



GOVERNMENT OF KIRIBATI

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

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Our ref: MFMRD

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Professor Glenn Hurry
Executive Director
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Dear Professor Hurry,

I wish to humbly advise that in line with paragraph 37 of CMM 2013-01 relating to the obligations of Cooperating Contracting Members to manage their fishing sets on associated schools such as Fish Aggregating Devices, I hereby submit herewith a FAD Management Plan (FAD Plan) for Kiribati.

Please note that this FAD Plan contains additional requirement specified under Attachment E of the said CMM including but not limited to its objectives, scope, institutional arrangements with respect to FAD management, FAD markings and design, delineated areas to be used to reduce competition for space between and amongst foreign vessels, flagged vessels and domestic vessels as well as demarcation of closed areas for use by domestic and small scale tuna fisheries.

Our internal process has already been initiated to regulate the said FAD Management Plan so that to give more power for its implementation.

Please accept our thanks and appreciation for your time and attention.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Naomi Biribo', is written over a circular stamp.

Dr. Naomi Biribo
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources Development

Enclosure: FAD Management Plan



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES & MARINE
RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES MANAGEMENT PLAN

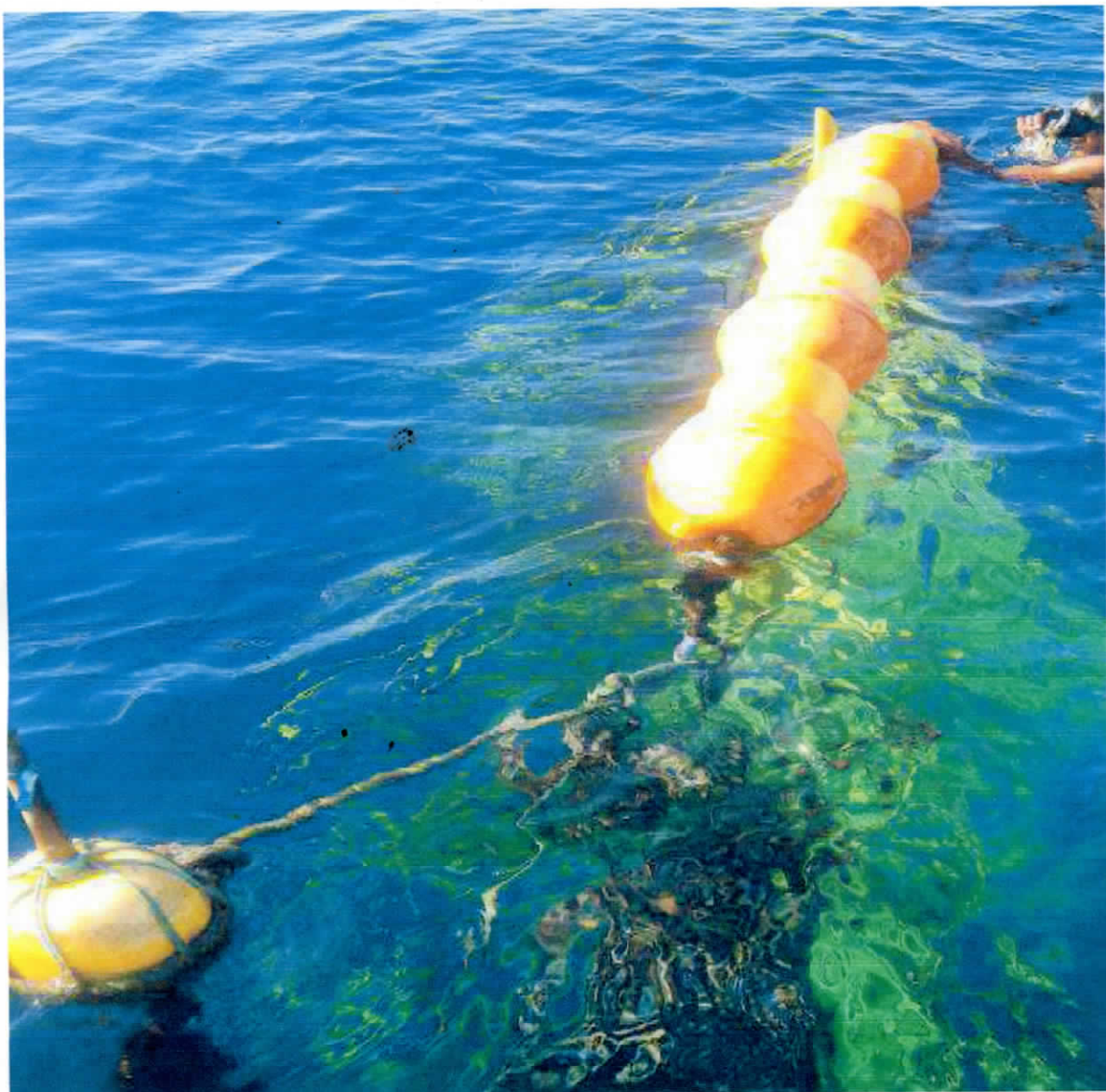


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1. Background and Scope

1. Kiribati ratifies the *Convention for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean* (WCPFC Convention) on 5 September 2000. As a Contracting Party and Member of the WCPF Commission, Kiribati is obligated to implement all conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission.
2. Kiribati is committed, therefore, to implement this Management Plan for the sustainable use of Fish Aggregating Devices (*hereinafter* the FAD Plan) in line with: i) **CMM 2013-01** for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean; ii) **CMM 2009-02** for application of high seas FAD Closures and Catch Retention; and iii) measures agreed by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement through the **Third Implementing Arrangement (3IA)** that are related to Fish Aggregating Devices and Catch Retention.
3. This FAD Plan sets out the procedures and mechanisms to be adhered to by all purse seine vessels, including those flying the Kiribati Flag and foreign flagged vessels having access license to fish within the non-contiguous Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of Kiribati. There are certain elements of this FAD Plan that apply variously to purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag, which are targeting tuna associated schools in the high seas and also to licensed purse seine vessels fishing on such tuna schools within the vicinity of the non-contiguous EEZs of Kiribati.

2. Objectives of the FAD Plan

4. The specific objectives of the FAD Plan are:
 - i) to rationally manage FADs fishing so that to minimise potential conflicts between and amongst resource users;
 - ii) to enhance the use of FADs and associated pelagic resources through collection of catch and effort data for scientific assessment purposes;
 - iii) to better inform the management of FADs fishing through the establishment of a National FAD Inventory Register;
 - iv) to ensure limit on the number of sets by vessels flying the Kiribati Flag fishing on the high seas targeting drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs) is maintained;
 - v) to impose limits on the number of eligible anchored Fish Aggregating Devices (AFADs) that each purse seine vessel flying the Kiribati Flag can fabricate and subsequently deploy;
 - vi) to delineate specific areas assigned for FADs fishing by foreign fleets versus vessels flying the Kiribati Flag; and
 - vii) to ensure vessels flying the Kiribati Flag are not disproportionately burdened.

3. Definitions

5. The following definitions are to be used only in the context of this FAD Plan:

a. **Beacon:** Device whose purpose is locating or monitoring of a FAD.

- o **GPS beacon:** Beacon accompanied by a global positioning system (GPS)
- o **Radio beacon:** Beacon accompanied by a radio system.
- o **Visual beacon:** Beacon without any electronic device and can only identifiable by mere sighting.

b. **Fish Aggregating Device (FAD):** Any man-made or partly man-made, natural or artificial object or group of objects of any size deposited or floated on the surface, that is living or non-living, which various fish species aggregate around, thus making them readily accessible for fishing vessels to locate and make a set on.

- o **Anchored FAD (AFAD):** Artificially, man-made FAD that has a mooring line attached to an anchor embedded on the seabed to prevent it from drifting.
- o **Drifting raft with appendages:** Drifting FAD (DFAD) composed of a panel, which is either continuous or grill-shaped with hanging appendages made out of natural materials.

- Drifting raft without appendages: Drifting FAD (DFAD) composed of a panel, which is either continuous or grill-shaped.
- Natural FAD: Any FAD found at sea, living or non-living such as plant remains, alive or dead animals, man-made waste and other floating debris.
- Fabrication: Operation by which a vessel prepares a FAD on board a vessel.
- Deployment: Operation by which a vessel releases a FAD into the sea.
- Verification: Operation by which a vessel monitors a previously deployed FAD in order to assess the aggregation of fish thereabout.
- Set: Fishing manoeuvre to catch shoals of fish associated with a FAD.
- Retrieval: Operation by which a vessel removes or recovers, and hauls in a FAD from the sea in order to service or perform maintenance related work.

c. Fishing activity: Extracting fishing resources from within the non-contiguous EEZs and the high seas areas using purse seine fishing gear.

d. Main Vessel: Fishing vessel actually involved in making a set and catching fish and to which catches made are assigned.

e. Oceanographic buoy: Buoys used exclusively for oceanographic research purposes.

f. Support vessel: Fishing vessel acting as an auxiliary vessel for main vessels assisting in fishing for instance in deploying, monitoring, servicing, removing, retrieving and hauling in of FADs.

4. FADs Deployment and Retrieval Register

6. All applications for deployment and retrieval of FADs are to be electronically submitted directly to the Director of Fisheries.

4.1 Inventory of FADs

7. The Director of Fisheries shall maintain a Register of FADs Inventory for the purpose of managing the number of deployed FADs and to specifically monitor the location of anchored FADs (AFADs). The details contained in such a FAD Inventory is to be kept confidential and the information therein shall be used only when reviewing applications for deployment of FADs or for research and reporting purposes where commercial confidentiality is not threatened. No information on deployed FADs shall be released unless authority for such to be released has been granted by the Director of Fisheries, in consultation with the Minister, upon receipt of official request for such information.

4.2 Ownership of Deployed FADs

8. This FAD Plan does not in any way create any property right over deployed FADs or fish that may aggregate or be attracted to such devices. Likewise, no exclusivity of access is conferred upon a particular vessel that deploys any FADs in accordance with the specifications and methodology specified in this Plan.

9. Notwithstanding the above paragraph, all FADs found drifting or anchored in the vicinity of the entire non-contiguous EEZs of Kiribati are under the management responsibilities of the Director of Fisheries, in consultation with the Minister.

4.3 Replacing Lost Anchored FADs

10. A vessel master of a purse seine vessel flying the Kiribati Flag shall notify the Director of Fisheries that an anchored Fish Aggregating Device (AFAD) has been permanently lost as soon as possible by providing the following information:

- The date of last sighting of the AFAD;
- The location to the nearest minutes of arc of latitude and longitude in degrees and minutes of last position of sighting;
- The AFAD identification number; and
- The composite AFAD construction material.

11. Upon receipt of the above bulleted information in the previous paragraph, the Director of Fisheries will review and may grant approval, in consultation with the Minister, for deployment of a replacement anchored FAD depending on the circumstances.

5. Relevancy to Vessel Types and Fishery Areas

12. Fishing vessels encompassed under this FAD Plan consist of:

- i) purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag that are authorised to operate in the high seas or licensed to fish within the non-contiguous EEZs of Kiribati, bearing in mind that such vessels must also comply with any FAD Management Plan or FAD Regulations imposed by other coastal States in whose EEZs they are also licensed to operate; and
- ii) foreign flagged purse seine vessels that have valid access license to fish within the non-contiguous EEZs of Kiribati.

5.1 Vessels flying the Kiribati Flag operating on the High Seas

13. This section of the FAD Plan focuses on purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag that are authorised to fish on the high seas. The provisions contained herein will be enacted to form part of the *Fisheries (Fish Aggregating Device Management) Regulation*.

5.1.1 FAD Design

14. All deployed man-made drifting FADs (DFADs) must meet the following minimum criteria:

- The DFAD must have a section that remains floating above the waterline at all times (raft section), which must be painted with reflective paint so as to be clearly visible from a distance of 1-kilometre (1 km);
- A radar reflector must be attached to the raft section at least 2-metres above the waterline to enable its detection from a reasonable distance;
- Appendages, if any, attached to the raft section or to each other in a way that, as far as possible, prevent them from becoming detached from each other; and
- A radio beacon, if used, must be attached to the raft section of the deployed DFAD and secured with a strong natural rope of not more than 10-metres (10 m) long.

5.1.2 FAD Marking

15. Drifting FADs (DFADs) deployed by purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag must be clearly marked with:

- Name of deploying vessel;
- Date of DFAD deployment; and
- FAD Number

16. All of the above markings must be written with a waterproof marker or paint and contained on a detachable plate. In the event that a FAD replacement is approved, the plate can be easily attached to its replacement. Furthermore, the above markings must be in lettering of at least 30 cm high and of a colour that contrasts well with the colour of the plate. The plate must be attached to a point on the DFAD where it is easily discernible from aloft.

17. The Director of Fisheries, after consultation with the Minister, shall assign the FAD Number with the first three letters comprised of the first three letters of the vessel name followed by a two digit number (which shall be sequential accordingly to the number of DFADs deployed in the high seas that the vessel has applied for), followed by the letters 'HS' to signify deployment in the high seas.

18. For instance, if the vessel master applies for a third DFAD to be deployed by its purse seine vessel 'FV TUNGARU' in the high seas, the Director of Fisheries, after consultation with the Minister, shall assign the number "TUN03HS" for that application.

5.1.3 Deployment Requirement for Drifting FADs

19. In consistent with paragraph 14 of CMM 2013-01, all purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag must abstain from any FADs deployment related work during the months of July, August, and September.
20. Deployment of any FAD by vessels flying the Kiribati Flag outside the 3-months (July to September) closure periods requires approval and clearance from the Director of Fisheries, who must consult the Minister on such matters. Once approval for deployment of Drifting FADs has been authorised, the master of a vessel flying the Kiribati Flag must notify the Director of Fisheries via email addressed to: 'fleu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki' of the following: Date of DFAD deployment; DFAD Serial Number; Highseas Authorisation Number; International Radio Call Sign (IRCS); Spatial location of initial deployment in latitudes and longitudes; and a declaration that the DFAD meets the design and marking requirements described in Sections 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 above, as:
DFAD DEPLOY/ ddmmyy/ SRNU/ HANU / IRCS / LAT 1111 / LON 1111 / MDESIGN (Y/N) / MMARKREQ (Y/N).
21. The vessel master must not engage in any DFADs deployment work without prior authorisation from the Director of Fisheries, which will be contingent on:
- o Provision of all the information highlighted in the previous paragraph;
 - o Determination by the Director of Fisheries of a DFAD serial number; and
 - o The number of FADs fishing by the vessel must not exceed the national limit

5.1.4 Retrieval Requirement for Drifting FADs

22. The vessel master must notify the Director of Fisheries via email addressed to: 'fleu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki' of the following: Date of DFAD retrieval; Highseas Authorisation Number; International Radio Call Sign (IRCS); Spatial location of initial deployment in latitudes and longitudes; and Serial Number of retrieved FAD, as:
DFAD RETRIEVE/ddmmyy/ HANU / IRCS / LAT 1111 / LON 1111 / SRNU.

5.1.5 FAD Closure

23. All purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag authorised to fish in the adjacent high seas are mandatory required to observe the 3-months prohibition of setting on FADs during the months of July, August, and September.

5.1.6 Catch Retention

24. In order to encourage the development of suitable technologies and fishing strategies designed to avoid the capture of small tunas and other bycatch species of special interest, all bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin tunas caught by purse seine fishing vessels must be retained on board and then landed or transhipped at any designated ports.
25. If there is insufficient well space to accommodate such small tunas caught in the final set of a trip, such excess fish may be transferred to and retained on board another purse seine vessel flying the Kiribati Flag, or to another purse seine vessel of the same company. Fish must not be discarded from the vessel until after an observer has estimated the species composition of the fish to be discarded.
26. Where the vessel master determines that fish should not be retained on board because they are "unfit for human consumption", the following definitions must be applied:
- a. 'unfit for human consumption' includes but is not limited to fish that:
 - i. is meshed or crushed in the purse seine net; or
 - ii. is damaged due to shark or whale depredation; or

- iii. has died and spoiled in the net where a gear failure has prevented both the normal retrieval of the net and catch and efforts to release the fish alive; and
 - b. 'unfit for human consumption' does not include fish that:
 - i. is considered undesirable in terms of size, marketability, or species composition; or
 - ii. is spoiled or contaminated as the result of an act or omission of the crew of the fishing vessel.
27. The vessel master must submit to the Director of Fisheries, a report that includes the following information within forty-eight (48) hours after any discard has been made:
- a. Name, flag and IRCS of the vessel
 - b. Name and nationality of vessel master
 - c. License Number
 - d. Name and nationality of observer on board
 - e. Date, time and location (latitude/longitude) that discarding occurred
 - f. Type of Associated Set of the shot
 - g. Reason that fish were discarded
 - h. Estimated tonnage and species composition of discarded fish
 - i. Any other information deemed relevant by the vessel master

5.1.7 FAD Measures

28. During the FAD Closure period (July, August, and September) that must be observed by all purse seine fishing vessels, no purse seine vessel flying the Kiribati Flag shall conduct any part of a set within one nautical mile of a FAD or within one nautical mile of a point where a FAD has been retrieved by another vessel.
29. Deployment of anchored FADs (AFADs) in the high seas by vessels flying the Kiribati Flag is prohibited.
30. A FAD and/or associated electronic equipment must not be retrieved by any purse seine vessel flying the Kiribati Flag during the period of a FAD Closure (July, August, and September) unless approval by the Director of Fisheries, in consultation with the Minister, has been granted only in respect of the following circumstances:
- o the FAD and/or associated electronic equipment are retrieved and kept on board the vessel until landed or until the end of the closure; and
 - o the vessel does not conduct any set either for a period of seven (7) days after retrieval or within a fifty (50) nautical miles radius of the point of retrieval of such a FAD.
31. All vessel masters of purse seine fishing vessels flying the Kiribati Flag, while fishing on the high seas, must notify the Director of Fisheries, via email addressed to: 'fleu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki', of their weekly report. The weekly report must be provided by 1200 noon every Wednesday of the week and must include: International Radio Call Sign; Highseas Authorisation Number; date; Number of FAD sets made during that week; Number of Total sets made during that week; Position to one minute of arc; and Estimated Bigeye Catch in metric tonnes caught during that week, as:
BEWEEK /IRCS /HANU / ddmmyy /FADSET /TTLSET /LAT 1111 /LON 1111 / BE xxx
32. The Director of Fisheries must provide on monthly basis information set forth in paragraph 31 above by its fishing vessels to the WCPFC Executive Director.
33. After the number of FAD sets conducted by all purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag reaches 80% of the national set limit, which is equivalent to 351 associated sets, the Director of Fisheries must report the information in paragraph 31 above on a weekly basis to the WCPFC Secretariat.

34. When the number of FAD sets conducted by all purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag reaches 90% of the national set limit, which is equivalent to approximately 395 associated sets, the Director of Fisheries, after consultation with the Minister, must inform all vessel masters of purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag to report the information specified in paragraph 31 on a daily basis instead of on a weekly basis, as:

BEDAILY /IRCS /HANU /ddmmyy /FADSET /TTLSET / LAT 1111 /LON 1111 / BE xxx

35. When the number of FAD sets reaches the national limit of 439 associated sets, the Director of Fisheries, after consultation with the Minister, shall declare fishing on all types of associated sets to all purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag to be immediately closed.

5.2 Purse Seine Vessels operating within the non-contiguous EEZs

36. This section of the FAD Plan focuses on purse seine vessels licensed to fish within any part of the non-contiguous EEZs, including foreign purse seine vessels and also those purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag.

5.2.1 FAD Design

37. The design of FADs earmarked for deployment by licensed purse seine vessels in the non-contiguous EEZs must meet the minimum FAD Design requirements specified in *Section 5.1.1* above. Licensed foreign purse seine vessels are prohibited from deploying anchored FAD (AFAD) and are only allowed to deploy drifting FAD (DFAD) once approval for deployment has been granted by the Director of Fisheries, after consultation with the Minister.

5.2.2 FAD Marking

38. Vessel masters of licensed purse seine vessels must ensure that FADs which approval for their subsequent deployment have been authorised by the Director of Fisheries are to be clearly marked with:

- Name of deploying vessel;
- Date of FAD deployment; and
- FAD Number.

39. All of the above markings must be written with a waterproof marker or paint and contained on a detachable plate. In the event that a FAD replacement is approved, the plate can be easily attached to its replacement. Furthermore, the above markings must be in lettering of at least 30 cm high and of a colour that contrasts well with the colour of the plate. The plate must be attached to a point on the DFAD where it is easily discernible from aloft.

40. For Drifting FADs (DFADs), the Director of Fisheries must assign the DFAD Number with the first three letters comprised of the first three letters of the vessel name followed by a two digit number (which shall be sequential accordingly to the number of DFADs deployed in any of the non-contiguous EEZs that the vessel has applied for), followed by the letters 'DGZ' (for the Gilbert EEZ) or 'DPZ' (for the Phoenix EEZ) or 'DLZ' (for the Line EEZ) to signify its type and of its deployment in that particular EEZ part of the Kiribati EEZs.

41. For instance, if the vessel master applies for a third DFAD to be deployed by its purse seine vessel 'FV TUNGARU' in the Gilbert EEZ part of the Kiribati EEZs, the Director of Fisheries shall assign the number "TUN03DGZ" for that application.

42. For Anchored FADs (AFADs), the Director of Fisheries must assign the AFAD Number with the first three letters comprised of the first three letters of the vessel name followed by a two digit number (which shall be sequential accordingly to the number of AFADs deployed within 24-45 nautical miles of where the breadth of the Gilbert Group EEZ of Kiribati is measured from that the vessel has applied for), followed by the letters 'AGZ' to signify its type and of its deployment in the Gilbert EEZ part of the Kiribati EEZs.

43. For instance, if the vessel master applies for a third anchored FADs (AFADs) to be deployed by its purse seine vessel 'FV TUNGARU' in the Gilbert EEZ and the Line EEZ part of the Kiribati EEZs, the Director of Fisheries shall assign the number "TUN03AGZ" or "TUN03ALZ" for that application.

5.2.3 Deployment Requirement for Drifting FADs

44. Deployment of drifting FADs (DFADs) by licensed purse seine vessels requires approval and clearance from the Director of Fisheries, who must consult the Minister on such matters. Once approval for deployment of DFADs has been authorised, the master of such a licensed purse seine vessel must notify the Director of Fisheries, via email addressed to: 'fleu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki', prior to the actual DFAD deployment of the following; Date of DFAD deployment; DFAD Serial Number; Fishing License Number; International Radio Call Sign; Spatial location of initial deployment in latitudes and longitudes; and a declaration that the DFAD meets the design and marking requirements described in Sections 5.1.1 and 5.1.2 above, as:
DFAD DEPLOY/ ddmmyy/ SRNU/ FLIC/ IRCS/ LAT 1111/ LON 1111/ MDESIGN (Y/N)/
MMARKREQ (Y/N).
45. The vessel master must not engage in any FADs deployment work without prior authorisation from the Director of Fisheries, which will be contingent on:
- Provision of all the information highlighted in the previous paragraph; and
 - Determination by the Director of Fisheries of a FAD serial number.

5.2.5 Retrieval Requirement for Drifting FADs

46. The vessel master must notify the Director of Fisheries, via email addressed to: 'fleu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki', prior to the actual retrieval of any DFAD, the following; Date of DFAD retrieval; Fishing License Number; International Radio Call Sign (IRCS); Spatial location of initial deployment in latitudes and longitudes; and Serial Number of retrieved FAD, as:
DFAD RETRIEVE/ddmmyy/ FLIC / IRCS / LAT 1111 / LON 1111 / SRNU.

5.2.6 Deployment Requirement for Anchored FADs

47. Local fishing purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag are allowed to deploy anchored FADs (AFADs) within 24-45 nm of the baseline where the breadth of the Gilbert Group EEZ and the Line Group EEZ of Kiribati is measured from. This is to ensure that no competition for space and fishing around AFADs that are also deployed for the artisanal and small scale tuna fisheries.
48. Deployment of anchored FADs (AFADs) by licensed domestic purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag requires approval and clearance from the Director of Fisheries, who must consult the Minister on such matters.
49. Once approval for deployment of an Anchored FAD has been authorised, the master of a licensed local fishing purse seine vessel flying the Kiribati Flag must notify the Director of Fisheries, via email addressed to: 'fleu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki', prior to the actual AFAD deployment of the following; Date of AFAD deployment; AFAD Serial Number; Fishing License Number; International Radio Call Sign; Spatial location of initial deployment in latitudes and longitudes; and a declaration that the AFAD meets the design and marking requirements described in Sections 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 above, as:
AFAD DEPLOY/ ddmmyy/ SRNU/ FLIC/ IRCS/ LAT 1111/ LON 1111/ MDESIGN (Y/N)/
MMARKREQ (Y/N).
50. The vessel master must not engage in any FADs deployment work without prior authorisation from the Director of Fisheries, which will be contingent on:
- Provision of all the information highlighted in the previous paragraph; and
 - Determination by the Director of Fisheries of a FAD serial number.

51. Anchored FADs (AFADs) deployed by purse seine vessels flying the Kiribati Flag after approval by the Director of Fisheries must be clearly marked with:
- o Name of deploying vessel;
 - o Date of AFAD deployment; and
 - o FAD Number assigned by the Director of Fisheries.

5.2.5 Retrieval Requirement for Anchored FADs

52. The vessel master must notify the Director of Fisheries, via email addressed to: 'fieu@mfmrd.gov.ki' or 'fishreport@mfmrd.gov.ki', prior to the actual retrieval of any AFAD, the following; Date of AFAD retrieval; Fishing License Number; International Radio Call Sign (IRCS); Spatial location of initial deployment in latitudes and longitudes; and Serial Number of retrieved AFAD, as:

AFAD RETRIEVE/ddmmyy/ FLIC / IRCS / LAT 1111 / LON 1111 / SRNU.

5.2.6 FAD Closure

53. In consistent with paragraph 14 of CMM 2013-01, all foreign purse seine vessels licensed to fish in the non-contiguous EEZs must be abstained from any FADs deployment related work during the months of July, August, and September.
54. Licensed purse seine vessels, including those flying the Kiribati Flag and local fishing vessels, fishing in any parts of the non-contiguous EEZs, must be abstained from any FADs fishing including deployment related work during the months of July, August, and September, unless such vessels suffered a disproportionate burden from the application of the closure as in accordance with Section 2 of the PNA 3IA (as amended, 11th September 2010).

5.2.7 Catch Retention

55. In order to avoid the capture of small tunas and other bycatch species of special interests, vessel masters of purse seine vessels licensed to fish in the non-contiguous EEZs are required to fully comply with the provisions specified in Section 5.1.6 above.

5.2.8 FAD Measures

56. Foreign fishing vessels licensed to fish within any of the non-contiguous EEZs, including vessels flying the Kiribati Flag that are not local fishing vessels are prohibited from deploying and/or setting on any drifting FAD (DFAD) within 45 nautical miles of the baseline where the breadth of the Gilbert Group EEZ and the Line Group EEZ of Kiribati is measured from.
57. Setting by licensed purse seine vessels within 3 nautical miles of a FAD is also prohibited during a three months FAD Closure in July, August, and September.
58. Kiribati reserves the right to implement flexible arrangements for local fishing vessels through amendments to this FAD Plan in accordance with Article I, Clause 2 of the Third Arrangement Implementing the Nauru Agreement.

6. Review of the FAD Management Plan

59. This FAD Management Plan will be reviewed annually in line with measures agreed at the national and regional levels and may be amended at any time if deemed necessary.