



**COMMISSION  
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**  
Electronic Meeting  
1 - 7 December 2021

**PROVISIONAL OUTCOMES DOCUMENT**

**WCPFC18-2021-Outcomes  
15 December 2021**

**Agenda 1.1 – Agenda**

1. The agenda was adopted (**Attachment D**).

**Agenda 2 – Report of the Executive Director**

2. The Commission adopted the 2021 Annual Report of the Executive Director (**WCPFC18-2021-04**).

**Agenda 3.1 – Status of the Convention**

3. The Commission noted with appreciation the report on the Status of the WCPF Convention (**WCPFC18-2021-05**).

**Agenda 3.2 – Update on Observer Status**

4. The Commission noted the updated list of observers to the Commission (**WCPFC18-2021-06**).

**Agenda 3.3 – Applications for Cooperating Non-Member status**

5. The Commission approved the applications for CNM status for 2022 from Curaçao, Ecuador, El Salvador, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama, Thailand and Vietnam.

**Agenda 3.3.1 – Participatory Rights of CNMs**

6. The Commission agreed that the following limits be applied to the participatory rights of CNMs, per the Convention and CMM 2019-01:
  - i. In accordance with the WCPF Convention and its conservation and management measures and resolutions, the following participatory rights apply to Cooperating Non-Members (CNMs) for fisheries in the high seas within the WCPFC Convention Area.
  - ii. In addition, unless otherwise specified below, CNMs may fish in waters under their national jurisdiction or other CCMs' national jurisdiction, in accordance with appropriate bilateral arrangements.

- iii. CNMs shall ensure vessels flying their flags comply with all provisions of the WCPFC.
- iv. Convention and the WCPFC conservation and management measures. In addition, CNM vessels shall be placed on the WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels (WCPFC RFV).
- v. CCMs shall ensure that CNM fishing activities that are conducted in waters under their national jurisdiction in accordance with bilateral arrangements are consistent with all relevant conservation and management measures and provisions of the WCPFC Convention.
- vi. Renewal of CNM status by the Commission shall take into account compliance with the national laws and regulations of any licensing CCM, and all conservation and management measures and provisions of the WCPFC Convention. CCMs shall identify any violations by vessels flagged to a CNM and report on any investigations of such violations to the Secretariat for attention by TCC.

***Participatory rights of each CNM in 2022***

- 7. **Curaçao:** The participatory rights of Curacao are limited to carrier vessels to engage in transshipment activities in the Convention area.
- 8. **Ecuador:** The participatory rights of Ecuador for fishing in the WCPO are limited to purse seine fishing, with no participatory rights for fishing on the high seas for highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area. Any introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2019-01 and CMM 2020-01 or its replacement measure.
- 9. **El Salvador:** The participatory rights of El Salvador for fishing in the WCPO are limited to purse seine fishing only. The total level of effort by purse seine vessels of El Salvador on the high seas shall not exceed 29 days in the Convention Area. Any introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2019-01 and CMM 2020-01 or its replacement measure.
- 10. **Liberia:** The participatory rights of Liberia are limited to carrier vessels to engage in transshipment activities in the Convention area.
- 11. **Nicaragua:** The participatory rights of Nicaragua are limited to purse seine fishing for one vessel, with no participatory rights for fishing on the high seas for highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area. Any introduction of fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2019-01 and CMM 2020-01 or its replacement measure.
- 12. **Panama:** The participatory rights of Panama in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels. Panama's participatory rights also apply to vessels that supply food, water and spare parts to carrier vessels that engage in transshipment activities, provided that these vessels do not engage in activities supporting fishing vessels, including providing and/or servicing FADs.
- 13. **Thailand:** The participatory rights of Thailand in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels only.
- 14. **Vietnam:** The participatory rights of Vietnam in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels only.

## **WCPFC/IATTC Overlap Area**

15. In accordance with the decision of WCPFC9 regarding the management of the overlap area of 4°S and between 130°W and 150°W, vessels flagged to Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama will be governed by the IATTC when fishing in the overlap area.
16. In accordance with the Data Exchange MOU agreed by both Commissions, fishing vessels flying the flag of a member of either the IATTC or WCPFC shall cooperate with the RFMO to which they are not a member by voluntarily providing operational catch and effort data for its fishing activities for highly migratory species in the overlap area.
17. For the purpose of investigation of possible IUU fishing activities and consistent with international and domestic laws, vessels flying the flag of a CNM that is a Contracting Party to the IATTC will cooperate with those coastal State members of the WCPFC whose EEZs occur in the overlap area by voluntarily providing VMS reports (date, time and position) to those coastal States when operating in the overlap area.

## **Agenda 4 - New Proposals**

*Proposal to amend CMM 2019-08 Charter Notification Scheme (WCPFC18-2021-DP02\_rev1 - Japan)*

18. The Commission adopted CMM 2021-04 Conservation and Management Measure on Charter Notification Scheme (**Attachment E**)

## **Agenda 5 – COVID-19 Decisions**

19. The Commission noted the paper on COVID-19 related Intersessional Decisions prepared by the Secretariat (**WCPFC18-2021-08**).
20. The Commission agreed to continue the suspensions of the three intersessional decisions after 15 December until 15 March 2022.
21. The Commission agreed to review through an expedited inter-sessional decision-making process, the possible phasing in of the removal of the suspensions, which would need to be implemented flexibly and be subject to a periodic review in light of changed circumstances.
22. The Commission encouraged CCMs to provide additional information on their implementation of the Intersessional Decisions taken in response to COVID-19, including of additional MCS measures implemented, through their Annual Report Part 2 reporting or via circular.

## **Agenda 6.1 – Implementation of Article 30 of WCPF Convention and CMM 2013-07 (SIDS Special requirements)**

23. WCPFC18 continued to recognise the importance of assessing the impact of proposals on SIDS in accordance with CMM 2013-06.

## **Agenda 6.2 – Strategic Investment Plan**

24. The Commission noted with appreciation the update provided by the Secretariat on implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan (**WCPFC18-2021-09**).
25. The Commission approved the updated 2021 Strategic Investment Plan (**Attachment F**).

### **Agenda 7.1 – General overview of stock status (bigeye, skipjack, SP albacore, yellowfin, Pacific bluefin, NP albacore and NP swordfish)**

26. The Commission noted the stock status of bigeye, yellowfin, skipjack and South Pacific albacore as presented by the Scientific Services Provider (SPC).

#### **Agenda 7.2.1.1 – Review of target reference point (TRP) for skipjack**

27. The Commission noted the presentation by SPC and advice from SC17 on possible formulations of a TRP for skipjack tuna.
28. The Commission noted the importance of agreeing on TRP for skipjack and agreed to progress this work in 2022.

#### **Agenda 7.2.1.2 – Review target reference point (TRP) for bigeye and yellowfin**

29. The Commission noted the presentation by SPC of the results of analyses it undertook on candidate TRPs for bigeye and yellowfin.
30. The Commission noted the importance of agreeing on TRP for bigeye and yellowfin and agreed to progress this work in 2022.

#### **Agenda 7.2.1.3 – Management Procedures for skipjack**

31. The Commission agreed to defer consideration of management procedures for skipjack until 2022.

### **Agenda 7.2.2 – New CMM for tropical tunas**

32. The Commission adopted CMM 2021-01 on the Conservation and Management Measure for Bigeye, Yellowfin and Skipjack Tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (**Attachment G**).
33. Noting potential issues with data availability, the Commission agreed that, at its regular session in 2022, it would agree a baseline period or limit for the Indonesia Large Fish Handline Fishery, based on the Indonesia proposal and advice from SC18 and TCC18.

#### **Agenda 7.2.2.1 –SSP Analysis of Requests by TTMW2**

34. The Commission noted the analyses undertaken by the Scientific Services Provider (SPC) as requested by the Tropical Tuna Measure Workshops.

### **Agenda 7.2.2.2 – Report of the FAD Management Options IWG**

35. The Commission noted the report and recommendations of the FAD Management Options IWG (**WCPFC18-2021-FADMgmtOptions**).

*The recommendations of the IWG were considered in the context of the Tropical Tuna Measure (see Agenda 7.2.2 above).*

### **Agenda 7.2.3 – Other commercial fisheries for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin**

36. The Commission noted the presentation by Indonesia of advice of SC17 and TCC17 on the implementation of paragraphs 50 and 51 of CMM 2020-01 with respect to the Indonesian “large-fish” handline fishery for vessels >30gt in the Indonesia’s EEZ (**WCPFC18-2021-24**).

*The recommendations were considered in the context of the Tropical Tuna Measure (see Agenda 7.2.2 above).*

### **Agenda 7.3.1 – Review of interim TRP for South Pacific albacore**

37. The Commission noted the advice of the SC17 related to a recalibration of the interim TRP for the SP albacore.

### **Agenda 7.3.2 – Roadmap for effective conservation and management of South Pacific albacore**

38. The Commission noted the report of progress from the SP Albacore Roadmap Working Group (**WCPFC18-2021-SPALB-RM-IWG**).

39. The Commission noted the priorities for the SP albacore Roadmap WG for 2022, in particular the development of harvest strategies for SPA, the setting of a TAC and allocation, and encouraged CCMs to continue to work cooperatively in the IWG.

### **Agenda 7.3.3 – Review of CMM 2015-02 (South Pacific albacore)**

40. The Commission noted that the review of CMM 2015-02 *Conservation and Management Measure for South Pacific Albacore* is ongoing as part of the work of the SP Albacore Roadmap Working Group. The Commission encouraged the SPA Roadmap IWG to speed up its process and progress its recommendations.

41. The Commission noted concerns regarding the delayed process to implement an interim TRP adopted in 2018, and the need to take action to rebuild the stock to support the economic viability of fleets, and achieve a long-term TRP.

42. Given the urgency of these concerns, the Commission agreed that until a new CMM for South Pacific Albacore is adopted, each CCM is encouraged to take steps to implement interim controls on South Pacific albacore catch or effort across the convention area south of the equator.

- i. CCMs are encouraged to limit commercial fishing of South Pacific albacore within EEZs to domestically applied catch or effort limits in recent years.

- ii. Each CCM is encouraged to ensure that its flagged vessels fishing for this species shall not exceed the high seas catch or effort (such as number of vessels) of South Pacific albacore by its flagged vessels in recent years.

43. These interim arrangements do not confer the allocation of rights to any CCM and are without prejudice to any future decisions of the Commission.

44. These interim arrangements shall not prejudice the legitimate rights and obligations under international law for small island developing State and Participating Territory CCMs in the Convention Area for whom South Pacific albacore is an important component of the domestic tuna fishery in waters under their national jurisdiction, and who may wish to pursue a responsible level of development of their fisheries for South Pacific albacore in their EEZ or adjacent high seas.

#### **Agenda 7.4.1 – Review of CMM 2020-02 (Pacific bluefin tuna)**

45. The Commission noted the presentation by the NC Chair on the stock status of the Pacific bluefin tuna.

46. The Commission adopted CMM 2021-02 *Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (Attachment H)*.

#### **Agenda 7.5.1 – Future projections as requested by WCPFC16 (Southwest Pacific swordfish)**

47. The Commission noted the presentation by SPC of the results of future projections for Southwest Pacific swordfish.

#### **Agenda 7.5.2 – Review of CMM 2009-03 (Southwest Pacific swordfish)**

48. The Commission noted the work led by Australia to strengthen CMM 2009-03 on Southwest Pacific swordfish, and looked forward to consideration of a revised CMM for the stock in 2022.

#### **Agenda 7.6.1 – Advice from ISC (North Pacific Striped Marlin)**

49. The Commission noted the presentation by ISC which responded to the request made by the Commission at WCPFC17.

50. The Commission noted that the ISC would undertake a stock assessment of North Pacific striped marlin in 2022 and that the proposed revised workplan would permit updating of the rebuilding plan using the latest data from the stock assessment.

#### **Agenda 7.6.2 – Review of CMM 2010-01 and an Interim Rebuilding Plan (North Pacific striped marlin)**

51. The Commission noted the concerning stock status of North Pacific striped marlin.

52. The Commission noted that the US intended to present a proposed revised CMM 2010-01 in 2022.

53. The Commission agreed that the rebuilding target for North Pacific striped marlin shall be based on the dynamic  $SSB_0$  and requests the ISC to derive the appropriate time frame for calculating the dynamic  $SSB_0$  by conducting a change point analysis on the recruitment time series to identify the appropriate time window, scaling the time frame based on the relative difference in mean generation times between tunas and striped marlin, or another appropriate methodology.

### **Agenda 8.1 – Review of Harvest Strategy Indicative Work Plan**

54. The Commission noted the presentation by Australia on Updates to the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan (**WCPFC18-2021-DP05**).

55. The Commission adopted the updated Indicative Workplan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06 (**Attachment I**).

56. The Commission noted that a re-evaluation and further discussion of the Indicative Workplan would take place during the Science-Management Dialogue scheduled for 2022.

### **Agenda 8.2 –Science-Management Dialogue**

57. The Commission noted the importance and need for a Science-Management Dialogue to expedite the progress of implementation on the Indicative Workplan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies.

58. The Commission agreed to have the first Science-Management Dialogue, on a trial basis, back-to-back with SC18 in 2022.

59. The Commission supported the following proposed areas of focus for the first Science-Management Dialogue, while noting that the agenda would also take into account views of CCMs:

- i. General capacity building to support confident and full participation of all CCMs in decision making on harvest strategies.
- ii. The current state of skipjack and South Pacific albacore management strategy evaluation frameworks and candidate management procedures.
- iii. Update and capacity building on the mixed fishery (multispecies) approach.
- iv. Two items from SC17 MI-WP-03 which are:
  - the definition of fisheries and fishery controls within the harvest strategy;
  - procedures for identifying, selecting and implementing the 'best performing' management procedure.
- v. Determining how Commission decision-making can best be supported by the SC and the Scientific Services Provider. Developing a 'pathway' for supporting decision making on management procedures that fulfils the information and training needs for making informed decisions that balance different management objectives.
- vi. Planning issues, including: Schedule and focus for future dialogue meetings; updates to the Harvest Strategy Workplan; and alignment of parallel processes (e.g. allocation) required to support implementation of harvest strategies.

## Agenda 9 – Adoption of Reports from Subsidiary Bodies

### 9.1 Seventeenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC17)

60. The Commission adopted the SC17 Summary Report (WCPFC18-2021-SC17).

### 9.2 Seventeenth Regular Session of the of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC17)

#### *Commission VMS*

#### **Issue 1** Disparity between CCM-held and Secretariat-held VMS data

61. The Commission noted that there continues to be a disparity between CCM-held and Secretariat-held VMS data, and tasked TCC18 to further consider future work to enable direct/simultaneous VMS reporting by vessels/ALCs reporting to the WCPFC VMS.
62. The Commission supported TCC17s' recommendation and encouraged any CCMs capable of utilising a direct/simultaneous reporting framework to consider doing so on a voluntary basis. Any such CCMs are requested to report their experiences to TCC in the future, particularly any information regarding changes in the number of discrepancies between CCM-held and Secretariat-held VMS data.

#### **Issue 2** Data gaps from VMS failure

63. The Commission supported the Secretariat's continued work within their existing budget to address data gaps from VMS failure, including with interested CCMs on a trial basis\*\*, to facilitate automatic integration of VMS manual reports into the Commission VMS. The Commission tasked the Secretariat to report on their further progress to TCC18.

\*\* Footnote: Ensuring that any VMS manual reports automatically integrated into the Commission VMS are clearly identifiable as manually generated reports, and can be distinguished from non-manually generated VMS positions.

64. The Commission tasked TCC18 to consider potential incentives for non-binding measures, including 'VMS best practices' that CCMs may adopt to minimise data gaps from VMS failures.
65. The Commission approved the extension of the WCPFC9 adopted amendments to the VMS Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSPs) that were previously extended (via attachment 1 of the SSPs) at WCPFC11, WCPFC13 & WCPFC15, through 1 March 2024, and that this remains in force thereafter unless the Commission directs otherwise (**Attachment J**).

#### **Issue 3** CCM's use of the VMS Reporting Status Tool (VRST)

66. The Commission adopted the updated VMS Standard Operating Procedures which incorporate recent changes in technology and technical processes and that are expected to benefit (and reflect) other VMS technical work undertaken by the Secretariat and VMS SWG to address VMS data gaps (**Attachment L**).

#### **Issue 4** ALC/MTU approval

67. The Commission noted TCC17s' advice that the updated VMS Standard Operating Procedures (**Attachment L**) include details on



- i. the standard processes used to assess the ability of an MTU/ALC and its communication / satellite service provider / gateway to successfully report to the Commission VMS.
- ii. how the VMS Manager will work with relevant vendors and CCMs to assess proposals for inclusion of additional MTU/ALC units and their communication / satellite service provider / gateway, against the new MTU/ALC type approval checklist; and
- iii. how the Secretariat shall provide this information to CCMs, along with any other documentation provided by the flag CCM or vendor, to better inform their consideration of any units proposed for listing or delisting.

**Issue 5** Assessing compliance with CMM 2014-02 para 9(a) VMS SSP 2.8

68. The Commission noted the issue of assessing compliance with CMM 2014-02 para 9(a) VMS SSPs 2.8 and tasked the Secretariat to provide a report to TCC18 with suggested options and, if practical, an estimated timeline and costs to facilitate electronic (online) submission and processing of new and updated VTAFs. Any process shall track progress transparently with the relevant flag CCM that provides the VTAF.
69. The Commission also supported TCC17s' recommendation and approved, for inclusion as Annex 2 of CMM 2014-02, a streamlined VMS reporting template for use in CCM's Annual Part 2 Report submissions. The Commission agreed that the template will be used in 2022, until such time as the Commission's work developing Audit Points (including for VMS) may be completed. (**Attachment K**)

**Issue 6** Review of Commission VMS

70. On the issue of the review of the Commission VMS, the Commission tasked the Secretariat to provide further information in the VMS Annual Report to TCC18 on the status of implementing VMS SWG recommendations.

*Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse Seine processor data by CCMs to the Commission*

71. WCPFC18 endorsed the draft guidelines for voluntary submissions of processor (cannery) data to the Commission (**Attachment M**).
72. The Commission tasked the Secretariat to update Table 1 of the 2007 Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission to add "Processor data" as non-public domain (HIGH risk classification) data.

*Draft best practice Guidelines for Handling of Cetaceans*

73. The Commission adopted the best practice guidelines for handling and release of cetaceans (**Attachment N**)

*TCC workplan*

74. The Commission approved the updated TCC workplan 2022 – 2024 (**Attachment O**).

*Annual Report Part 2 deadline*

75. The Commission noted the workload forecasted for the Secretariat to undertake in 2022 in support of the TCC workplan (**WCPFC18-2021-IP12**) and agreed to require CCMs in 2022 to

submit their Annual Report Part 2 at least 100 days prior to TCC18 (which is a date in mid-June instead of 1 July).

76. The Commission adopted the TCC17 report (**WCPFC18-2021-TCC17**).

### **9.3 Seventeenth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC17)**

77. The Commission adopted the report of NC17 (**WCPFC18-2021-NC17**).

*NC17 Proposed revised HS on Pacific Bluefin Tuna*

78. The Commission adopted the revision to the harvest strategy for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (**Attachment P**).

#### **9.4.1 E-reporting and E-monitoring working group (ERandEMWG)**

79. The Commission expressed appreciation to the previous Chair (Kerry Smith) for her enormous contribution leading the work of the ERandEMWG for the last several years.

80. The Commission noted the importance of progressing ERandEM WG work in 2022.

#### **9.4.2 Review of the Transshipment Measure (CMM 2009-06) IWG (TS-IWG)**

81. The Commission noted the intersessional progress report by the Review of the Transshipment CMM IWG (**WCPFC18-2021-TS\_IWG**).

82. The Commission supported the TS-IWG continuing its review of CMM 2009-06 in 2022.

83. The Commission reminds members that ROP transshipment data should be submitted to the Secretariat where possible within 120 days of the observer disembarking the receiving vessel.

#### **9.4.3 Crew Labour Standards**

84. The Commission noted the report of the crew labour standards intersessional work as presented in joint Delegation Paper (**WCPFC18-2021-DP07**) by Indonesia and New Zealand.

85. The Commission supported the continuation of the crew labour standards intersessional work led by Indonesia and New Zealand in 2022.

### **Agenda 10.1 – Consideration and adoption of the Final Compliance Monitoring Report**

86. The Commission noted that there were ongoing difficulties related to interpretation of the term “actively fishing for” (and similar terms such as “directed at” and “targeting”) in CMM 2015-02 which continue to present challenges and makes it difficult for TCC to complete the assessments of some obligations during the CMR. The Commission also noted that the disparities in available operational-level data for determined baseline periods raised difficulties in undertaking

compliance assessments as this results in some limits being based on analysis of operational-level data and other limits being based on self-reporting.

87. The Commission noted the issued raised during discussions of CMM 2015-02 and emphasized the importance of ensuring that CMMs are clear in their application, and are able to be monitored and enforced. WCPFC18 requested the South Pacific Albacore Roadmap WG take note of this in consideration of its future work.

88. The Commission adopted the Final Compliance Monitoring Report (**Attachment Q**).

### **Agenda 10.2 – Work to progress the CMS future work included in Section IX of CMM 2019-06 Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS-IWG)**

89. The Commission noted the presentation by the TCC Vice-Chair on the work to progress CMS future work and the draft work plan for the CMS-IWG (**WCPFC18-2021-28**).

90. The Commission noted the intersessional progress report on the work to develop a Risk-Based Assessment Framework (RBAF) to assist CCMs to prioritise obligations for inclusion in the annual CMS, based on the risk of non-compliance of achieving CMM objectives (**WCPFC18-2021-CMS-RBAF**).

91. The Commission noted that the CMS-IWG workplan will be modified intersessionally to take into account the approach to the Commission’s Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2022 and 2023.

### **Agenda 10.3 – Expiry of CMM 2019-06**

92. The Commission agreed that the Commission’s Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMM 2019-06) would continue in force for two years (**CMM 2021-03, Attachment R**), with the following amendments:

- i. The Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR) assessment review process (provisional CMR and final CMR process), including the review of the aggregate tables, shall be deferred in 2022 so that the Technical and Compliance Committee can dedicate appropriate time to the completion of CMS Future Work components (Section IX);
- ii. TCC18 shall focus on completing the development of audit points, a risk-based assessment framework and the development of guidelines for observer participation in the CMS and provide recommendations to WCPFC19 to support WCPFC19’s adoption of these work areas. TCC18 shall also continue to consider:
  - a. the process for reviewing the aggregated information referred to in paragraph 26(ii);
  - b. the other components of the CMS Future Work;
  - c. further improvements to the compliance case file system; and
  - d. appropriate compliance assessment decision making processes.
- iii. WCPFC19 shall adopt audit points and a risk-based assessment framework for use in the 2023 CMR review;

- iv. Notwithstanding subparagraph i) in 2022 and 2023, CCMs shall submit Annual Reports Part 1 and 2, Scientific data to be submitted to the Commission and Fished and Did not Fish report (CMM 2018-06 09); and
- v. In 2023, TCC19 shall consider a CMR that assesses CCMs' compliance over the previous two-year reporting period (RY2021 and RY2022) using the agreed audit point and risk-based assessment framework adopted by WCPFC19.

#### **Agenda 10.4 – List of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2022**

93. The Commission agreed to the List of Obligations to guide the preparation by the Secretariat of the draft CMR in 2022, covering 2021 activities (**Attachment S**).

#### **Agenda 11 – Adoption of the 2022 IUU Vessel List**

94. The Commission agreed to maintain the three vessels currently on the WCPFC IUU Vessel List and adopted the 2021 WCPFC IUU Vessel List (**Attachment T**).

#### **Agenda 12 – Report of FAC15**

95. The Commission endorsed the FAC15 recommendation in paragraph 9 of the FAC15 Summary Report, and accepted the audited financial statements for 2020 (**WCPFC18-2021-FAC15-05**).
96. The Commission noted the deferment of further discussion on Professional Staff Salary to FAC16, when an updated tri-annual salary market review will be available, and encouraged the informal small working group led by Cook Islands to continue its deliberations intersessionally with a view towards helping to inform an appropriate consensus outcome on this issue at FAC16.
97. The Commission adopted the report of the Fifteenth Session of the FAC (**WCPFC18-2021-FAC15**), noting the proposed 2022 budget of \$ **8,309,136** and indicative budgets for 2023 and 2024 of \$ **8,505,480** and \$ **8,374,893** respectively (**Attachment U**).
98. The Commission further considered the budget recommended by the FAC. After further deliberation, the Commission decided to fund the six intersessional working groups that will be held virtually in the amount of \$68,000 and the Science Manager Dialogue that will be held for two days after SC in the amount of \$94,500. With these changes, the Commission adopted a budget of \$8,471,636 for 2022.
99. The final adopted 2021 budget and Annexes are provided in (**Attachment V**).

#### **Agenda 13.1 – Election of officers**

100. The Commission made a number of appointments to Commission positions commencing after the end of WCPFC18 (8 December 2021):
- i. Dr Tuikolongahau Halafihi, CEO of the Ministry of Fisheries of the Kingdom of Tonga was appointed SC Chair; and

- ii. Mr Michael Brakke (United States) was reappointed, and David Power (Australia) was appointed to serve as FAC Co-Chairs.
101. In support of 2022 Intersessional activities, to be progressed electronically, the Commission confirmed the following:
- i. Mr. Tom Graham (United States) would continue to lead the TCC Observer-related WG;
  - ii. Ms Neomai Ravitu (Fiji) would continue to lead the South Pacific Albacore Roadmap IWG;
  - iii. Australia would continue to lead the ERandEMWG, name to be advised;
  - iv. Dr. Alex Kahl (United States) Mr. Felix Toa Ngwango (Vanuatu) would continue to co-chair the Transshipment Review IWG;
  - v. Mr. Terry Boone (United States) and Mr. Viv Fernandes (Australia) would continue to lead the VMS Data Gaps Review SWG (VMS SWG)
  - vi. Mr Jamel James would continue to lead the FAD Management Options IWG;
  - vii. Ms Putuh Suadela (Indonesia) and Ms Sarah McAvinchey (New Zealand) would co-lead the intersessional work on improving labour standards for crews on fishing boats; and
  - viii. The TCC Vice-Chair, Ms Emily Crigler (United States), would continue to Chair the CMS IWG to progress work intersessionally the future work to enhance the CMS. Ms Heather Ward (New Zealand) would continue to lead the risk-based assessment framework task and Ms Rhea Moss-Christian (RMI) would continue to lead the development of audit points in support of the CMS IWG Chair.
102. The Chair noted that the positions of Vice-Chair for the SC, ROP-IWG Chair and CDS-IWG Chair remain vacant and that nominations for these positions would be invited intersessionally in 2022.

### Agenda 13.2 – Future meetings

103. The Commission acknowledged that with the COVID-19 pandemic likely to continue into 2022 it was difficult to predict the feasibility of convening physical meetings next year.
104. In the event that physical meetings for 2022 are feasible the Commission agreed on the following meeting venues and dates:
- i. **SC18** would be held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from Wednesday 10 to Thursday 18 August 2022;
  - ii. The **First Science-Management Dialogue** would be held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from Friday 19 and Monday 22 August 2022;
  - iii. **NC18** would be held in Japan (venue and date to be advised);
  - iv. **TCC18** would be held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from Wednesday 21 to Tuesday 27 September 2022;

- v. **WCPFC19 would be held in Vietnam** in December 2022, with dates to be confirmed by Vietnam in consultation with Secretariat.

105. In the event that physical meetings for 2022 are not feasible, the expedited decision-making procedure used in 2020 will also be used to facilitate each decision by the Commission to convene virtual meetings in 2021.

### **Agenda 13.3 – Timeline for recruitment of new Executive Director**

106. The Commission agreed to the timeline for the recruitment of a new Executive Director for WCPFC set out in **WCPFC18-2021-31 (Attachment W)**.

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**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS FOR WCPFC18 DRAFT SUMMARY REPORT**  
(note order and numbering of attachments may change)

<b>Attachment A</b>	WCPFC18 List of Participants
<b>Attachment B</b>	Opening statement by WCPFC Executive Director
<b>Attachment C</b>	Opening Statement by WCPFC Chair
<b>Attachment D</b>	WCPFC18 Agenda – as adopted ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-01_rev1</b> )
<b>Attachment E</b>	<b>CMM 2021-04</b> <i>Conservation and Management Measure for Charter Notification Scheme</i> ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-DP02_rev1</b> with amendment on screen)
<b>Attachment F</b>	Updated Strategic Investment Plan ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-09, Attachment 1</b> )
<b>Attachment G</b>	<b>CMM 2021-01</b> <i>Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean</i>
<b>Attachment H</b>	<b>CMM 2021-02</b> <i>Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Bluefin Tuna</i> ( <b>NC17 Summary Report, Attachment D</b> )
<b>Attachment I</b>	Updated Indicative Workplan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06 ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-DP05_rev1</b> )
<b>Attachment J</b>	SSPs for the Commission VMS
<b>Attachment K</b>	Annual Report Part 2 VMS-related template recommended to WCPFC18 as a new annex to CMM 2014-02 ( <b>TCC17 Summary Report Attachment E</b> )
<b>Attachment L</b>	WCPFC Standard Operating Procedures for the Commission VMS ( <b>TCC17 Summary Report Attachment D</b> )
<b>Attachment M</b>	Guidelines for Voluntary submission of purse seine processor data by cCMs to the Commission ( <b>TCC17 Summary Report, Attachment G</b> )
<b>Attachment N</b>	Best practice guidelines for handling and release of cetaceans ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-26, Attachment 1</b> )
<b>Attachment O</b>	TCC workplan 2022 - 2024 ( <b>TCC17 Summary Report Attachment F</b> )
<b>Attachment P</b>	HS 2021-01 Harvest Strategy for Pacific Bluefin Tuna Fisheries ( <b>NC17 Summary Report, Attachment E</b> )
<b>Attachment Q</b>	Final Compliance Monitoring Report covering 2020 activities ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-finalCMR</b> )
<b>Attachment R</b>	<b>CMM 2021-03</b> <i>Conservation and Management Measure on the Compliance Monitoring Scheme</i>
<b>Attachment S</b>	Agreed List of Obligations to guide the preparation by the Secretariat of the draft CMR in 2022, covering 2021 activities
<b>Attachment T</b>	WCPFC IUU Vessel List for 2022 ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-30, Annex 1</b> )
<b>Attachment U</b>	Summary Report of 15 <sup>th</sup> Regular Session of Finance and Administration Committee ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-FAC15</b> )
<b>Attachment V</b>	Final adopted 2022 budget and annexes
<b>Attachment W</b>	Agreed timeline for recruitment of new Executive Director ( <b>WCPFC18-2021-31</b> )
<b>Attachment X</b>	List of Abbreviations