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**POTENTIAL NON-COMPLIANCE ISSUES REPORTED BY REGIONAL OBSERVERS**  
ICCAT Secretariat

**1. Infractions reported by observers under the Regional Observer Programme for Transshipment**

Twenty two incidences reported as potential non-compliance as follows. Responses to all were received. Where applicable, CPCs took follow up action; in some cases no PNC was found and hence no action necessary. The details of the PNCs and the responses are contained in **Appendix 1**.

**Table 1.** Summary of PNCs under the ROP transshipment.

CPC	No. PNCs	responses	Action taken by CPC
Belize	1	1	Yes
China	8	8	Yes where applicable
Chinese Taipei	1	1	Yes
Cote d'Ivoire	0	0	n/a
Japan	9	9	Yes where applicable
Korea	0	0	n/a
SVG	1	1	Investigated and report sent – no action required

The full reports of the observers under the ROP\_transshipment transmitted in 2018 can be found [here](#). Previous years reports are available [here](#).

**2. Infractions reported by observers under the Regional Observer Programme for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna**

*2.1 Vessels*

One hundred and thirty nine PNCs were issued by observers on board purse seine vessels. A summary of the PNC reports and responses, as well as actions taken where appropriate, can be found in **Appendix 2**.

**Table 2.** Summary of PNCs under the ROP – BFT (Vessels).

CPC	Number of vessels participating in ROP in 2018	No. PNCs	Responses
Albania	1	0	n/a
Algeria	14	22	22
Egypt	1	0	n/a
EU	58	30	30
Libya	14	27	27
Morocco	2	0	n/a
Norway	2	6	2*
Syria	1	0	n/a
Tunisia	37	18	24
Turkey	22	36	36

\* Fishing season still open at time of writing

The observer reports of deployments on purse seine vessels are available in **Annex 1** (electronic only).

## 2.2 Farms and traps

The observers reported a total of 36 potential non-compliance issues, with only six of which the CPCs agreed. A summary of the PNC reports and responses, as well as actions taken where appropriate, can be found in **Appendix 3**. Table 3 below shows a summary of the reports.

**Table 3.** Summary of PNCs under the ROP – BFT (Traps and farms).

CPC	Number of traps/farms deployments in ROP 2018	No. PNCs	Responses
EU	37	49	46
Morocco	3	1	1
Tunisia	1	4	4
Turkey	14	4	4

The observer reports of deployments on farms and traps are available in **Annex 2** (electronic only).

In addition to the PNCs reported by the observers involving their vessels, two incidents were reported that were not related to the authorised vessels on which they were embarked, but to unauthorised vessels fishing in the vicinity:

1. Vessel without an ICCAT number involved in fishing operations: Today, 28.05.2018. from the early morning (06:00) we were searching for tuna. We were joined by at least 5 smaller potentially illegally fishing speedy-boats and we were surrounded multiple times. Around 07:00, the search for fish had to be aborted because the smaller boats were interfering. Capetaneria was informed about this multiple times. One of the purse seiners tried to stop the potentially illegal boats by dropping the net in the water. That drove away almost all boats for a while. We continued to search for fish. At 09:09 one of the purse seiners in the JFO finds the tuna again and fishes together with a second purse seiner and catches the tuna with the net at 10:05. In the meantime, the potentially illegal speedy boats returned and are still close by. Then Guardia Costa and Guardia Finanza appear (also around 10:05). The smaller boats move away a little, but do not go away. I manage to see the number 7VM267 on one of the smaller boats. After the fishing operation was done, one of the purse seiners left to search for fish again. The other stayed with the net and the fish and Guardia Costa and Guardia Finanza to wait for the towing boat and cage and transfer. The smaller speedy-boats are currently not close to the fishing vessel, but are still following everywhere the other legal boats in vicinity.

2. Yesterday (28/05/2018) it was observed from the ship, a group of sport ships without N° ICCAT trying to capture red tuna in the vicinity of the catching vessels. These boats tried to fish tuna actively and they interfered the works of fishing of the ships with license ICCAT for fishing, putting in danger the crafts and interfering in the fishing works. In occasions verbal threats took place to the crew. All these small crafts lacked distinguishing characteristics or identification name but pictures of the same ones are possessed in those that can even be identified on board people. During the event the purse seiner telephoned the coastal watch and this made appearance in the place some ships have abandoned the area. As much the Guardia Costiera as the Guardia de Finanza have taken the documentation of some of them. Once taken some identifications, the Guardia de Finanza (V 620 and V 2078) have ascended on board the purse seiner so that this carries out a formal accusation in writing.

**Response from EU to these incidents:** Our relevant Control Authorities (Coast Guard) immediately launched a duly investigation, by involving also other Police Bodies, at local level. This investigation is still pending and final outcome will be submitted as soon as available. In any case, we may assure and confirm that our PS concerned was not involved in this PNC.