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## **Multi-lateral agreement for 2017 and 2018 between Germany, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland for biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRFMO waters**

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Germany, Lithuania, The Netherlands and Poland agree to co-operate in the biological data collection of pelagic fisheries in waters regulated by the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) in 2017 and 2018. This agreement is in accordance with Commission Implementing Decision 2016/1251, laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation 199/2008.

Having regard to the above mentioned legal acts, the project proposal including budget forecast, "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRFMO waters in compliance with the DCF" (Annex 1) as well as the "Observer Manual for biological data collection in SPRFMO waters" discussed and approved at the Ad Hoc Regional Coordination Meeting for Long Distance Fisheries in Hamburg, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 (Annex 2), the following details apply to this agreement:

### *Partners*

The following Member States are considered as partner within this agreement:

Member State	Institute	Contact person
Germany	Thünen Institute (TI)	Christoph Stransky (National Correspondent)
Lithuania	Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	Vilda Griuniene (National Correspondent)
The Netherlands	Centre for Fisheries Research (CVO)	Sieto Verver (Head CVO)
Poland	National Marine Fisheries Research Institute (NMFRI)	Ireneusz Wójcik (Head of Department, DCF Coordinator)

### *Coordination*

Poland coordinates the execution of this multi-lateral agreement. The Netherlands will support Poland through providing near real time planning information of the expected fleet movement.

### *Sampling protocol*

Biological sampling is carried out on board EU fishing vessels in the SPRFMO area by Polish observers. These observers are instructed by Poland and follow the sampling protocol as described in "Observer Manual for biological data collection in SPRFMO waters", based on data collection requirements set out in "**CMM 3.02, Conservation and Management Measure on Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data (SPRFMO-COMM-03 (2015) ANNEX K)**".

### *Data responsibility*

Poland is responsible for data collection, quality control and delivery to the SPRFMO scientific working group of all data collected under this agreement. Poland will also distribute the data to Partners upon request.

### *Costs*

The total costs for the sampling programme is estimated at the amount of € 69,398= ex VAT per year. This sampling programme is eligible for co-funding under the national EMFF budget of the respective partners.

The total costs are shared by the partners following the relative shares in fishing opportunities of Chilean jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*) in the SPRMFO area as set in the *Council Regulation (EU) 2016/458 of 30 March 2016 amending Regulations (EU) No 2016/72 as regards certain fishing opportunities*. Cost shares are maximum amounts, in case of lower costs, deductions might apply in line with the relative shares. The yearly costs by partner are shown in the following table:

Partner	Share (%)	Contribution
Germany	25.15	€ 17,453
Lithuania	17.50	€ 12,145
The Netherlands	27.26	€ 18,918
Poland	30.09	€ 20,882
<b>Total contribution</b>		<b>€ 69,398</b>

Poland sends each Partner an invoice per year, to which standard financial conditions apply.

#### Access to vessels

On top of *Council Regulation 199/2008* (Section 2, Article 11), each Partner ensures access to its fleet for the observers under this agreement. Denied access to vessels does not exempt a Partner from legal or financial obligations.

#### Term

This agreement commences on January 1, 2017. With exception of financial obligations, this agreement ends on December 31, 2018. This agreement, with exception of financial obligations, is subject to dissolve prior to this date in case the pelagic fishery in the SPRMFO area by EU vessels closes.

#### Signatures

Member State	Name	Function	Signature
Germany	Christoph Stransky	National Correspondent	 Date: 15.12.2016
Lithuania	Indre Sidlauskiene	Director, Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania	 Date: 14 03 2017
The Netherlands	Sieto Verver	Head Centre for Fisheries Research	 Date: 12/12/2016
Poland	Ireneusz Wójcik	Head of Department (NMFRI), DCF Coordinator	 Date: 12/12/2016

Annex 1: "Biological Data Collection of pelagic fisheries in SPRFMO waters in compliance with the DCF".

Annex 2: "Observer Manual for biological data collection in SPRFMO waters".