

GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU



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GOUVERNEMENT DE LA  
REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU



Date: 03/08/2022

The Executive Director  
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission  
8901 La Jolla Shores Dr  
La Jolla, Ca 92037  
Phone: (858) 546-7039

Dear Sir,

**Subject: RES C-19-08 Observers on Longliners**

With reference to the above I have the pleasure to present to you Vanuatu's official response to the statements made in the 100 Compliance Committee Meeting in Phoenix Arizona from the 29<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> July 2022 In regards to **RES C-19-08 Observers on Longliners**.

Our response is as follows;

### **1. RES C 19-08 Observers on Longliners**

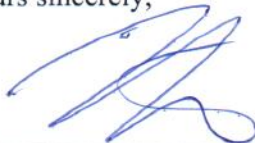
Vanuatu National Observer Program was established in 2008. In 2018 and 2019 that Vanuatu managed through cooperation with vessel operators, to increase its deployment to more flagged longliners and the coverage within the IATTC reached 8% and 11% respectively meeting IATTC.

Unfortunately, after the Covid 19 pandemic breakout began at the end of 2019, we were not able to deploy our observers on our vessels and during that time we were already repatriating our observers back to Vanuatu.

As for 2020 and 2021, we were faced under the difficult situation of deploying Vanuatu observers on board our flagged longliners as COVID-19 was still severe and most of Vanuatu's vessels are based in Kaohsiung, which is still under serious threat of the Omicron pandemic. Therefore, Vanuatu will not be able to submit any data for the years 2019, 2020 or 2021 and therefore we accept the Non-Compliant Status for this resolution for the two years, moreover, as mentioned in the plenary sessions in the Compliance Committee meeting this years that we endeavor to work with our Industry to possibly deploy at least 1 or two observers this year as our boarders as opened as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 and possibly commence some trials on Electronic Monitoring in IATTC.

Your cooperation and continuous assistance is highly acknowledged

Yours sincerely,



**William NAVITI**  
**Director of Fisheries**

