

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL

36TH MEETING

LIMA (PERU)

8 JUN 2004

DOCUMENT IRP-36-11

DML VESSELS WITHOUT REQUIRED DOLPHIN SAFETY GEAR

At its 35th meeting, the IRP requested that the Secretariat propose possible measures to reduce the incidence of infractions by vessels with DMLs for not having all the dolphin safety gear and equipment required by Annex VIII.2 (a-e) of the AIDCP, specifically:

GEAR INFRACTIONS

	Code	MAJOR
6.	NODSP	Depart to fish with a DML without a dolphin safety panel in the net
		OTHER
14.	NORAFT	No raft for the observation and rescue of dolphins
15.	NOBR	Not having at least three operable speedboats with operable towing bridles or posts, and tow lines
16.	NOFLOD	Not having an operable long-range floodlight
17.	NOMASK	Not having at least two diving face masks

Annex IV (III) 5 provides one such measure:

“No vessel may be eligible to receive an additional allocation of DML by a Party unless it has on board all of the required dolphin safety gear and equipment throughout the year...”.

The number of trips by vessels with DMLs and the number of possible and confirmed gear infractions during 2000-2003 were:

	Total trips	6. NODSP		14. NORAFT		15. NOBR		16. NOFLOD		17. NOMASK	
		Poss.	Conf.	Poss.	Conf.	Poss.	Conf.	Poss.	Conf.	Poss.	Conf.
2000	471	10	9	31	27	23	17	109	83	14	12
2001	364	0	-	3	2	6	4	63	38	1	1
2002	437	0	-	20	11	2	1	57	44	1	1
2003	481	7	0	20	2	7	1	31	5	3	0
Total	1753	17	9	74	42	38	23	260	170	19	14

Article XVI (Compliance) of the AIDCP states that each Party shall ensure effective compliance with the Agreement, in particular “through, *inter alia*, an annual certification and inspection program”, that vessels comply with the operational requirements established in Annex VIII.

To ensure that all vessels with DMLs have all the required dolphin safety gear aboard during the entire year, each Party could carry out at least two inspections each year of the gear on each of its vessels with a DML. One such inspection could be required before the vessel’s request for a DML is submitted (October 1 for full-year DMLs, April 1 for second-semester DMLs). An additional inspection might then take place before the notification of any reallocation of DMLs (May 20) for vessels with full-year DMLs, and at some time during the last quarter of the year for vessels with second-semester DMLs.

If the Parties do decide to impose such an inspection requirement, it could be implemented via a resolution or by an amendment to Annex VIII of the AIDCP.