



## **WCPFC9**

### **Ninth Regular Session**

2 December - 6 December 2012

Manila, Philippines

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## **COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

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**WCPFC9- 2012-23**

**12 November 2012**

### **Introduction**

1. Article 22 of the Convention requires the Commission to collaborate with other Intergovernmental organizations which may contribute to the attainment of the objective of the Convention. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) are identified as some of the organizations that the Commission may enter into agreements for collaboration, cooperation, consultation and avoiding duplication.
2. In 2012 the ED visited the following; IATTC, attended FAO Committee on Fisheries in Rome, EU workshop on the Future of RFMOs, the General Santos Tuna Conference in the Philippines, the Forum Leaders meeting in the Cook Islands, the FFA in Honiara, the SPC in New Caledonia and Korea.
3. During 2012, the Secretariat worked with the GEF, FAO and the other RFMOs to develop a GEF program for Areas beyond National Jurisdiction. This program proposal has now been finalised and the Commission will need to decide on participation at WCPFC9.

### **Key issues with other organisations**

4. There are two items to be discussed and decided at WCPFC9.
  - a. The development of a joint management agreement for the overlap area between WCPFC and IATTC
  - b. Whether to continue the CCAMLR Arrangement which has now expired

An update will also be provided to WCPFC9 on progress under the MoC for training cross endorsed IATTC and WCPFC observers.

### **Joint Management Agreement for the IATTC and WCPFC Overlap Area**

5. The WCPFC8 considered a paper prepared by the Executive Directors of IATTC and WCPFC on options for managing the overlap area. WCPFC8 agreed that the issue of the overlap area needed to be resolved as a matter of priority and asked the Chairs and Executive Director of the two RFMOs to progress this issue and report back to CCMs. The paper has now been considered by IATTC who have suggested a preferred approach for option 4 migrating over time to a modified version of Option 5. This will be discussed by members at WCPFC9.

### **The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)**

6. WCPFC5 adopted an Arrangement with CCAMLR. The Arrangement was signed by the Chair of CCAMLR on 12th January 2009. This MoU has now expired and the Commission needs to decide if it should continue.

### **Cross endorsement of observers**

7. The cross endorsement of observers to operate in the IATTC and WCPFC Convention Areas was approved by both organisations and a MoC has been signed by the Director of IATTC and the Chair of WCPFC in 2011.

8. The regional observer coordinators have develop a cross training programme that collects data satisfactory to both Commissions and the first course was conducted for 12 observers in Kiribati in 2012.

### **Status of Relations with other Organisations**

11. A summary of the status of relations with other organizations has been presented at each meeting of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies to date. The reports have included an overview of relations between WCPFC and the following organisations:

- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC);
- Commission for the Conservation for Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT);
- International Scientific Committee for Tunas and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC);
- Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC);
- Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA);
- UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO);
- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
- Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);

- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP);
- Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT);
- Agreement for the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP); and
- North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC).

12. On the direction of the Commission, agreements on cooperation, coordination and consultation have been formalized with SPC, FFA, CCSBT, CCAMLR, IATTC, IOTC, ISC, SPREP, ACAP, and NPAFC. The Agreements with each of these organizations can be found on <http://wcpfc.int/relations-with-other-organisations>.

### **Other Existing arrangements**

#### *The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)*

13. A MoU between WCPFC and CCSBT, was signed following the endorsement of the Second Regular Session of the Commission, 12-16 December 2005 at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

#### *International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC)*

14. A MOU was adopted in December 2005. On the basis of recommendations from the *Independent Review of Interim Arrangements for Science Structure and Function* adopted at the Fifth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee, 6-10 December 2008, the Secretariat prepared a draft revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ISC. The revised draft, however, was not accepted by the Northern Committee and not agreed at WCPFC8.

#### *The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)*

15. As directed by the Fourth Regular Session of the Commission a MoU between the two secretariats was finalized.

16. There is also a service level agreement (SLA) between the FFA and the Commission for VMS services consistent with paragraph 5 of Article 15 of the Convention. The outcome of the VMS Small working group may influence the final direction the Commission takes with the SLA.

#### *The Agreement for the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP)*

17. The Fourth Regular Session of the Commission adopted a MoU with ACAP.

#### *The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)*

18. The Fourth Regular Session of the Commission adopted a MoU with SPREP.

*The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)*

19. The Fourth Regular Session of the Commission adopted a MoU with IOTC.

*North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC)*

20. WCPFC5 recommended that efforts commence to establish a formal relationship with the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC). A draft MoU was developed by the two Secretariats, approved by WCPFC 6 at Papeete, French Polynesia in December 2009, and was signed in December 2010.

*General*

21. All of these memoranda of understanding or arrangements, with the exception being the SLA, are posted on the WCPFC website so that they will no longer need to be reproduced for each session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The status of these arrangements is as follows:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>MOU Expiry</b>	<b>Doc Signed</b>	<b>Doc Issued</b>	<b>Notice of Termination</b>
<b>CCAMLR</b>	9-Jan-12	9-Jan-12		
<b>CCSBT</b>		nil	27-Aug-09	12 months
<b>IATTC</b>			27-Aug-09	6 months
<b>IOTC</b>			27-Aug-09	6 months
<b>SPC</b>			11-Dec-09	90 days or 31 Dec
<b>FFA</b>			29-Aug-09	12 months
<b>ISC</b>			31-Jul-11	30 days; review every 3 years
<b>SPREP</b>			27-Aug-09	6 months
<b>ACAP</b>			27-Aug-09	6 months
<b>NPAFC</b>		5-Nov-10		6 months

**Other potential arrangements**

*The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)*

22. The Fourth Regular Session of the Commission decided that there is no urgency to develop a MoU with FAO.

*The International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)*

23. Regular dialogue is maintained with the ICCAT directly and through the tuna-RFMO network. There are no developments to report in respect of formalizing an arrangement for consultation, cooperation and collaboration with ICCAT.

*Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs)*

24. The Secretariat is actively engaged in an initiative of the Secretariat's of the regional fisheries management organizations with a principle interest in tuna to promote collaboration, information exchange and consultation ([www.tuna-org.org](http://www.tuna-org.org)). The Secretariat is participating in the regular posting of the Consolidated List of Authorized Fishing Vessels (CLAV) of all registered fishing vessels in the tRFMOs. This is being coordinated by IOTC and the results can be found at [www.tuna-org.org](http://www.tuna-org.org).

*The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)*

25. PICES is an intergovernmental scientific organization that was established in 1992 to promote and coordinate marine research in the northern North Pacific and adjacent seas. Its present members are Canada, Japan, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. PICES continues to invite WCPFC to participate in its annual meetings.

**Decision:**

**The WCPFC9 needs to decide if it wishes to continue the MOU with CCAMLR.**