

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

**INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL**

**68<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

*(by videoconference)*

13 October 2021

**DOCUMENT IRP-68-04 REV.**

**CASES OF POSSIBLE NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE *OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSELS* DESCRIBED IN ANNEX VIII OF THE AIDCP AND OCCURRED SINCE THE 67<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (AND PREVIOUS CASES NOT REVIEWED YET)**

During the period which has elapsed since the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the IRP, the Secretariat has reviewed a total of 133 fishing trips. No case of possible non-compliance was identified during those trips.

Therefore, the only remaining cases pending review are five cases of possible non-compliance that the IRP was unable to consider during its 67<sup>th</sup> meeting.

These cases are as follows:

	Observer Interf.	No Backdown	Sacking up/brailing dolphins	No observer trip
Total number of cases	2	1	1	1

**1. 2020129: Harassment**

At the start of the trip, the observer readily agreed to assist the fishing captain and navigator with communications during the fishing operations. After receiving insults during a set, he decided not to do it anymore, and from that moment on, the fishing captain began to insult him repeatedly.

**2. 2020828: Harassment**

When the observer, with the assent and on the instructions of the observer program coordinator, disembarked before the vessel departed, after eight crew members had disembarked for having tested positive for COVID 19, the Fleet Manager verbally abused him.

**3. 2019583: Set # 67 without backdown and with dolphin mortality**

The fishing captain decided not to perform the backdown, as only 7 dolphins had been caught; and commented that he would send swimmers to rescue them. However, 5 dolphins died when they were trapped under the net.

**4. 2019583: Set # 67 sacking up/brailing dolphins**

At the time the net's sack was forming, there was still a live dolphin in the net, which was rescued by a swimmer.

**5. 2021266: Trip without observer**

This case is about an invalid request/notification of a cross-endorsed observer, because it was submitted when the vessel was already at sea and therefore did not comply with the provisions of Annex II, numeral 9 of the AIDCP:

*“9. Notwithstanding other provisions of this Annex, if the Director determines that the placement of an observer from the On-Board Observer Program is not practical, a vessel subject to the jurisdiction of a Party that fishes in the Agreement Area without setting on dolphins may use a trained observer from another international program, provided such program is approved by the Parties, to collect pertinent information for the On-Board Observer Program, and to confirm to the Director that such vessel does not set on dolphins.”*