



**FOURTH REGULAR SESSION  
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**SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORTS (PART 1 and 2) TO THE COMMISSION**

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**WCPFC4-2007-IP02  
15 November 2007**

**Paper prepared by the Secretariat**

**Introduction**

*Part 1 Reports*

1. At the First Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee in December 2005, Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) agreed to provide an Annual Report to the Commission, the purpose of which is to report relevant information to the Commission on their respective fishing activities during the preceding calendar year, and management and compliance issues during the present year. Part 1 of this report relating to information on fisheries, research and statistics for 2005 was to be submitted by 30 June 2006 or one month before the meeting of the Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC2). The Part 1 report for 2006 was to have been submitted by 13 July 2007 or one month before the Third Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC3). In both 2006 and 2007 many of the Part 1 reports were submitted well after the due date. Nevertheless, the Commission Secretariat has now received Part 1 reports from all but three (3) CCMs for 2005<sup>1</sup> and all but five (5) CCMs for 2006. The submitted Part 1 Reports for 2006 are available to the Fourth Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC4).

*Part 2 Reports*

2. CCMs were required to submit their respective Part 2 Reports on Management and Compliance to the Commission 30 days in advance of WCPFC4 or the Third Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC3). WCPFC3 endorsed recommendations by the Second Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC2) that:

- a. the revised template for Part 2 of the Annual Report (Attachment K of the WCPFC3 Summary Report) be adopted for future reports;
- b. Part 2 of the Annual Report be completed on a calendar year basis and submitted to the Secretariat by 31 July each year;
- c. the Commission invite the SC to review Part 1 of the Annual Report in light of its relationship with Part 2, including its consistencies (such as reporting periods and submission times); and

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<sup>1</sup> Part 1 reports were expected from 30 CCMs. France did not present a report for 2005 and 2006. However, individual reports were received from French Polynesia and New Caledonia. For 2005 and 2006 the USA presented Part 1 reports on behalf of its three territories (American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam) but for 2007 these three territories will present individual reports.

d. the Secretariat be tasked with preparing guidelines, including minimum standards, for the completion of Part 2 of the Annual Report. These guidelines should be focused to ensure that a minimum level of consistency is achieved without being overly prescriptive.

3. In relation to “d” above, the Secretariat circulated a set of guidelines to CCMs in mid-May 2007.

4. Part 2 of the report relating to management and compliance covering the period 1 January-31 December 2006 was to be submitted by 31 July 2007. Eighteen (18) CCMs have submitted Part 2 Reports which are available to WCPFC4.

#### *Provision of Part 1 and Part 2 Reports on CD-ROM*

5. Since Part 2 Reports are currently regarded as confidential, the Secretariat is not able to post them on the WCPFC website, but has instead provided them with the Part 1 Reports on CD-ROM to WCPFC4 delegations.

#### *Outstanding Reports*

At present there are three (3) outstanding Part 1 Reports from 2005, five (5) outstanding Part 1 Reports from 2006, six (6) outstanding Part 2 Reports from 2005 and 12 outstanding Part 2 Reports from 2006. At WCPFC3, the Chair noted that six (6) CCMs were yet to comply with the decision of WCPFC2 regarding annual reports to the Commission. WCPFC3 encouraged those CCMs with outstanding reports to submit them to the Secretariat by 31 January 2007. The Secretariat did not receive any outstanding reports by this date.

#### **Formats used in the preparation of Part 2 Reports**

7. Of the 18 Part 2 Reports provided to the Secretariat, 14 used the revised template (Attachment K of the WCPFC3 Summary Report) and four (4) used an independent reporting format. Five (5) of the 14 reports using the revised template followed the guidelines prepared by the Secretariat and circulated to CCMs in mid-May 2007.

#### **Discussion**

8. TCC3 was informed that some CCMs are experiencing difficulties in meeting the reporting deadlines. The development of a revised draft Part 2 Report format agreed by TCC2 has clearly assisted some CCMs in this regard during the 2006 reporting period. For comparative purposes it is strongly suggested that the guidelines prepared by the Secretariat be used for CCMs' reports covering the period 1 January to 31 December 2007.

#### **Recommendation**

9. WCPFC4 is invited to:

- consider the information provided by CCMs in the Part 1 and Part 2 Reports available to the meeting;
- consider any additional advice or recommendations in relation to the format and guidelines for the Part 1 and Part 2 Reports;
- note the situation with respect to outstanding Part 1 and Part 2 Reports for 2005 and 2006; and
- encourage those CCMs that have not already done so to submit their Part 1 and Part 2 Reports for the 2005 and 2006 reporting periods.