

AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS

Technical Circular 014 - 2020

Para:	Shipowners, Masters and Legal Representative / Resident Agents
De:	Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
Subjet:	Status of the Republic of Panama to the NPFC Fisheries Commission.
Ref.:	ARAP/IFA/TC/014/2020

The Aquatic Resources Authority informs the Shipowners, Masters and Legal Representative or Resident Agents that, due to the current global conditions in consequence of the pandemic by the new virus COVID-19, the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), has not been able to hold the Annual Meeting of the Commission and it has been postponed to early 2021; As a result, the evaluation of Panama's application for the renewal of its status as Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) has not yet been carried out, much less a decision on its renewal. However, the expiration dates to operate as CNCP Convention Area for this period remain until midnight on November 29, 2020.

In this sense, this Authority requests that all Panamanian fishing vessels of international service authorized in the Convention Area of the NPFC, suspend all the operations with targeted species of the Commission and activities before midnight on Sunday 29 November 2020 (Japan time), until the meetings are reestablished, and it is announced that Panama has renewed its status as CNCP for the next period.

The Commission has expressed its willingness to resolve this situation as soon as possible, therefore, while the process lasts, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding on this matter, since complying with these indications supports the responsible actions of Panama on its renewal as CNCP for the incoming period.

✓ **Important and Mandatory Character**

It is important that each vessel, its owners, captains or operators inform the NPFC Secretariat of the cessation of their operations based on this circular through the following emails: secretariat@npfc.int , hsfs@arap.gob.pa and jvc@arap.gob.pa

For more information on this Technical Circular, please contact:

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