



FIFTH REGULAR SESSION

Busan, Republic of Korea

8-12 December 2008

ALLOCATION

WCPFC5-2008/20
8th November 2008

Prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Second Regular Session of the Commission, at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 12-16 December 2005 requested the Executive Director to produce a discussion paper on allocation issues within the WCPFC for circulation to Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) in advance of the Third Regular Session of the Commission.
2. The Third Regular Session of the Commission, at Apia, Samoa, 11-15 December 2006 (WCPFC3) considered the discussion paper that was prepared in response to this request (WCPFC3-2006/15). On the basis of this discussion the Commission:
 - a. agreed that written comments by CCMs on the allocation report should be provided to the Executive Director by 31 August 2007 for collation and presentation to WCPFC4;
 - b. noted the possibility of an allocation workshop to be held in New Zealand in 2008; and
 - c. agreed on the need to prioritize the issues before the Commission, including the allocation issue, to assist with strategic planning.
3. In addition, WCPFC3 noted a draft a proposed programme of work/conservation and management measures and strategies that was developed by the Chairman (WCPFC3 Summary Report, Attachment R). Although the Commission did not have an opportunity to discuss the proposed programme of work in detail the Chairman did suggest in his draft that the issue of allocation be addressed over a 3-year time frame commencing in 2007.
4. Comments subsequently received from two CCMs were provided to WCPFC4 at its December 2007 session at Guam, USA (WCPFC4-2008/14). At WCPFC4:
 - New Zealand advised that a 2008 workshop on allocation may be premature;
 - that the matter may be advanced over the coming 12 months; and
 - it was agreed that, although not a priority matter, allocation would be retained on the agenda for QWCPFC5 in 2008.

Recommendation

5. In line with the suggestion to WCPFC4, WCPFC5 invited to discuss options for further consideration of the issue of allocation including the possibility of a supporting programme of work and strategic relationships to other priorities of the Commission.