



**COMMISSION
SCIENCE-MANAGEMENT DIALOGUE**

Electronic Meeting
10:00am-14:00pm, 19 and 22 August 2022, Pohnpei time

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

WCPFC-SMD01-2022/02 (Rev.01)

AGENDA ITEM 1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

- 1.1 Welcome address**
- 1.2 Meeting arrangements**
- 1.3 Adoption of agenda**

AGENDA ITEM 2 OBJECTIVES OF SMD01

2.1 Adoption of Objectives of SMD01

In accordance with the updated WCPFC harvest strategy work plan, WCPFC19 is scheduled to adopt management procedures (MPs) for WCPO skipjack and South Pacific albacore. The Science Management Dialogue (SMD) process will assist the Commission in that regard.

This first SMD will focus on identifying a single preferred MP (or a sub-set of MPs) for consideration and potential adoption by WCPFC19. Where necessary, the SMD01 will identify further work required to support decisions on adoption of MPs for WCPO skipjack and South Pacific albacore. Given the short time available for discussions, it is suggested that the SMD01 has a primary focus on skipjack, for which the evaluation framework is most developed. Issues for South Pacific albacore will then be addressed. As this is the first WCPFC-SMD meeting, knowledge and understanding gained from the discussions, processes and outcomes of the meeting will need to be reflected in the WCPFC harvest strategy work plan under Agenda item 5.

Background Paper X1 contains DRAFT Objectives for the SMD01 for CCM's review. A revised Objectives will be considered for adoption at SMD01.

AGENDA ITEM 3 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Progress in developing harvest strategies for WCPFC stocks and fisheries**

The Scientific Services Provider (SSP) will present a general overview on the progress of developing harvest strategies for WCPFC stocks, including

- WCPFC's noted management objectives
- Overview of existing performance indicators and their implications
- Explanation of the management procedures focusing on the HCRs
- Outline of mixed-fishery evaluations and mixed-fishery performance indicators

Background Paper X2 may provide background information to support the discussions on this agenda item.

3.2 Outputs from the SC18 Management Issues Theme Session

The SC18 MI Theme Convener will present key outputs from the harvest strategy discussions at SC18.

AGENDA ITEM 4 PRIORITISE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

4.1 Management procedures for skipjack

SSP will provide a brief presentation on the progress of the skipjack management procedure and issues to be addressed at the SMD01 for the comparison and selection of preferred MPs. Capacity building workshops may be prepared prior to SC18 to inform members of the harvest strategy approach and discuss methods for identifying and selecting preferred management procedures.

Background Paper X3 may provide background information to support the discussions on this agenda item.

4.1.1 Interrogation of performance indicators (e.g., using PIMPLE) and identification of preferred outcomes

Using the performance indicators calculated for the range of candidate MPs that have been evaluated to date, the SMD01 will consider identifying a single MP, or a subset of candidate MPs, that have desirable, or acceptable outcomes. The online training material and the outcomes of SC18 will inform this process.

In the event that none of the MPs are considered to have acceptable outcomes, revised settings and alternative MPs for further evaluation, may be discussed under Agenda 4.1.2.

4.1.2 Settings and assumptions of the MPs

Where necessary, SMD01 will discuss and may amend settings and assumptions of the MPs by considering for example:

- Definition of fisheries and fishery controls within the harvest strategy;
- 3-year management cycle;
- Reference year of 2012 for catch and effort scaling (noting this has implications for the assumed future distribution of catch and effort amongst fisheries and for the relative levels of FAD and free school fishing);
- Fishing in archipelagic waters is assumed to continue at fixed pre-determined levels; and
- Any other settings for alternative MPs.

4.1.3 Additional work to be conducted by the SSP to support decision-making on MPs

SMD01 will raise and discuss any additional work to be conducted by the SSP to finalize the development of the skipjack MPs and to adopt MPs at WCPFC19.

4.2 Management procedures for South Pacific albacore

The SSP will provide a brief presentation on the progress of the SP albacore management procedure and issues to be addressed at the SMD01 for further development of candidate MPs.

Background Paper X4 may provide background information to support the discussions on this agenda item.

4.2.1 Discuss and agree on the settings and assumptions of the MPs

Where necessary, SMD01 will discuss and may amend settings and assumptions of the MPs by considering for example:

- Definition of fisheries and fishery controls within the harvest strategy, including whether the eastern Pacific Ocean should be considered;
- 3-year management cycle;
- Reference year for catch and effort scaling; and
- Any other settings for alternative MPs

4.2.2 Additional work to be conducted by the SSP to support decision-making on MPs

SMD01 will raise and discuss any additional work to be conducted by the SSP to finalize the development of the SP albacore MPs. Based upon the feedback, the SSP will continue to develop operating model grids, HCR designs, and candidate MP evaluations for consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 5 PATHWAYS TO COMMISSION DECISION-MAKING

SMD01 will consider the following issues, and **Background Paper X5** may provide background information to support the discussions on this agenda item.

5.1 Pathways to Commission decision-making

SMD01 will consider how the Commission's decision-making can best be supported by WCPFC subsidiary bodies and the SSP. This may include developing a 'pathway' that fulfills the information and training needs necessary for making informed decisions on management procedures that balance different management objectives.

5.2 Longer term planning

5.2.1 Schedule and focus of future dialogue meetings

SMD01 will discuss an appropriate schedule for future SMD meetings to facilitate the progress of the harvest strategy development. The SMD schedule and topics can be proposed along with the current/updated Harvest Strategy Workplan.

5.2.2 Updates to the harvest strategy workplan

SMD01 will discuss the current status of the WCPFC harvest strategy workplan. The outcome of these discussions will be taken into consideration for future revision of the workplan by the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM 6 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6.1 Next SMD meeting

AGENDA ITEM 7 OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Alignment of parallel processes (e.g., allocation) required to support implementation of harvest strategies

Under the WCPFC harvest strategy approach, the management procedure would set the overall level of fishing (e.g., catch or effort) for the WCPFC-CA region as a whole. A separate process would be required to allocate that total catch (or effort) amongst members and gear types. The ultimate implementation of a harvest strategy will require some agreement on allocation. Although it should be possible to develop these two issues in parallel (i.e., it is not necessary to fully resolve one issue in order to make progress on the other), alignment of those parallel processes will be necessary to ensure they are developed accordingly.

SMD01 will consider this issue and may provide appropriate recommendation text as needed for the Commission's consideration on the parallel process.

AGENDA ITEM 8 REVIEW OF SMD01 AGREED POINTS

AGENDA ITEM 9 CLOSE OF MEETING