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**AQUATIC RESOURCES AUTHORITY OF PANAMA**



**TECHNICAL NOTICE**

**N° 073-2023**

**FOR:** Shipowners, Operator, Masters and Resident Agents

**ON BEHALF:** International Technical Cooperation Office

**SUBJECT:** *Renewal of the status of Panama as WCPFC CNM, Period 2023-2024.*

**DATE:** December 21, 2023

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The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama (ARAP) informs Shipowners, Operators, Masters and Resident Agents that the Republic of Panama has been granted the renewal of its status as a Cooperating Non Member (CNM) before the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) for the period 2023-2024, decision taken by the Members of the Organization during the recent 20th Annual Meeting of the Commission, which was held in Islas Cook from December 4-8, 2023.

It is important to note that, the participatory rights of Panama in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels. Panama's participatory rights also apply to vessels that supply food, water and spare parts to carrier vessels that engage in transshipment activities, provided that these vessels do not engage in activities supporting fishing vessels, including providing and/or servicing FADs

Therefore, ARAP will ensure that all vessels intending to operate in the WCPFC Convention Area comply with the conservation and management regulations and measures established and adopted by the Organism as well as domestic and international fisheries regulations.

**✓ Important and Mandatory**

It is necessary that all international service fishing vessels that intend to operate in the WCPFC Convention area fully comply with the recommendations established in the framework of the Convention, in particular the management and conservation measures and that they are publicly authorized on the Commission's website prior the beginning of operations.

Vessels detected in activities in violation of the rules and recommendations established by the WCPFC shall be subject to the application of the regulations in force established by this Authority in sanctioning matters.

*For more information about this Technical Notice, please contact:*

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