

Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

Transshipment observer program



MAY 2010

TRANSSHIPMENT OPERATION



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Carrier vessel



A fishing vessel of the program.



IATTC Resolution on transshipments

Key elements

- **Resolution C-06-04 approved in 2006.**
- **Resolution C-08-02 replaced Res.C-06-04.**
- Program effective as of January 1, 2009.
- Similar resolution to ICAAT and IOTC.
- Transshipments at port permitted under conditions specified in Annex 1.
- Transshipments at sea permitted in IATTC area only with observer on board on carrier vessel.
- Main responsibility of observers:
Monitor that the transshipped quantities are consistent with the catch reported in the IATTC transshipment declaration.

Other key elements of resolution C-08-02

- Vessels are prohibited from making transshipments in the EPO without an observer on board except in cases of *force majeure*.
- *Applies to Long line fishing vessels only.*
- Does not apply to troll vessels, pole-and-line vessels or vessels engaged in the transshipment of fresh fish at sea.
- Transfer of live tuna to be transported to a farm is not subject to this resolution.
- Establishes a register for carrier vessels authorized to receive transshipments at sea.
- Carrier vessels and the fishing vessels shall be equipped with a VMS.
- Transshipments within the EEZ are subject to authorization of the coastal State.
- Completing the IATTC *Transshipment Declaration* (TD) is obligatory for captains on the fishing vessel and carrier vessel.
- Copy should be sent to the Director of IATTC and to the competent authorities of the vessel's flag CPC and of the country where the final unloading will take place.

Other key elements of resolution C-08-02

- In validating any required statistical documents, the flag government shall ensure that the quantity of fish transshipped is consistent with the catches reported by the fishing vessel.
- Each government shall inform the Director annually of the quantities transshipped the previous year, by species, and of the names of its vessels that made transshipments.
- All transshipped tuna unloaded in, or imported into, the territory of a member shall be accompanied by the IATTC Declaration until the first sale takes place.
- Costs of the observer program are borne by the flag governments of the fishing vessels involved. No observer is assigned to vessels whose flag government has not paid.

Resolution **C-08-02** added observer's tasks on the fishing vessel .

- Check the validity of the fishing vessel's authorization or license to fish.
- Check and record the total quantity of catch on board, and the quantity to be transferred to the carrier vessel;
- Check that the VMS is functioning , and examine the logbook;
- Verify whether any of the catch on board resulted from transfers from other vessels, and check the documentation on such transfers;
- In case of any violations involving the fishing vessel, report the violations to the master of the carrier vessel.
- Record the results in the observer's report.

To do these tasks, observers have to board the fishing vessel.

IATTC Resolution **C-08-03**

- Approved in 2008. It mandated a meeting of involved countries to determine the distribution of the cost of the program.
- Observer Program could be implemented by an external agency.
- Marine Resources Assessment Group Ltd. (MRAG) Consortium, has implemented the IATTC Program under a contract since December, 2008.

Countries Participating and distribution of costs

Country	First distribution % 2009	Distribution % First semester 2010	Distribution % Second semester 2010
Japan	37.1	17.69	18.59
Chinese Taipei	25.2	18.55	16.90
Korea	30.1	12.39	9.58
China	7.6	31.25	33.80
Vanuatu	Began its participation in the 2 nd semester 2009. Made a specific payment	20.12	21.13

Peru will participate in 2010 with 1 vessel.

General information on the program

Since the beginning of the program (01-01-09 to 05-7-10)

Total of observers participating in the program	17
Number of transshipments in the EPO	499
Number of transshipments outside EPO	102
No. of days at sea with observer (2009)	1799
Annual budget of the program	650,000 USA Dlls.
Observer deployments	39
Number of LSTFLV making transshipments	243

List of carrier vessels

Flag	Number
Chinese Taipei	1
Japan	4
Kiribati	1
Korea	2
Panama	25
Sierra Leone	1
Singapore	2
Vanuatu	7
TOTAL	42

The carrier vessel list was made with information submitted by the countries with fishing vessels making transshipments.

3 carrier vessels not from IATTC Members or cooperating Parties or fishing entities.

Transshipments summary 2009 / 2010

Country	Number of fishing vessels	Number EPO transshipments
China	68	160
Chinese Taipei	53	91
Japan	60	111
Korea	25	43
Vanuatu	36	93
TOTAL	243	498

EPO Transshipments by species and countries. 2009 / 05-07-2010 (MT)

Flag	BET	YFT	SWO	ALB	Other	TOTAL
China	7,670	1,514	1,246	433	592	11,455
Chinese Taipei	3,448	820	462	1,658	381	6,768
Japan	5,752	1,639	730	810	780	9,711
Korea	2,937	378	396	85	657	4,453
Vanuatu	1,290	308	164	3,904	1,075	6,741
TOTAL	21,170	4,692	2,997	6,890	3,485	39,234

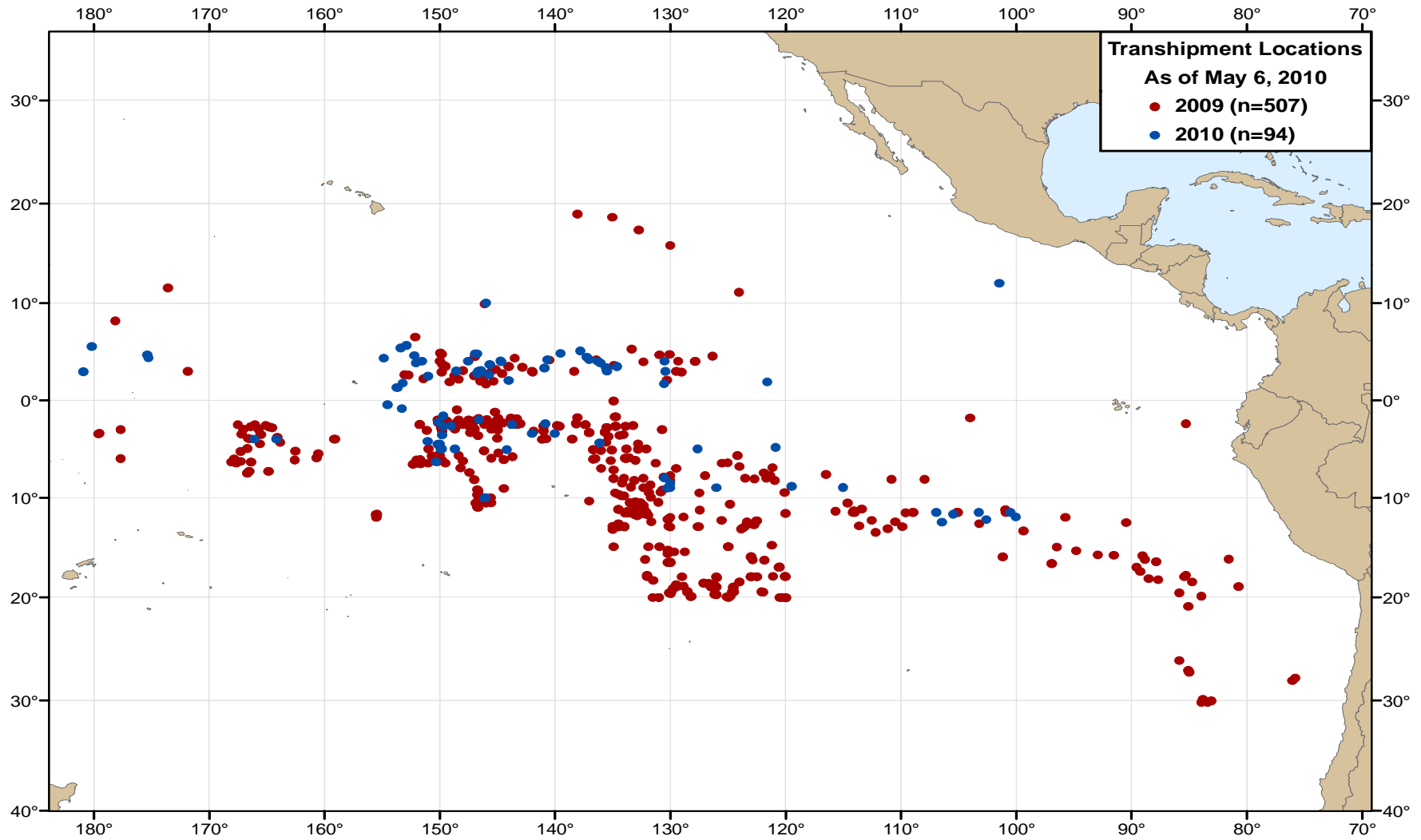
Ports of embarkation of observers

• Shimizu, Japan	3
• Kaohsiung, Taiwan	10
• Papeete, Tahiti	16
• Majuro, Marshall Islands	5
• Pusan, Korea	1
• Suva, Fiji	3
• Balboa, Panama	1
TOTAL	39

Transshipments made outside EPO 2009 /2010

CPC	Transshipments	BET	YFT	SWO	ALB	Other	Total
China	50	2,368	508	282	8	227	3,392
Chinese Taipei	42	1,921	493	209	8	199	2,830
Japan	1	33	12	2	0	3	50
Korea	1	102	27	28	0	23	180
Vanuatu	8	250	33	17	8	80	388
TOTAL	102	4,673	1,073	538	24	532	6,838

Transshipments locations 2009 -2010



Possible future cooperation among RFMOs.

- Standardize transshipment rules.
- Allow observers to collect transshipment data even when in another RFMO area.
- Exchange data on transshipments made in the area of other RFMOs (WCPFC /EPO areas).
- Allow vessels to transship on carrier vessels authorized by other RFMOs.
- Exchange transshipment data and compliance information.