



## ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT REPORT (DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT)

**Name of Fishery:**  
**Yellowfin Tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) Single-hook Handline, Philippines**

### 1. Introduction

ARTESMAR® is a fishery engagement and improvement program focusing on artisanal small-scale inland and marine fisheries worldwide. High catch selectivity and low impacts on aquatic habitats are important merits of many small-scale fisheries, and ARTESMAR® aims to recognize these merits on international markets. ARTESMAR® offers a framework for fishery improvement by using market-incentivized processes and socioeconomic benefits as drivers for more sustainable business and fishing practices.

ARTESMAR® applies transparent criteria for the eligibility and the improvement of participating fisheries that are both subject to third-party auditing.

### 2. Objectives

This assessment defines if a fishery is eligible to ARTESMAR which is the first step to achieve the ARTESMAR's fishery improvement program. The auditing consists in a desk-based process, in which expert expectations of publicly available information and information provided by supply chain actors are evaluated against the 'criteria of eligibility'. Once a fishery is approved it becomes an 'ARTESMAR fishery candidate' which will lead to an improvement process with the next evaluation under 'criteria of improvement' in an on-site verification.

### 3. Scope of Assessment

This is a desk-top based assessment. The profile and background data of the fishery was assessed against the Artesmar criteria for eligibility, V Jan 2014.

### 4. Unit of Approval

Species	Common name: Yellowfin Tuna Scientific name: <i>Thunnus albacares</i> Stock: Western central pacific ocean (WCPO)
Gear	Capture Method: Baited single-hook hand-line Fleet: Artisanal outrigger boats, predominantly of 5 – 15 m LOA, crew of 1 - 6 men



Fishing Ground	FAO Area: FAO 71  Country of Origin: Philippines  LMEs: South-China Sea   Sulu-Celebes Sea   Western Central Pacific  Capture Zones: Municipal (15 km from coast) and national waters inside EEZ
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### 5. Results

IMOSwiss AG (IMO) hereby confirms that the above mentioned operation is approved as an eligible 'ARTESMAR fishery candidate' according to the ARTESMAR® Fishery Improvement Program for artisanal small-scale fisheries; and has been determined to move toward an improvement process through the 'ARTESMAR criteria of improvement' assessment.

### 6. Non-conformities and Action Plans

Following is a table detailing all the observations from the audit along with management's action plan to address these issues.

Recommendation	
Criteria No. E5), E6), E10)	Eligible
<b>Action Plan</b>	
In case that affected species are a priori uncertain (i.e. no reliable data on catch composition and used bait available), catch composition and baits are determined through the improved documentation (see I8 & I9) with higher certainty and criterion E5), E6) and E10) is re-evaluated.	
<b>Action Plan Approved by IMO</b>	Approved, knowledge on species will be reviewed annually.