

**AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA  
INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS**

**Technical Circular 051 – 2023**

<b>To:</b>	Shipowners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents
<b>From:</b>	Directorate of Technical Cooperation and International Fisheries Affairs
<b>Subject:</b>	Panama's status with NPFC Fisheries Commission.
<b>Ref.:</b>	ARAP/IFA/TC/051/2023

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP), informs the Owners, Operators, Captains and Resident Agents that, the Annual Meeting of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) will be held on March 17-24, 2023, which will result in the evaluation of Panama's application for renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) for the period 2023-2024.

In this sense, this Authority requests that all vessels of the Panamanian fishing fleet of international service authorized in the NPFC vessel registry, suspend operations involving regulated species and activities within the Commission's Convention area before 00:00 hours (JST= Japan Standard Time) on Saturday, March 25, 2023, until it is announced that Panama has a renewal of its status as a NCPC for the following period.

Therefore, while the annual meeting and the decisions of the members of the Commission last, your understanding and cooperation on this matter is appreciated, since complying with these indications supports Panama's responsible actions before its renewal as CNCP for the next period.

✓ **Important and Mandatory**

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

Vessels that are detected in violation of this circular and the conservation and management measures established by the NPFC, will be subject to the application of the current regulations established by this Authority in sanctioning matters.

For more information on this Technical Circular, please contact:

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