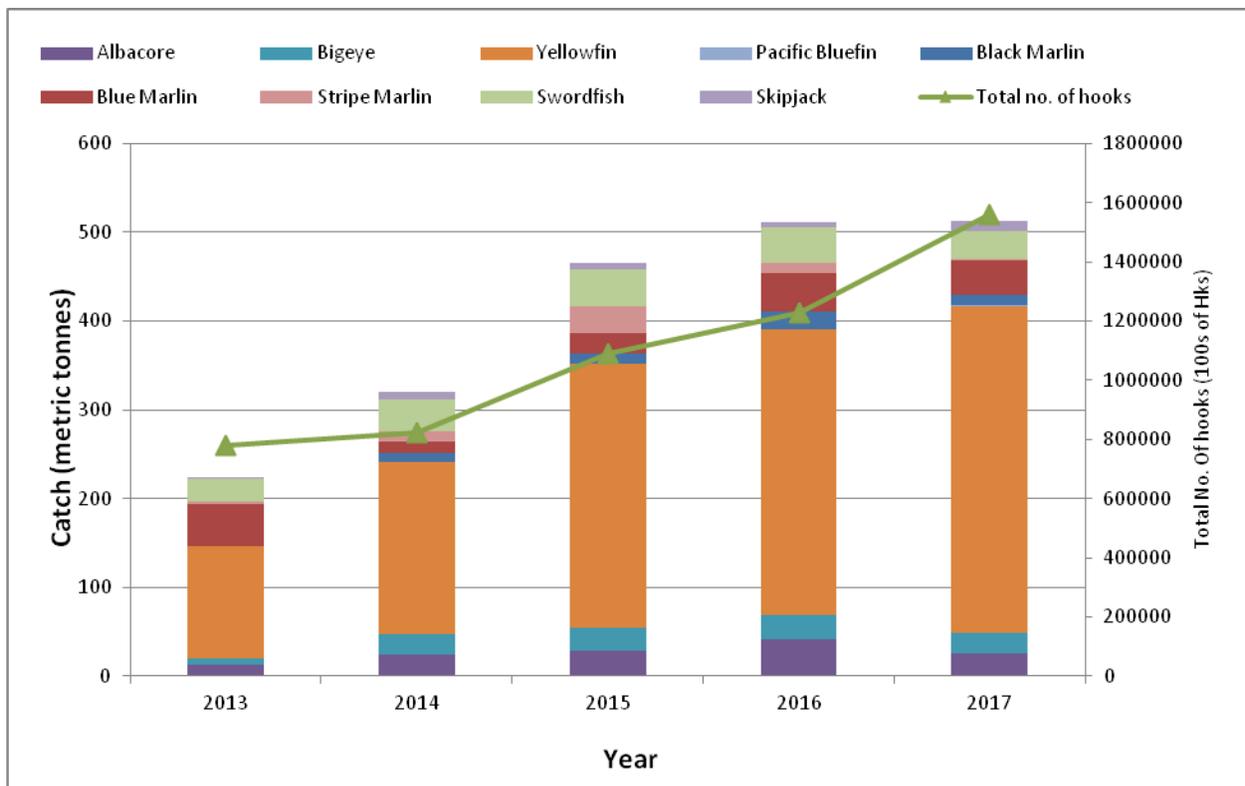
Tonga has its National Observer Program and active domestic port sampling program for highly migratory species. The observer coverage for TOB was 86% for foreign fishing vessels licensed to fish in Tonga EEZ and 8.5% for Tonga flagged vessels. The port sampling coverage was 100% for all longline unloading in Nuku'alofa port.

These programs continue to work closely with the Offshore Fisheries Program (OFP) of South Pacific Communities (SPC) on data collection regarding the status of tuna resources in the Tonga EEZ.

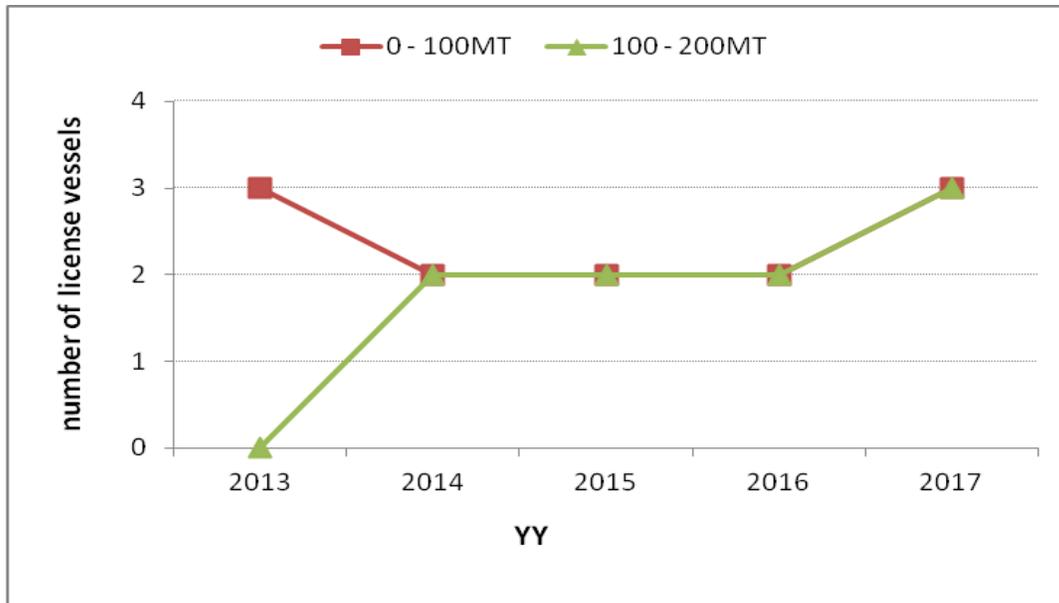
## 2.0 Tabular Annual Fisheries Information

**Table 1. Annual catch (mt) and effort (hooks) estimates for the Tonga longline vessels, by primary species, for the WCPFC Convention Area, 2013 – 2017**

YEAR	Effort	Catch (metric tonnes)									
	Total no. of hooks	Albacore	Bigeye	Yellowfin	Pacific Bluefin	Black Marlin	Blue Marlin	Stripe Marlin	Swordfish	Skipjack	Total
2013	778600	13	7	126	0	0	48	2	26	1	223
2014	823400	25	22	195	0.13	10	13	12	37	8	320
<b>2015</b>	<b>1091600</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>465</b>
2016	1226500	42	27	322	0	20	43	12	39	6	511
2017	1559600	25	23	369	0.2	12	39	1.6	31	12	513



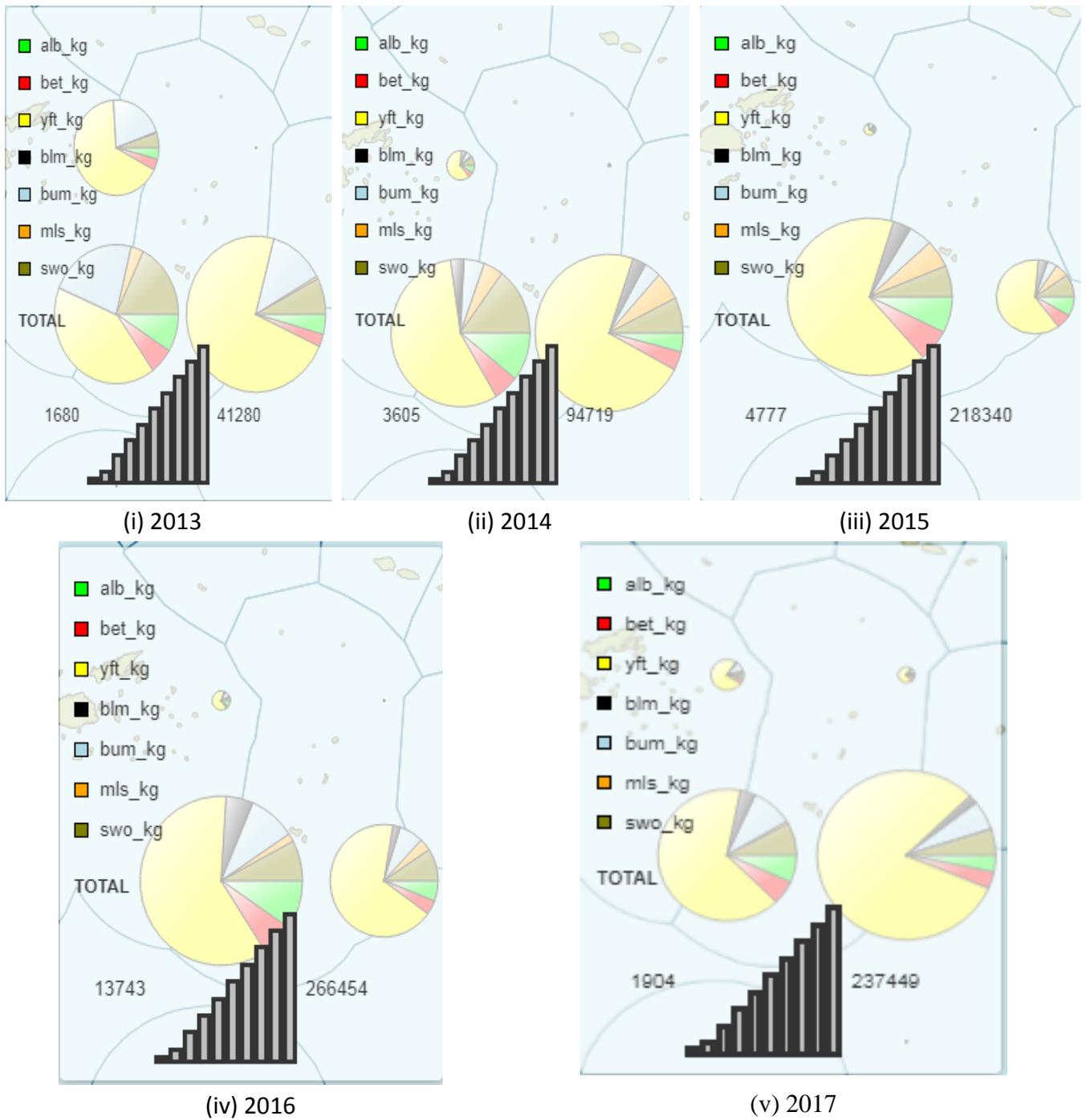
**Figure 1: Historical annual catch for Tonga longline vessels, by primary species, for the WCPFC Convention Area**



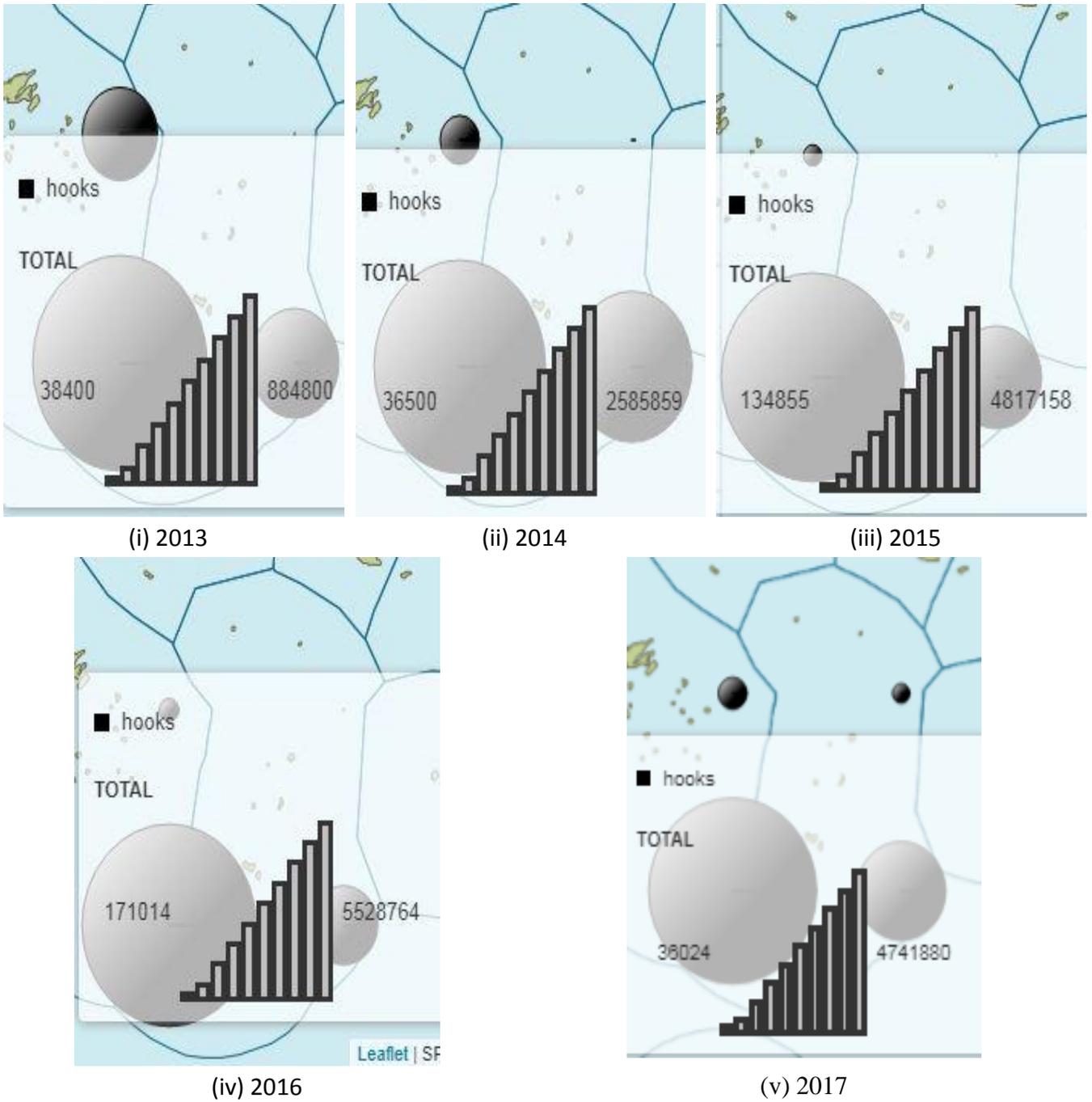
**Figure 2: Historical annual longline vessel numbers for Tonga, for the WCPFC Convention Area, 2013 - 2017**

**Table 2. The number of National Fleets vessels, by size category, active in the WCPFC Convention Area, 2013 - 2017.**

Gear	Longline				
Fleets	National Fleets				
Source	Number of Licenses Vessels (TufMan2)				
Size Category (GRT)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0 - 100MT	3	2	2	2	3
100 - 200MT	0	2	2	2	3
200+	0	0	0	0	0



**Figure 3a (i-v).** Annual distribution of Longline National Fleet catch by target species (in kilograms) in the WCPF Convention Area for the year 2013 to 2017.



**Figure 3b (i-v): Annual distribution of Longline National Fleet Longline national Fleet effort (in hooks) in the WCPF Convention Area, for the year 2013 to 2017.**

**Table 3. Annual estimated catches (mt) of non-target and by-catch species, including sharks, by the National longline Fleets, in the WCPF Convention Area, for years 2013 to 2017.**

<b>Non Target Species</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Wahoo	3	9.7	17.4	16	13.3
Short-Billed Spearfish	2.6	4.1	7.9	8	3.2
Mako Sharks	1	8.4	19.8	19.6	14
Hammerhead Sharks		0.03	0	0	0
Oceanic Whitetip Sharks			0	0	0
Silky Sharks			0	0	0
Thresher Sharks			0	0	0
Blue sharks				0	0.2
Sharks (unidentified)	13.2	4.5	0	0	0
Sailfish (Indo Pacific)	2.1	4	14.4	10.8	6.3
Dolphin fish	53.3	190.1	163	125.9	120.6
Opah/Moonfish	0	0.3	0.1	0	0.1
Others	32.2	6.5	7.1	9.8	8.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>227.63</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>190.1</b>	<b>166.5</b>

## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

Tongan commercial fisheries for high migratory species started in early 1970's with a second hand longliner and skipjack vessels from Japan. In early 1980's the Government put into investigation the commercial viability of tuna longline using a new long-liner, F.V.Lofa, donated by the Government of Japan. In 1991, the Government established a semi-Government company, namely the Sea Star Fishing Co Ltd, to operate F.V.Lofa commercially. The US Aid/Tonga Fisheries project in early 1990's tested the viability of medium size vessels for long lining targeting fresh fish for sashimi market. This was resulted with increase in number of domestic fleet targeting fresh tuna in the late 1990's and to peak in the early 2000's.

Tonga is one of the small island developing state in the Pacific, a member of the WCPFC, and has continued to develop her Tuna Fishery capacities. Currently, Tonga tuna fishery consists solely of longline fishing vessels targeting tuna and tuna-like species, with a very small artisanal fleet, including small fishing vessels with outboard engine and game fishing vessels which used trolling fishing method. The majority of the activity is concentrated within Tonga EEZ except for foreign flagged vessels which can access high seas with permit from flag states. Tonga has approximately 700,000km<sup>2</sup> of undeclared EEZ that extends from Latitude 14 degrees south to 26 degrees south, offers a moderate potential for exploitation. The total catches from the Tonga EEZ have displayed a similar

trend to effort. The total tuna catches for Tonga's National fleets increased from 511mt in 2016 to 513mt in 2017. This could be due to the increase in the effort in terms of the number of vessels and hooks.

A significant game-fishing sector also exists in Tonga. However, interactions with the commercial long-line fleets are likely to be relatively minor as the long-line fleets have significantly declined since 2003.

Artisanal data collection has been migrated from TufArt database system to a TAIL application module on Tufman 2. This migration allows online data entry although data collection from these fleet is still in its early stage.

Tonga National Observer Programme (TNOP) has been authorized since 2011 to provide ROP observer trips. Tonga has four certified Debriefers to debrief observer data, speeding up observer data entry into TUBs database. Tonga continues to use the latest version (2014) of SPC/FFA regional forms for logsheets, port sampling, unloading. For observer data collection, Tonga is using the latest version (2016). These forms have had a number of revisions over the years, some of which is to cater for the requirements of the WCPFC. For example, the identification to species level of seven key shark species. This is one of the areas identified by the Compliance and Monitoring Scheme where many of the SIDS such as Tonga requires assistance.

The total observer coverage for foreign and domestic vessels for 2017 was 86% and 8.5% respectively. The port sampling and logsheets coverage was 100% in 2017. At the same time, Tonga continues to implement and monitor its obligation towards the Commission's Conservation and Management Measures and also the Resolutions and report back to the Commission annually (Appendix 1 – CMM Reporting).

Tonga Ministry of Fisheries continues working closely with the Offshore Fisheries Program (OFP) of SPC on issues regarding the status of tuna resources in the Tonga EEZ relative to the whole stock in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO).

Despite the ample room for improvement and development of tuna fleet in Tonga, there are challenges identified, including the high costs of operation and climate change.

Tonga continues developing and managing its tuna fisheries using a Tuna Management and Development Plan to ensure sustainable fisheries, food security and economic benefits for the people of Tonga.

## **3.0 FLAG STATE REPORTING**

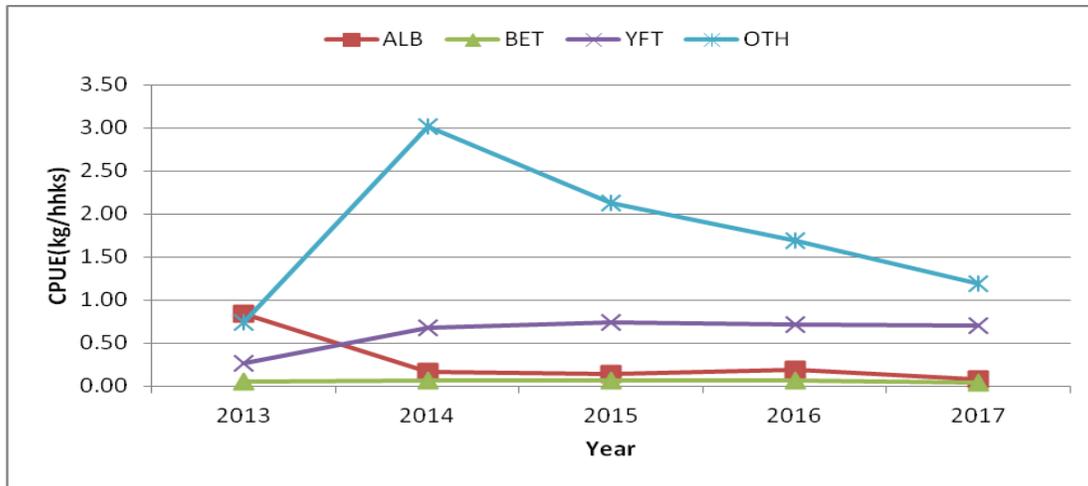
### **3.1 Status of the Fishery**

#### **3.1.1 Total annual catch, by primary species**

The annual catch and effort estimated, by primary species for the national longline fleet fishing throughout the WCPF Convention Area for the years 2013 to 2017 are summarized in Table 1 with the historical estimates further provided in Figure 1. The total effort in the WCPF-CA was approximately 15596 hundred hooks (Table 1) and it's all attributed to the Tonga EEZ. In further details, the annual catch estimates of primary species, (Table 1) in 2017 were 513mt which is a 0.4% increase from the previous year. The increase in catch could be attributed to increase in effort in terms of number of hooks, which was increased by 27% from previous years. In 2017, the catches for primary species were dominated by yellowfin (72 %), followed by albacore and bigeye with 5 % each and with only 2% of skipjack tuna. Swordfish occupied 6 % of the total catch of primary species, 0.3% and 8% each of striped marlin and blue marlin respectively.

In reference to the history of this fishery in Tongan waters; longline effort in terms of number of hooks, rapidly increased from the mid 1990s and peak at more than 10 million hooks during 2002 before a rapid decline in both hooks and number vessels in recent years. The huge reduction in fishing effort is attributed to the decline in catch rates and other various factors including economic issues and the diversion of fishing efforts.

The annual CPUE (kg/100hks) estimated for the primary species, for the Tongan Longliners for the year 2013 to 2017 (Figure 4), shows that CPUEs for the main species was slightly decreases for Albacore and Bigeye whereas Yellowfin CPUE were still the same for 2017.



**Figure 4: CPUE (kg per 100 hooks) of main tuna species and others for Tonga longliners were active in the WCPF Convention Area for the years 2013 to 2017**

### 3.1.2 Annual catch estimates of non-target, by-catch associated and dependent species

The provisional estimated total catch of non-target, associated and dependent species for the national longline fleets for the last five years are provided in Table 2. The species composition of the catch by weight in 2017 was dominated by Dolphin fish (*Mahimahi*) totaling 121mt followed by *Wahoo* with 13mt. The total shark catch for the National fleets within WCPF-CA was 14mt dominated by *Mako* sharks (Table 3).

By-catches are obtained from logsheets and also from observer records as well as port sampling data. Observer records are important for estimating catches of the less valuable species that are less likely to be retained or recorded. Observers have reported high retention rates of target tunas, including those that are discarded due to shark damages. *Wahoo*, *mahimahi*, *moonfish* and *billfishes* also had high retention rates as these are also have valuable components for the fishery especially the local market.

Based on available data, there was no interaction of Tonga flagged longliners with species of special conservation interest (eg. Marine turtle, marine mammal and sea birds) recorded by observers (*Appendix 1*). To reduce sea turtle mortality in fishing operations, Tonga National longline fleets used circle hooks and fish baits with less squid bait in longline fishing operation.

### 3.2 Fishing Patterns – National Fleets in the WCPF Convention Area

Figures 3a & 3b provide an illustration of the pattern of catch and effort for the national longline fleets over the past five years in the WCPF Convention Area. In 2017, 100% of the catch and effort of the National longline fleet was widely distributed in the southern part of the Tonga EEZ.

The reporting requirements stipulated under the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission are demonstrated in appendix 1. In accordance to CMM 2006-04, no vessels specifically targeted striped marlin and all catch was taken as by-catch. A total of 1.605mt of stripe marlin was caught as bycatch in south of 15<sup>0</sup>S of the Convention area. For the CMM 2009-03, there were six vessels caught a total of 28.59mt of swordfish as bycatch, which were all caught in the Convention Area South of 20<sup>0</sup>S. There were no vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of domestic fishery. 8 FFV caught 8mt of swordfish as bycatch in south of 20<sup>0</sup>S.

For Shark species (CMM2010-07), 24 individuals of estimated to 14.044mt of Mako sharks were caught and retained. There were no Hammered Sharks caught. There were 25 individuals of Blue Sharks caught in which 10 individuals of 0.235mt were retained and 15 individuals were discarded. There were also 11 individuals of Silky sharks that were caught and were all discarded. There were no Oceanic Whitetip Sharks, Thresher sharks, Whale Sharks or Porbeagle sharks caught. More of the CMM reports is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

### 3.3 Fleet Structure

In 2017, the Tonga National fleets consist of six (6) domestically-based longline vessels that operate within the WCPF-CA. All these vessels are Tonga flagged vessels and authorized to fish within the Tonga EEZ only. Among these, one vessel listed on the WCPFC Record of Fishing vessels (RFV) and there was one high seas permit issued during 2017 but the vessel did not fish in the high seas.

## 4.0 COASTAL STATE REPORTING

In 2017, there were nine (9) foreign flagged longline vessels licensed to fish in Tonga EEZ compared to nineteen (19) in 2013 (Table 4 and 5). The decrease in number of foreign vessels licensed to fish in Tonga was mainly due to the revised Tuna Development and Management Plan 2015 – 2017.

**Table 4. Number of foreign longline vessels with valid licenses to fish in the Tonga EEZ by year and size category (GRT).**

Gear	Longline				
Fleets	FFV				
Source	Number of Licenses vessel (TufMan)				
Size Category (GRT)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0 - 100MT	19	13	5	8	9
100 - 200MT	0	0	0	0	0
200+	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 5. Number of foreign longline vessels with valid licensed to fish in the Tonga EEZ by flag and year.**

Year	Flag				Total
	CHINA	CH-TAIPEI	FIJI	AS	
2013	3	20	3	0	26
2014	3	14	2	0	19
2015	1	5	0	0	6
2016	0	8	0	0	8
2017	0	7	0	2	9

Annual catch for foreign flagged vessels in 2017 is given in Table 6 and is similar in species composition to that of Tonga National fleets. Those catches by foreign vessels contributed to Tonga National Catch of tuna and tuna-like species within Tonga jurisdiction waters. The total catch for 2017 was 2,006mt, a decrease by 12% compared to 2,268mt in 2016.

**Table 6. Annual foreign Longline catch and effort estimates by foreign flagged vessels licensed to fish with Tonga EEZ (national waters) in 2017. Operational logsheet data raised using VMS eRecap Application Tools. (Dorado report 12)**

Flag	YEAR	GEAR	ALB	YFT	BET	SKJ	BUM	BLM	MLS	SWO	SFA	FAL	BSH	OCS	THR	MAK	HAM	POR	OTH	Total
CHINESE TAIPEI	2017	LL	1009	535	111	43	58	1	10	17	9	0	42	0	0	16	0	0	119	1970
AS	2017	LL	20	12	1	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	36
<b>Total</b>			<b>1029</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>2006</b>

#### 4.0 SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTOR

Export of Tuna catches from Tonga continued in 2017. The national fleets contributed a large portion of fresh fish to the total exported from Tonga in 2017. This is due to the slight increase in fishing effort with 0.4% increase in catch compared to 2016. Foreign vessels continued to provide additional revenue stream to the domestic fisheries sector in Tonga from their license fees and also the resources rent from all catches that landed in Tonga. All catches by foreign vessels were unloaded in port Nuku'alofa then repacked into shipping container and exported to overseas market with a portion of their catch were sold at local market and retail store. The new FOB values were charged by species to the total catch species in spite of export or sold locally were TOP\$6 for Bigeye and Yellowfin tuna; then TOP\$5 for the rest of the catch. The FOB value calculated according to the average prices

of fish being sold out at the local markets, which is well-known to be lower than the true value of export prices in overseas market. The total estimated FOB revenue collected from fish exported for 2017 was increased by 7% from TOP\$11,239,776.00 in 2016 to TOP\$12,065,604.00 in 2017.

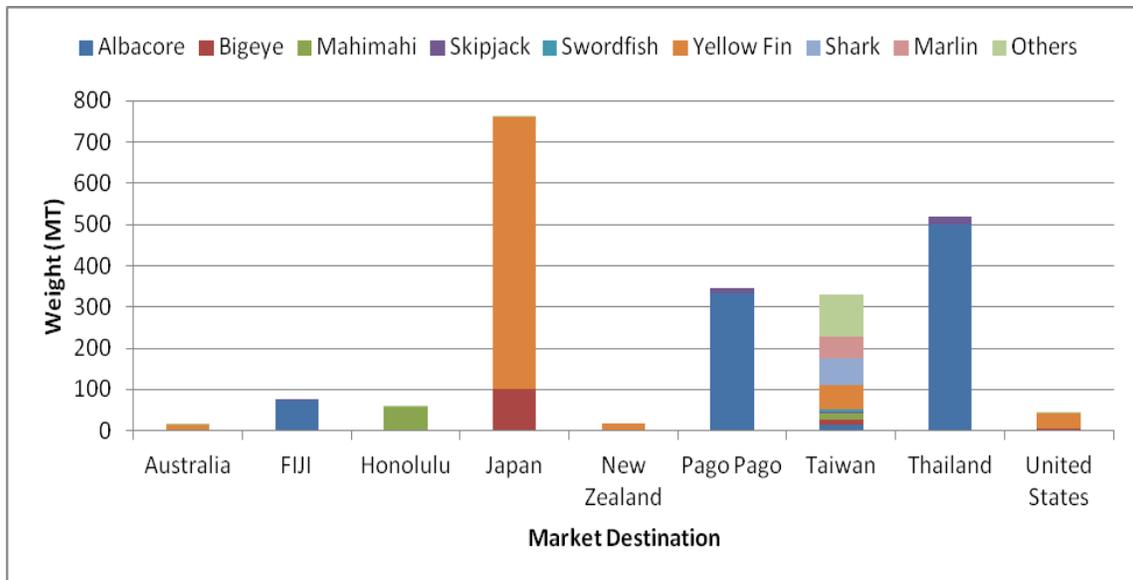
## **5.0 DISPOSAL OF CATCH**

### **5.1 Marketing**

Tonga's main markets for its fresh chilled tuna exports were Japan, US (Los Angeles, Hawaii), New Zealand and Australia. Taiwan, Pago pago, Thailand and Fiji used to be the target markets for frozen albacore. In 2017, foreign vessels continued exporting of frozen tuna (Bigeye and Yellowfin) to Japan market. Frozen by-catches were also sent to Taiwan and Thailand. Part of the fresh chilled albacore and some other by-catches (frozen and fresh) are sold locally.

*Figure 5* describes the main markets destination with respect to weight of longline catch export for Tonga in 2017. The biggest portion; 35% of the total export volume was exported to Japan followed by 24% to Thailand; 16% to Pago; 15% to Taiwan; 5% to US(Honolulu and LA) and 3% to Fiji. Other important markets are New Zealand and Australia (for fresh chilled tuna) but in a low portion of both 1% respectively. Still the highest in export volume sent to Japan's sashimi market was due to the increase in catch and effort by domestic fleets with 6 vessels operated in 2017 and the domestic fleets' targeted fresh tuna for sashimi market. The foreign vessels exports performances in 2017 were somewhat difference compared to 2016. Japan dominated the export of frozen fish with 681mt, followed by Thailand with 519mt, Pago with 347mt, Taiwan with 330mt and Fiji with 97mt.

Albacore tuna dominated the export of individual species with 43% of the total volume, followed by yellowfin with 36% and lesser percent of bigeye, mahimahi, marlin, shark, skipjack and swordfish with 6%, 3%, 3%, 3%, 2%, and 0% respectively. Export of bycatch species described as "Others" (OTH) were mainly frozen fish exported (frozen) mainly to Taiwanese and US markets and they consisted of baracuda, escolar, oil fish, sailfish, spearfish and wahoo; and it's only 5% of the total volume of export fish. Foreign vessels also provide more fish to be sold locally and it continues to contribute to a drop in fish price compared to previous years.



**Figure 5. Longline catch (MT) export and Destinations for Tonga, 2017**

## 6.0 ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF FISHERY

The Tonga commercial longline fishery is currently limited by a cap on the number of longline vessels authorized to fish within the EEZ to only 15 licenses (*Revised Tonga Tuna Management & Development Plan*). Unfortunately, high operating costs and a lack of adequate infrastructure has restricted the development of a locally based fleet.

*Atlantis Fisheries*, the only domestic tuna fishing company's operated with viable production outputs in exporting of fresh chilled tuna to sashimi markets especially to Japan, Australia, Honolulu and New Zealand. Also entailing in provides employment for local people in crewing their vessels, and also its processing and retailing plant. In 2017 the company increased the number of their tuna vessels from 4 in 2016 to 6 in 2017. They are still planning to extend its services to operate more longline vessels and a better processing unit.

The National Fisheries Council (NFC) continues on partnership with the Ministry of Fisheries and respective stakeholders in developing fisheries sector including Tuna fishery. Within this partnership, the NFC planned to deal with many challenges especially the infrastructure such as the development of fisheries wharf, packing facilities that provide low fees for fishermen and equipment such as vessels, fishing gears etc. For future development, it is expected that more domestic vessels to be operated and lessen the foreign fishing vessels.

In 2017, Tonga continued to participate in the regional Tuna Data and Stock Assessment Workshop which are conducted on an annual basis for SPC member countries. Data Workshop was aimed to

improve member countries' scientific tuna monitoring and data management capacity, and satisfy their data reporting obligations to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). The cloud migration of TUFMAN2 allows online data entry and data extraction more easily and speedy especially analyzing of data for the scientific report. Artisanal data collection is still ongoing. And TufArt, the database system for artisanal data collection has been replaced by a new application developed by SPC called TAILS. TAILS is a new module on Tufman2 that allows online data entry. There were also 2 Tablets provided by SPC and are both used for artisanal data collection from our outer islands.

The Stock Assessment Workshop was recognized as an important program in capacity building for fisheries officers and managers in the region. In this workshop, participants were introduced to various stock assessment models that assist officers in providing scientific advice to managers and policy makers base on the best models used. Not only that but participants were also introduced to the Tuna Management Simulator (TUMAS) a new software tool developed by the OFP that allows fishery managers and advisors to evaluate the performance of different management options. Seapodym model were also introduced and it is very supportive especially the status of the stock in related to fishing activities and climate change.

## **7.0 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND STATUS OF TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION**

### **7.1 Logsheets and Unloading data collection**

Tonga continues to used the expanded format of SPC/FFA Regional Longline Logsheets (2014) for data collection in 2017. 100% coverage of logsheets, unloading and port sampling data were achieved from both National and foreign vessels licenses to fish in Tonga. Unloading forms were submitted together with logsheets in timely manner.

### **7.2 Observer Programme**

The Tonga National Observer Programme (TNOB) continues to deploy observers' onboard domestic and foreign longline vessels operated with in Tonga EEZ, and also place observers on US purse seiner vessels under Multilateral Treaty arrangement. The observer coverage for TOB was 86% for foreign fishing vessels licensed to fish in Tonga EEZ and 8.5% for Tonga flagged vessels. All those observer trips are non-ROP trips.

TOB is aimed to collect information on fish catch, fish handling techniques, fishing technology, by-catch and discards and all other activities that the vessel conducted for the duration of the trip Data

from this program will be analyzed and very useful for stock assessment and management purposes. Fishing vessels' compliance with fisheries legislation is also an integral part of this program.

### **7.3 Port sampling Programme**

The Ministry of Fisheries continues to employ dedicated port samplers which covering 100% of the longline unloading in Nuku'alofa port. The Ministry is also obliged to maintain this high percentage coverage of port sampling to ensure the fulfillment of its obligation to the Commission. Data types collected are logsheets, unloading and port sampling forms. The logsheets and the unloading forms are collected and entered into TUFMAN2. The port sampling forms together with the logsheets and unloadings are then scanned and sent to SPC/OFP on a regular basis for further analysis.

The eTUNALOG application developed by SPC was on trial in three (3) domestic longline vessels in 2016. Through SPC/OFP these vessels were provided with 3 new laptops with eTUNALOG application already installed. This application replaces the need for skippers to manually complete hard-copy vessel trip logsheets for submission to national authorities.

The National Observer Programme and Port sampling programme warmly extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the overseas donor (JTF fund) and regional organization (FFA & SPC) for their great financial and technical support in developing our tuna data collection and analysis. Implementation of both programmes and the completion of this scientific report would not have been possible if we did not have your support in all approach.!!! ***Malo 'aupito***

## Appendix 1 – CMM Reporting

### Summary for each CMM

CMM Reference	Response
CMM 2005-03 [North Pacific Albacore], Para 4	NOT APPLICABLE No flagged vessel active in North of the equator
CMM 2006-04 [South West striped Marlin], Para 4	<i>Sources: Dorado Reporting tools (report 21 Regional n catch estimate template)</i> 2017 – 6 LL vessels caught a total of 1.605mt of SW_MLS as bycatch, and were all caught in south of 15°S of the Convention area. No TO flag vessel target striped marlin S 15 °S
CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish], Para 8	<i>Sources: Dorado Reporting Tools</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a) 2017 – 6 flagged LL vessels caught a total of 28.59mt of SP_SWO as <i>bycatch, and</i> were all caught in the Convention Area South of 20°S</li> <li>• b) there were NO vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of domestic fishery</li> <li>• c) 2017 – 8 foreign LL vessels caught 8mt of SP_SWO as a <i>bycatch</i> in south of 20°S</li> </ul> No TO flag vessel target SWO S 20 °S
CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II)	There were NO TO flag vessels transshipment activities occurred in Tonga ports or Tonga EEZ.  Not an Issue as Transshipments is prohibited in Tonga Fisheries Waters. However Regulation 19 of the Fisheries (Fishing Vessels Licensing) Regulations 2016 provides that transshipment is only allowed pursuant to written Authorization from the Minister.
CMM 2010-07 [Sharks], Para 4	<i>Source: Dorado Reporting Tools (Regional 26) Dorado</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2017 - 6 LL vessels caught;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Mako sharks</i>, 24 individuals of about 14.044 mt were caught and retained.</li> <li>▪ There were NO Hammered Sharks reported</li> <li>▪ Blue Sharks; 25 individuals were caught, 10 individuals of 0.235mt were retained and 15 individuals were discarded</li> <li>▪ There were NO Oceanic Whitetip Sharks reported</li> <li>▪ <i>Silky sharks</i>; 11 individuals caught and all discarded/released</li> <li>▪ There were NO <i>Thresher Sharks</i> reported</li> <li>▪ There were NO Whale Shark reported</li> <li>▪ There were NO Porbeagle sharks reported</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>CMM 2011-03</b> <b>[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para 5</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b> <b>Tonga does not have a purse seine fleet</b>
<b>CMM 2011-04</b> <b>[Oceanic whitetip sharks], Para 3</b>	<b>Sources: Dorado reporting Tools (ACE calculations for discards) Report 10 TUBS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Estimated data collected from observer programs showed: 4 number of OCS released Alive; 4 number of OCS release Dead and 2 number of OCS with unknown status</b></li> </ul> <p><b>In TUFMAN2 Dorado reporting data show an estimated 7 OCS retained. This has been confirmed to be a mistake and SPC has been asked to revised this data</b></p>
<b>CMM 2012-04</b> <b>[Whale sharks], Para 06</b>	<b>Not applicable as Tonga does not have purse seine fleet</b>
<b>CMM 2012-07</b> <b>[Seabirds], Para 9</b> <i>Applies until 1 Jan 2017 (see CMM 2015-03 below)</i>	<b>Source: Dorado TUBS reporting Tools</b> <b>There is no interaction with seabirds by longline fisheries.</b>
<b>CMM 2013-08</b> <b>[Silky sharks], Para 3</b>	<b>Sources: Dorado Reporting Tools (report 2.2.3, excel template)</b> <b>There were no Silky sharks reported by observers or in the logsheets</b>
<b>Observer coverage (WCPFC 11 decision – para 484(b))</b>	<b>Observer Coverage:</b> <b>Tonga issued 1 LL vessels with a high seas permit but the vessel did not fished in the high seas in 2017</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>7.41% onboard National Fleets (domestic longliner)</b></li> </ul> <p><b>all Tonga-flag longline vessel trips are all Non-ROP trips</b></p>
<b>CMM 2015-02</b> <b>[South Pacific Albacore] Para 4</b>	<b>Data has been submitted to SPC</b>  <b>Addressed through the regular provision of operational catch/effort logsheet data to SPC, who automatically include these data in the WCPFC databases, as per our authorisation.</b>
<b>Commencing in reports that cover activities post-1 January 2017</b>	