

**Emergency Action Plan on protecting the health and
safety of observers in ICCAT Regional Observer Program**

The Republic Korea hereby develops and implements an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) as follows, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the ICCAT Recommendation 19-10 and the Distant Water Fisheries Development Act:

1. In the event that a Regional Observer Program (ROP) observer dies, is missing or presumed fallen overboard, Korean fishing vessels shall:
 - a) immediately cease all fishing operations;
 - b) immediately notify the appropriate Maritime Rescue Coordination Center (MRCC), the relevant Korean authorities including Korean Fishery Monitoring Centre (FMC), and the observer provider;
 - c) immediately commence search and rescue if the observer is missing or presumed fallen overboard, and searches for at least 72 hours, unless the observer is found sooner, or unless instructed by the appropriate Korean authorities to continue searching¹;
 - d) immediately alert other vessels in the vicinity by using all available means of communication;
 - e) cooperate fully in any search and rescue operation;
 - f) whether or not the search is successful, promptly return to the nearest port for further investigation, as agreed by the relevant Korean authorities and the observer provider;
 - g) promptly provide a report on the incident to the observer provider and the appropriate Korean authorities; and
 - h) cooperate fully in all official investigations, and preserves any potential evidence and the personal effects and quarters of the deceased or missing observer.
2. In addition, in the event that an ROP observer dies while deployed, Korean fishing vessels shall ensure that the body is well-preserved for the purposes of an autopsy and investigation.
3. In the event that an ROP observer suffers from a serious illness or injury that threatens his or her health or safety, Korean fishing vessels shall:
 - a) immediately cease fishing operations;
 - b) immediately notify the appropriate Korean authorities, observer provider, and relevant MRCC to advise if a medical evacuation is warranted;
 - c) take all reasonable actions to care for the observer and provide any medical treatment available and possible on board the vessel;
 - d) where necessary and appropriate, including as directed by the observer provider, if not already directed by the appropriate Korean authorities, facilitate the disembarkation and transport of the observer to a medical facility equipped to provide the required care, as soon as practicable; and
 - e) cooperate fully in any and all official investigations into the cause of the illness or injury.
4. For the purposes of paragraphs 1 through 3, the Republic of Korea will ensure that the appropriate MRCC, observer provider, and the Secretariat are immediately notified of the incident, actions taken or underway to address the situation, and any assistance that may be required.
5. In the event that there are reasonable grounds to believe an ROP observer has been assaulted, intimidated, threatened, or harassed such that their health or safety is endangered and the observer or the observer provider indicates to the Republic of Korea that they wish for the observer to be removed from the fishing vessel, the relevant authorities of the Republic of Korea will require such a fishing vessel to:

¹ In the event of force majeure, Korean vessels may cease search and rescue operations before 72 hours have elapsed.

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- a) immediately take action to preserve the safety of the observer and mitigate and resolve the situation on board;
 - b) notify the relevant authorities of the Republic of Korea and the observer provider of the situation, including the status and location of the observer, as soon as possible;
 - c) facilitate the safe disembarkation of the observer in a manner and place, as agreed by the appropriate Korean authorities and the observer provider, that facilitates access to any needed medical treatment; and
 - d) cooperates fully in any and all official investigations into the incident.
6. In the event that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a ROP observer has been assaulted, intimidated, threatened, or harassed but neither the observer nor the observer provider wishes that the observer be removed from the fishing vessel, the appropriate Korean authorities will require that the fishing vessel:
- a) take action to preserve the safety of the observer and mitigate and resolve the situation on board as soon as possible;
 - b) notify the appropriate Korean authorities and the observer provider of the situation as soon as possible; and
 - c) cooperates fully in all official investigations into the incident.
7. If any of the events in paragraphs 1 through 5 occur, as a port Contracting Party and Cooperating Non-Contracting Party, Entity or Fishing Entity (CPC), the Republic of Korea will facilitate entry of the fishing vessel to allow disembarkation of the ROP observer and, to the extent possible, assist in any investigations if so requested by the flag CPC or non-CPC.
8. In the event that, after disembarkation from a Korean fishing vessel of an ROP observer, an observer provider identifies, such as during the course of debriefing the observer, a possible situation involving assault or harassment of the observer while on board the fishing vessel, the observer provider shall notify, in writing, the appropriate Korean authorities and the Secretariat.
9. If notified, under paragraph 5b, 6b, or 8, that an observer has been assaulted or harassed, the appropriate Korean authorities will:
- a) investigate the event based on the information provided by the observer provider and take any appropriate action in response to the results of the investigation;
 - b) cooperate fully in any investigation conducted by the observer provider, including providing the report to the observer provider and appropriate authorities of the incident; and
 - c) promptly notify the observer provider and the Secretariat of the results of its investigation and any actions taken.
10. The appropriate Korean authorities will also encourage vessels flying its flag to participate, to the greatest extent possible, in any search and rescue operations involving an ROP observer.
11. Where requested, relevant observer providers and the appropriate Korean authorities will cooperate in each other's investigations, including providing their incident reports for any incidents indicated in paragraphs 1 through 6 to facilitate any investigations as appropriate.