

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

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DOCUMENT IATTC-89-07

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IATTC REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAM FOR TRANSSHIPMENTS AT SEA

1. INTRODUCTION

The IATTC observer program to monitor transshipments at sea by carrier vessels in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO), established by Resolution [C-08-02](#), amended by Resolution [C-11-09](#) and now regulated by Resolution [C-12-07](#), started in January 2009, and by July 2015 will have operated for six and a half years.

With the approval of the Members that participate in the program, the Secretariat signed a three-year contract with the *Marine Resources Assessment Group Ltd.* (MRAG) consortium for operating the observer program, so MRAG will continue to provide this service through 2016.

The observer data for 2015 in this document are for the period up to 22 April.

2. IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION

The program is operating without any major problems with regard to its implementation and management. Observers have not reported incidents related to the monitoring procedures, which to date have been fully implemented by vessel operators and captains.

On 23 October 2014, the Secretariat sent a memorandum to the CPCs, noting the provisions of paragraph 20 of Resolution C-12-07, which establishes that “*All tuna and tuna-like species and sharks landed in, or imported into, the territory or area of a CPC, either unprocessed or after having been processed on board and which are transhipped, shall be accompanied by the IATTC transshipment declaration until the first sale has taken place*”.

In that memorandum it was stated that the Commission staff has no information on how this provision is complied with, despite its importance for the global implementation of the resolution. Each CPC involved in receiving transhipped fish in its ports was asked to provide, voluntarily, the relevant information to the Commission for examination and review. However, no such information was received, nor were comments on the memorandum.

The Secretariat maintains on the Commission website the [list of carrier vessels](#) authorised to receive transshipments at sea, which is updated constantly with information supplied by the participants about additions of carrier vessels and modifications of the data on such vessels. The current list includes 41 vessels (Table 2.1).

Resolution [C-12-07](#) specifies that longline fishing vessels that transship at sea must be on the [list of longline vessels](#) authorised to fish in the IATTC Convention Area. The vessels authorised to transship are longline vessels of the five Members that participate fully in the transshipment program, plus other vessels (from Belize, Peru, and Indonesia, and

	Vessels
China	4
Korea	5
Japan	1
Kiribati	5
Panama	5
Sierra Leone	1
Chinese Taipei	1
European Union (Spain)	1
Vanuatu	18
TOTAL	41

TABLE 2.1. Authorized carrier vessels, by flag

Panama) which transship only very infrequently.

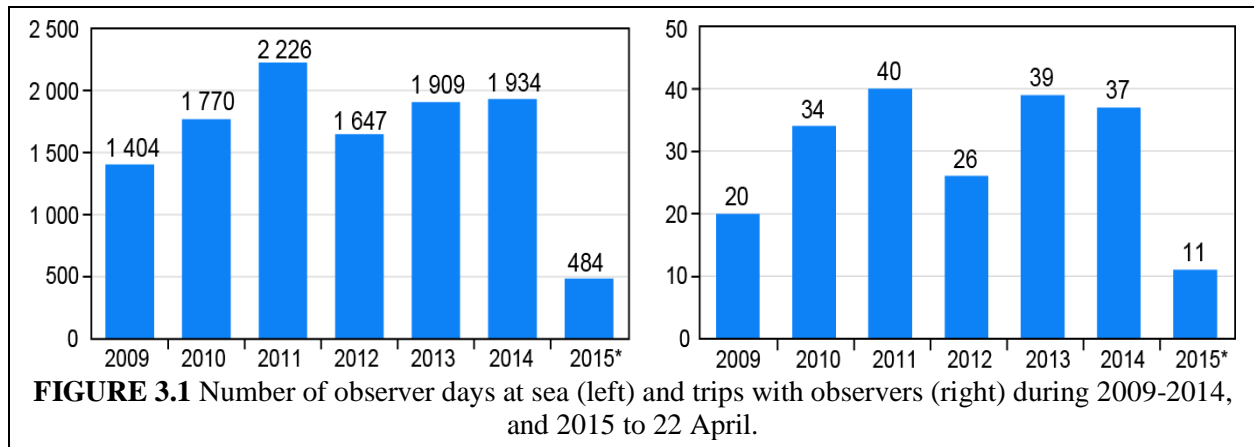
Paragraph 19 of Resolution C-12-07 states that: “Each CPC shall report annually before 15 September to the Director:

- a) The quantities by species transhipped during the previous year.
- b) The names of its vessels on the IATTC ... List [of large-scale longline vessels] which have transhipped during the previous year; and
- c) A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received transhipment from its [large-scale longline vessels].”

On 13 March 2015, the Secretariat sent the observer reports for 2014 to each participating Member in the program, and it is expected that those Members will submit their reports for 2014 to the Secretariat by 15 September 2015. The Secretariat received reports for 2013 from Belize, China, Japan, Korea, Vanuatu, and Chinese Taipei.

3. RESULTS TO DATE

Figure 3.1 shows the number of days spent at sea by observers and the number of observers requested during 2009-2015. In 2013, 37 requests for observers were received, and all were met except one, which



was cancelled by the participant. The number of days at sea was slightly (1.3%) higher in 2014 than in 2013. In 2015, as of 22 April, the number of days at sea was 484; at that rate, the total at the end of the year will be similar to that of 2014.

Figure 3.2 shows the number of transshipments recorded in the EPO during 2009-2015. There was an increase of about 17% from 2013 to 2014.

Figure 3.3 shows the catches transhipped at sea during 2009-2014, by flag of the catcher vessel. In 2014 transshipments by Chinese-flag vessels stood out. Data for 2009-2014, broken down by species and flag of catcher vessel, are shown in Appendix 1, and Appendix 2 lists trips by carrier vessels and the ports of embarkation and disembarkation of the program observers during 2014, and 2015 to 22 April

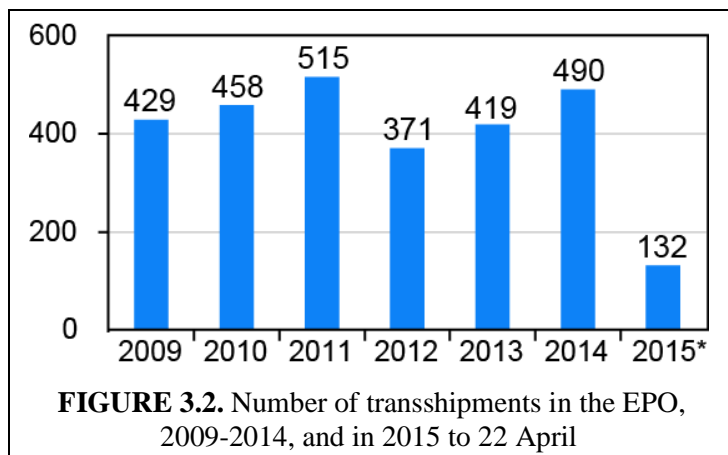
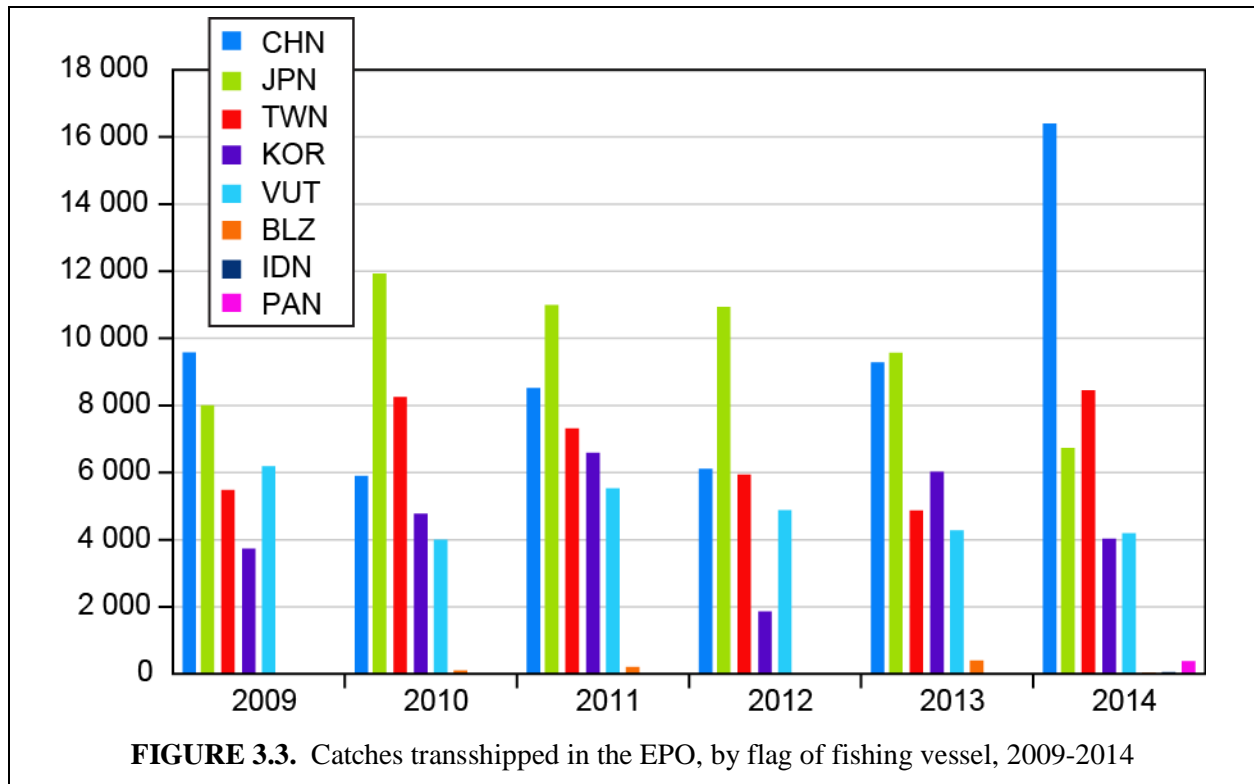
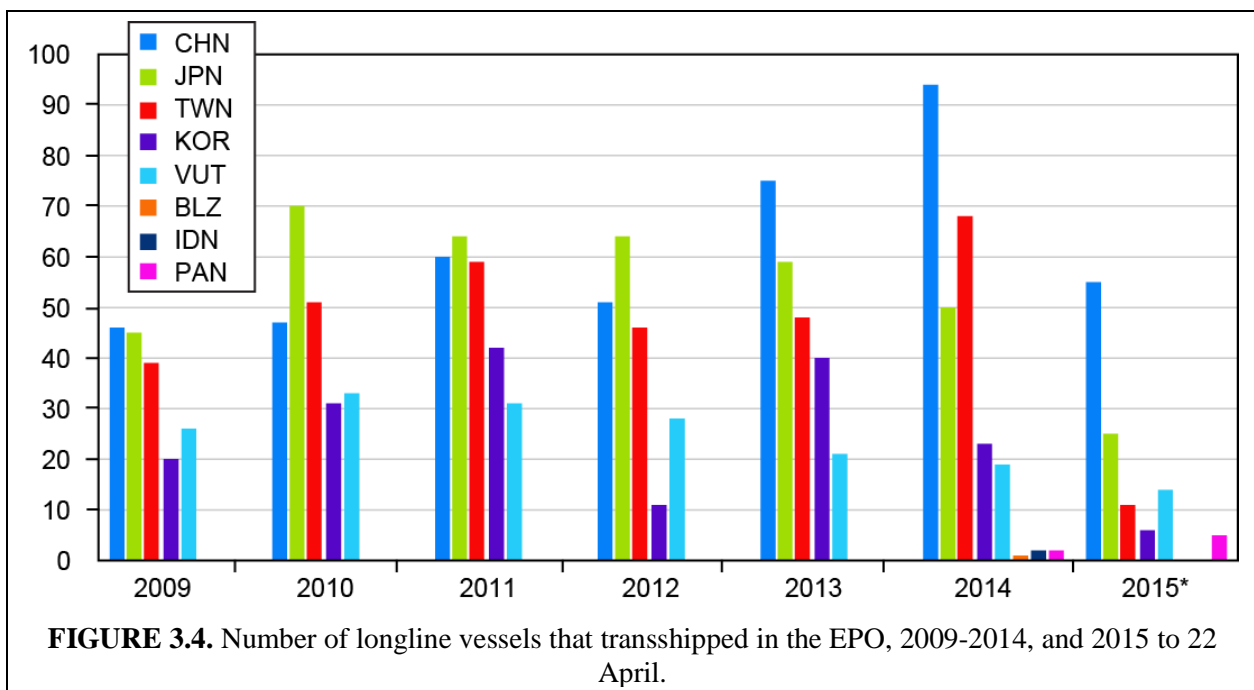


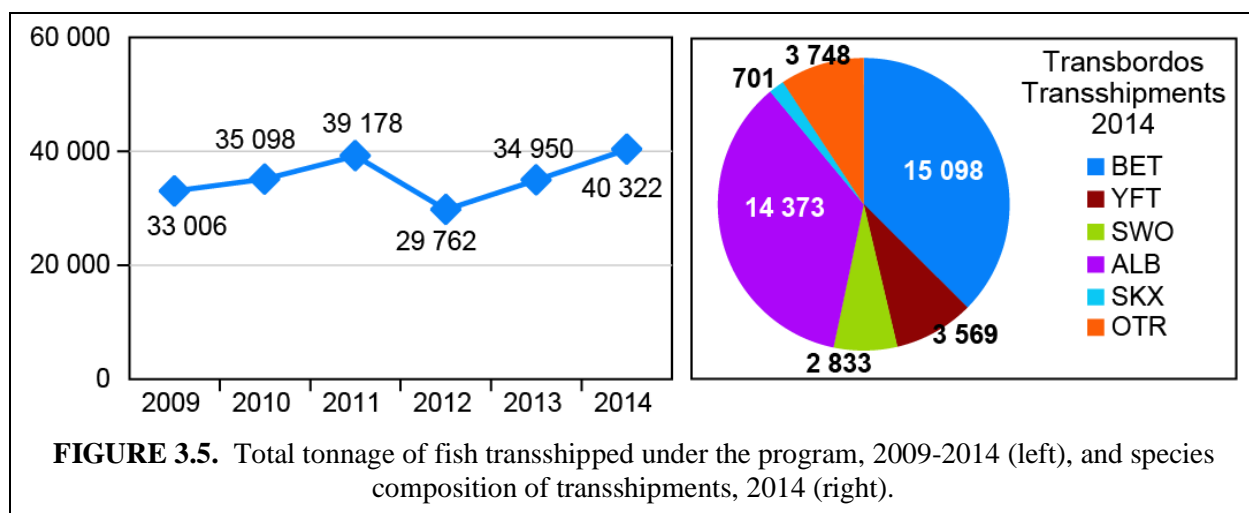
Figure 3.4 shows the number of longline



vessels that transhipped tuna under the program, by flag. In addition to the vessels of the five main participants in the program, in previous years there was one vessel from Peru, and longline vessels from Belize, Indonesia, and Panama are also participating.

Figure 3.5 shows the total tonnage of the catches transhipped under the program during 2009-2014, which increased by about 15% from 2013 to 2014, and the species composition of the transshipments in 2014. Pursuant to Resolution C-12-07, since 2012 catches of sharks transhipped (701 tons in 2014) are





itemized separately. Table 3.1 shows the corresponding data for 2015.

TABLE 3.1. Transshipments in the EPO during 2015 (to 22 April), by species and flag of fishing vessel, in metric tons.

	Bigeye	Yellowfin	Swordfish	Albacore	Sharks	Other	Total
CHN	106	7	25	250	0	15	402
JPN	631	81	95	33	0	81	921
KOR	470	45	60	15	68	86	743
PAN	115	5	1	125	14	18	278
TWN	31	2	0	0	0	0	33
VUT	31	12	40	310	44	143	580
Total	1,383	151	221	732	125	344	2,957

In accordance with the decision of the 85th meeting of the Commission in June 2013, since July of that year observers record where the transhipped tuna originated (western Pacific (WPO), EPO, IATTC-WCPFC overlap area). The data recorded in 2014 show that about 67% of the tuna transhipped in the EPO is caught in that same area, including the the overlap area (Table 3.2), and 25% in the WPO,

TABLE 3.2. Origin of fish transhipped during the first quarter of 2014, by flag of fishing vessel, in metric tons.

	Area of catch			Total
	EPO (inc. overlap area)	WPO (exc. overlap area)	Unknown	
BLZ	45	0	0	45
CHN	15,710	5316	1,108	22,134
IDN	0	266	224	490
KOR	2,263	2,692	1,894	6,849
JPN	6,767	353	0	7,120
PAN	387			387
TWN	7,256	2,736	679	10,671
VUT	3,420	1,846	443	5,709
Total	35,461	13,209	4,348	53,018
Percentage	66.8	25	8.2	100

The positions of transshipments made between 1 January 2012 and 22 April 2015 in the entire Pacific are shown in Appendix 3a, and in the EPO only in Appendix 3b.

Anexo-Appendix 1.

Pescado transbordado en el Océano Pacífico oriental, 2009-2014, por especie y bandera del buque pesquero, en toneladas métricas
 Fish transshipped in the eastern Pacific Ocean, 2009-2014, by species and flag of fishing vessel, in metric tons

	Bandera	Patudo	Aleta amarilla	Pez espada	Albacora	Tiburón*	Otros	Total
	Flag	Bigeeye	Yellow-fin	Sword-fish	Albacore	Shark	Others	Total
2009	BLZ	-	-	-	-		-	
	CHN	6,392	1,281	978	433		502	9,586
	JPN	4,736	1,218	627	767		657	8,004
	KOR	2,460	324	323	79		553	3,739
	PHL	72	34	-	-		-	106
	TWN	2,564	586	320	1,655		363	5,487
	VUT	964	237	108	3,828		1,053	6,190
	Total	17,186	3,679	2,356	6,762		3,128	33,112
2010	BLZ	81	13	3	10		2	110
	CHN	3,674	748	583	429		470	5,902
	JPN	6,623	1,942	1,049	819		1,502	11,935
	KOR	2,957	459	372	102		891	4,781
	PER	80	15	7	3		3	108
	TWN	4,561	992	541	1,434		730	8,258
	VUT	1,321	259	131	1,963		330	4,005
	Total	19,297	4,428	2,685	4,759		3,928	35,098
2011	BLZ	90	9	19	76		17	212
	CHN	5,363	1,157	815	436		755	8,526
	JPN	5,198	1,111	1,247	1,819		1,622	10,997
	KOR	4,263	574	486	253		1,015	6,591
	TWN	2,246	413	271	3,269		1,123	7,323
	VUT	1,160	228	166	3,609		366	5,529
	Total	18,319	3,492	3,004	9,463		4,899	39,178
2012	CHN	3,690	840	772	389		429	6,121
	JPN	5,894	1,359	1,185	1,340		1,162	10,938
	KOR	1,257	130	166	55		257	1,866
	TWN	2,476	395	398	2,015		664	5,949
	VUT	1,226	160	157	2,996		348	4,888
	Total	14,543	2,884	2,678	6,796		2,860	29,762
2013	BLZ	246	40	52	20	16	30	404
	CHN	3,635	798	583	3,400	114	758	9,289
	IDN	102	16	16	2	0	2	138
	JPN	5,756	1,126	1,162	735	9	784	9,571
	KOR	3,947	519	487	199	294	579	6,026
	TWN	1,771	386	245	1,463	335	676	4,876
	VUT	763	160	161	2,853	34	316	4,285
	Total:	16,221	3,045	2,706	8,672	801	3,144	34,590
2014	BLZ	38	1	5	1	0	0	45
	CHN	4,624	1,169	943	8,069	115	1,480	16,402
	IDN	18	7	1	3	6	28	62
	JPN	3,868	922	859	337	0	755	6,741
	KOR	2,585	481	287	118	170	391	4,032

	Bandera	Patudo	Aleta amarilla	Pez espada	Albacora	Tiburón*	Otros	Total
	Flag	Bigeye	Yellow-fin	Sword-fish	Albacore	Shark	Others	Total
	PAN	172	76	37	13	34	56	388
	TWN	2,975	645	560	3,238	258	782	8,458
	VUT	818	269	142	2,593	118	256	4,195
	Total:	15,098	3,569	2,833	14,373	701	3,748	40,322

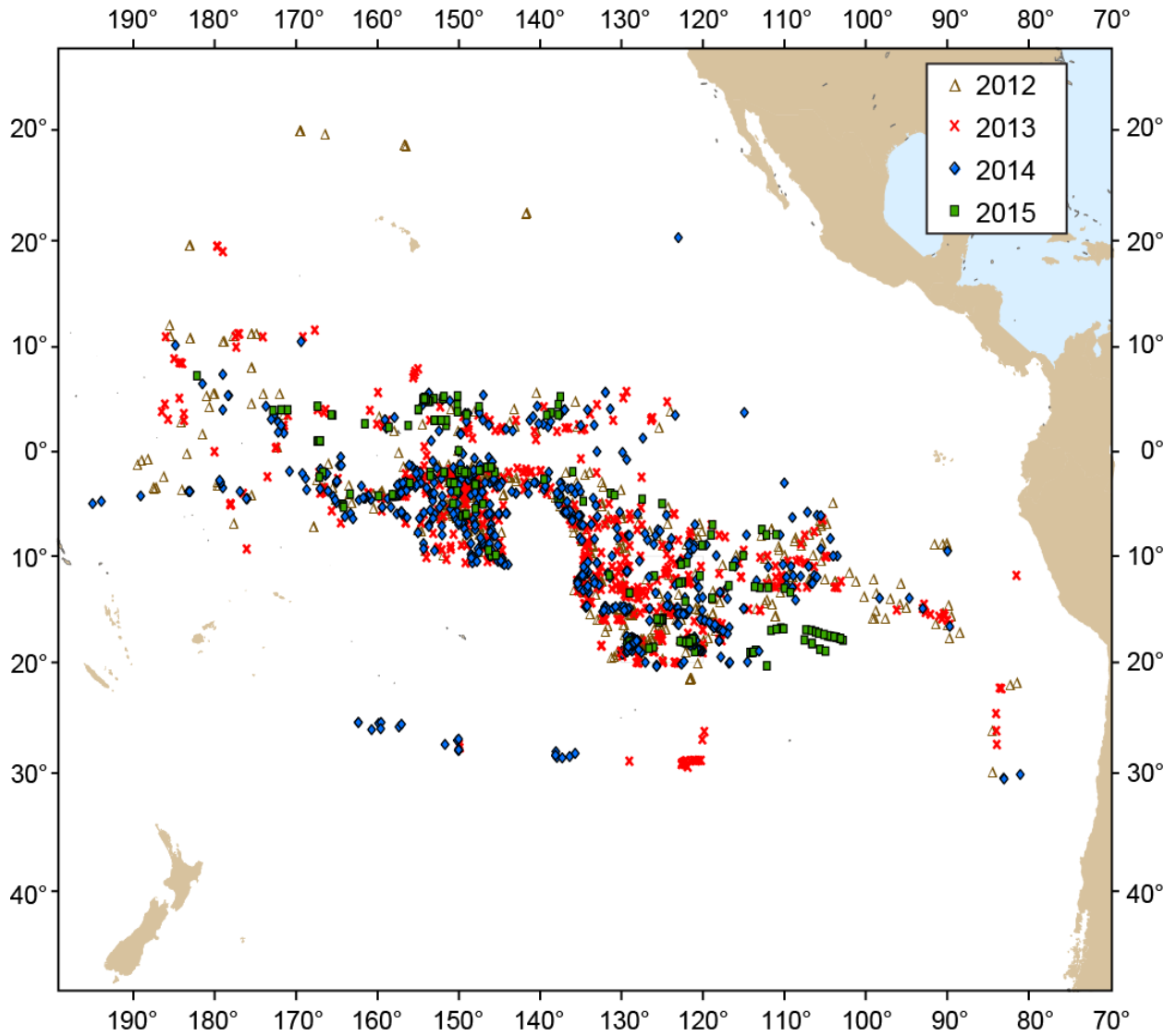
Anexo-Appendix 2.

Viajes de buques cargueros durante 2014, y 2015 al 22 de abril.
Trips by carrier vessels during 2014, and 2015 to 22 April.

	Viaje CIAT	Buque	Bandera	Zarpe		Arribo	
	IATTC trip	Vessel	Flag	Fecha	Puerto	Fecha	Puerto
				Departure		Arrival	
				Date	Port	Date	Port
2014	166	<i>Lung Yuin</i>	VUT	13-Jan-	Papeete, Tahiti	26-Feb	Kaohsiung, Taiwan
	167	<i>Kaiho Maru</i>	VUT	27-Dec-13	Kaohsiung, Taiwan	1-Mar	Suva, Fiji
	168	<i>Seiwa</i>	KIR	25-Dec-	Kaohsiung, Taiwan	16-Mar	Pusan, Korea
	169	<i>Talofa</i>	VUT	25-Jan-	Pago Pago, Samoa	8-Mar	Pago Pago
	170	<i>Yun Run 3</i>	KIR	Cancelled			
	171	<i>Harima 2</i>	PAN	28-Feb-	Shimizu, Japan	8-Jun	Pusan, Korea
	172	<i>Heng Yu</i>	BLZ	18-Feb-	Kaohsiung, Taiwan	29-Apr	Kaohsiung
	173	<i>Taiho Maru</i>	VUT	4-Mar	Kaohsiung, Taiwan	14-May	Shimizu, Japan
	174	<i>SL Bogo</i>	KOR	2-Mar	Pusan, Korea	13-May	Pusan, Korea
	175	<i>Yun Run 3</i>	KIR	31-May	Papeete, Tahiti	3-Jul	Papeete, Tahiti
	176	<i>Lung Yuin</i>	VUT	5-May	Papeete, Tahiti	14-Jun	Papeete, Tahiti
	177	<i>Yu Hsiang Maru</i>	VUT	22-Apr	Kaohsiung	30-Jul	Apia, Samoa
	178	<i>Taiho Maru</i>	VUT	16-Jun	Kaohsiung	7-Sep	Pusan, Korea
	179	<i>Hsiang Fu</i>	VUT	2-Jul	Papeete, Tahiti	21-Sep	Incheon, Korea
	180	<i>Seiwa</i>	KIR	25-Jun	Busan, Korea	10-Aug	Suva, Fiji
	181	<i>Harima 2</i>	PAN	9-Jul	Kaohsiung	20-Sep	Papeete, Tahiti
	182	<i>Suruga 1</i>	VUT	24-Jul	Papeete, Tahiti	23-Aug	Pago Pago, A. Samoa
	183	<i>Shin Ho Chun no.102</i>	KIR	28-Aug	Papeete, Tahiti	24-Sep	Papeete, Tahiti
	184	<i>Shota Maru</i>	VUT	21-Aug	Kaohsiung	20-Nov	Majuro, RMI
	185	<i>Tenho Maru</i>	VUT	29-Aug	Kaohsiung	26-Nov	JeJu Island, Korea
	186	<i>SL Bogo</i>	KOR	26-Aug	Pusan, Korea	30-Oct	Pusan, Korea
	187	<i>Lung Yuin</i>	VUT	11-Sep	Papeete, Tahiti	11-Oct	Papeete, Tahiti
	188	<i>Yun Run 3</i>	KIR	27-Sep	Papeete, Tahiti	18-Oct	Papeete, Tahiti
	189	<i>Yu Hsiang Maru</i>	VUT	29-Sep	Kaohsiung	1-Dec	Majuro, RMI
	190	<i>Hau Jian 1</i>	KIR	20-Oct	Apia, Samoa	8-Dec	Papeete, Tahiti
	191	<i>Taiho Maru</i>	VUT	22-Oct	Kaohsiung	4-Jan-15	Pusan, Korea
	192	<i>Harima 2</i>	PAN	7-Nov	Kaohsiung	10-Jan-15	Papeete, Tahiti
	193	<i>SL Bogo</i>	KOR	12-Nov	Pusan, Korea	17-Jan-15	Shimizu, Japan
	194	<i>Victoria</i>	VUT	26-Nov	Kaohsiung	11-Feb-15	Majuro, RMI
	195	<i>Seiwa</i>	KIR	24-Nov	Busan, Korea	14-Feb-15	Busan, Korea
	196	<i>Talofa</i>	VUT	12-Dec	Papeete, Tahiti	25-Jan-15	Pago Pago, A. Samoa
	197	<i>Shin Ho Chun no.102</i>	KIR	2-Dec	Papeete, Tahiti	30-Dec-14	Papeete, Tahiti
198	<i>Hsiang Fu</i>	VUT	10-Dec	Kaohsiung	6-Mar-15	Busan, Korea	
2015	199	<i>Yun Run 3</i>	KIR	6-Jan	Papeete, Tahiti	9-Feb	Papeete, Tahiti
	200	<i>Tenho Maru</i>	VUT	6-Jan	Kaohsiung	8-Mar	Majuro, RMI
	201	<i>Shin Ho Chun no.102</i>	KIR	29-Jan	Papeete, Tahiti	7-Feb	Papeete, Tahiti
	202	<i>Lung Yuin</i>	VUT	27-Jan-	Suva, Fiji	5-Mar	Majuro, RMI
	203	<i>Taiho Maru</i>	VUT	8-Feb	Kaohsiung	12-Apr	Busan, Korea
	204	<i>Victoria No.168</i>	PAN	6-Mar	Papeete, Tahiti	30-Apr	Vacamonte, PAN
	205	<i>SL Bogo</i>	KOR	8-Feb	Pusan, Korea	5-Apr	Busan, Korea
	206	<i>Harima 2</i>	PAN	6-Mar	Kaohsiung	15-May	Papeete Tahiti
	207	<i>Victoria</i>	VUT	27-Mar	Kaohsiung	25-Jun	Shimizu, Japan
	208	<i>SL Bogo</i>	KOR	18-Apr	Pusan, Korea	15-Jun	Busan, Korea
	209	<i>Tenho Maru</i>	VUT	22-Apr	Kaohsiung	1-Jul	Shimizu, Japan

Anexo-Appendix 3a.

Transbordos en el Océano Pacífico, 2012-2014, y 2015 al 22 de abril
Transshipments in the Pacific Ocean, 2012-2014, and 2015 to 22 April



Anexo-Appendix 3b.

Transbordos en el Océano Pacífico oriental, 2012-2014, y 2015 al 22 de abril
Transshipments in the eastern Pacific Ocean, 2012-2014, and 2015 to 22 April

