



**COMMISSION  
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**  
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28 November to 3 December 2022

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**SUMMARY OF THE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE ELECTRONIC REPORTING  
AND ELECTRONIC MONITORING WORKING GROUP (ERandEM WG) IN 2022**

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**WCPFC19-2022-ERandEMWG-01  
15 November 2022**

Report from the ERandEM WG Chair

14 November 2022

Dear Commissioners

In lieu of attending the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Western and Central Pacific Commission (WCPFC), please find here a short summary of the work undertaken by the Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring Working Group (ERandEM WG) in 2022 in accordance with your decision and direction at the 18<sup>th</sup> Session of the WCPFC.

Recalling that the Commission tasked the WG in 2022 to:

1. *Consider and provide advice on outputs from the EREM WG including those related to existing obligations, data gaps and the prioritisation of ER and EM, and*
2. *Draft minimum standards for electronic monitoring.*

And in 2023 to:

1. *Consider and provide advice on outputs from the EREM WG, including a draft EM CMM.*

To address this tasking the ERandEM WG progressed and achieved the following outcomes this year:

- Circulation of the current version of the SSPs in March with comments were received from 11 participants. The following issues were identified:
  - It is difficult to progress the detailed drafting of the SSPs without understanding if the EM program is to apply universally across the WCPFC membership and fleets, specifically participants questioned the scope of the EM program.
- Preparation of the EM Framework discussion paper that sought to weave a path that recognises the precedents and decisions of Commission over its history and that these decisions have been given effective to by some members and critically to propose a way to incorporate both the Regional Observer Program and the EM program.
  - This was undertaken to address 2022 tasking one from the Commission.
  - The Discussion Paper sought to find a way of balancing the needs of different members by providing a flexible way of implementing CMMs to give effect to the Commission's requirements for at-sea monitoring for scientific and compliance purposes.
- A two-day virtual meeting in July to progress the development of the electronic monitoring program for the Commission
  - At report from the two day meeting is at <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/wcpfc19>

- The WG agreed to concurrently develop the At-Sea Monitoring CMM with the EM CMM and the associated SSPs in 2022 and 2023. This, I anticipate will form the basis of the work of the WG in 2023.

It is important for the Commission to note that the work of the developing the EM program will need:

1. To be iterative
2. That, like the development of Harvest Strategies, the program will need to be in square brackets until all elements are drafted and can be considered together (i.e., At-Sea Monitoring and EM CMMs with the SSPs)
3. That once developed, that it is likely that other parts of the WCPFC framework will need to be reconsidered to ensure that they remain fit for purpose (e.g., Confidentiality and data disclosure and ROP requirements) but that this is beyond the scope of the ERandEM WG.

Finally, as I have resigned from AFMA, this work will be led by someone else in 2023. It's been a great pleasure to work to progress this work over the year and I wish you all the best in continuing to progress this work going forward.



Claire van der Geest