



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Fukuoka, Japan
6 – 7 July 2023

NOTICE OF MEETING AND MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

WCPFC-NC19-2023/01

Further to Circular 2023/02, 2023/14 and 2023/17, Members, cooperating non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) are invited to attend the Nineteenth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC19) of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC) and its associated meetings. NC19 and its associated meetings will take place at the Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk, Fukuoka, Japan, from 3 to 7 July 2023.

NC19, chaired by Mr Masanori Miyahara (Japan), will start at 9:00am on 6 – 7 July, with registration starting at 8:15am. Prior to NC19, there will be the 4th Joint Working Group on Catch Documentation Scheme (JWG-CDS) Technical Meeting on Monday, 3 July and the Eighth Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWG-08) from Tuesday, 4 July to Wednesday, 5 July at the same venue. All participants to NC19 are invited to attend these two associated meetings.

Registration

On-line meeting registration is available at NC19 (<https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/nc19>) and IATTC-NC JWG-08 (<https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/jwg-08>) meeting sites. All participants are requested to register using this facility as early as possible.

Hybrid Meeting

NC19 will be a physical meeting as well as letting participants attend virtually through Zoom. Interventions done virtually from Members will only be permitted if an HOD or an alternative is not able to attend the meeting physically. If a Member is unable to physically attend the meeting, please contact the Secretariat (sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int) for further arrangements.

NC19 Meeting Documents

Provisional agenda and other relevant documents are available on the WCPFC Meeting pages as shown below.

- NC19: <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/nc19>
- JWG-08 and JWG-CDS: <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/jwg-08>

All meeting documents are requested to be submitted to the Secretariat (sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int) by

Friday, 16 June 2023 for posting on the website two weeks prior to the start of the meeting. All participants will be individually responsible for downloading their meeting documents and printing them as needed.

Meeting Venue

The meeting venue will be:

Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk
2-2-3 Jigyohama, Chuo-ku,
Fukuoka 8108650, Japan
TEL:+81-92-844-8111, FAX:+81-92-844-7887
Wireless Internet will be available at the meeting room.

Official website of Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk:

<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/japan/hilton-fukuoka-sea-hawk-FUKHIHI/index.html>

Japanese site:

<http://www.hiltonfukuokaseahawk.jp/>

Visas for Japan

Please access the webpage of Japan consular services from the link below to see if you are subject to visa exemption arrangement.

[Application for Visa for foreign nationals eligible for Phased Measures toward Resuming Cross-Border Travel | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan \(mofa.go.jp\)](#)

Unless your visa is exempted, you will need to apply for a visa well in advance of your travel. Following website offers comprehensive information on visa application; however, due to the complex nature of visa requirements, it is highly recommended to contact the Consular Section of the Embassy or Consulate General of Japan nearest you for more information.

[VISA | Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan \(mofa.go.jp\)](#)

Each delegation that applies for a Japanese visa is kindly requested to send (a) the information listed in the Attachment 1, (b) a copy of your passport and (c) a copy of note verbal from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of your country (unless you are general passport holder applying for a short-term visa) to the meeting coordinator, Mr. Masahide KANNOU (masahide_kanno210@maff.go.jp) and Mr. Issei SHIRAKAWA (issei_shirakawa580@maff.go.jp), via e-mail by **19th April 2023**. Fisheries Agency of Japan will use them to communicate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan so that it can send a formal instruction to the Embassy or Consulate General of Japan for a smooth issuance of your visa.

Should you need a letter of invitation, letter of guarantee, and/or list of visa applicants etc. from the host country, please inform so when you send aforementioned email to the meeting coordinator.

Border Measures

The Japanese government's border measures may change from time to time. Please be sure to keep up to date with the latest information. Please visit the following pages for information on the latest border measures concerning COVID-19.

- COVID-19: Current Japanese Border Measures /Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare
<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/covid-19/bordercontrol.html>
- Border measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) /Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

https://www.mofa.go.jp/ca/fna/page4e_001053.html

To facilitate quarantine, immigration and customs procedures, please visit this website.

- Visit Japan Web | Digital Agency
<https://vjw-lp.digital.go.jp/en/>

Climate

Early July is the start of summer and at the end of rainy season in Japan, so it is hot and humid. Historical average temperature in Fukuoka is 27°C (24-30°C) during the meeting period.

Funding for Developing Countries and Territories

According to the decision made by WCPFC9, six small island developing States would be funded for travel to the NC19 meeting including the JWG-08 meeting (3 – 7 July 2023), with priority given to RMI, FSM and Palau. These are in addition to the Cook Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu who are Members of the Northern Committee. Formal nominations for participants to receive this support should be submitted to the Secretariat (Aaron.Nighswander@wcpfc.int) by **1 June 2023** under the signature of their WCPFC Official Contact for eligible developing countries and participating territories.

The latest travel arrangements for nominees should be finalized, two weeks prior to commencing travel.

COVID Protocols

Participants are encouraged to wear masks in the meeting room of NC19 and its associated meetings to protect the health of the participants.

Accommodation Options

Large public events (the Swimming World Championships and Hakata Gion Yamakasa Local Festival) are scheduled in Fukuoka at around the meeting dates. It is advisable that participants make a reservation for accommodation earlier.

Accommodation around the meeting venue is limited. However, a number of accommodation options are available in downtown Fukuoka, in Hakata and Tenjin Area (over 60 hotels), with reasonable access to the meeting venue.

You could search the hotel in search site by yourself. Booking.com (www.booking.com) is a useful site (“Fukuoka” or “Hakata” in Destination/hotel name).

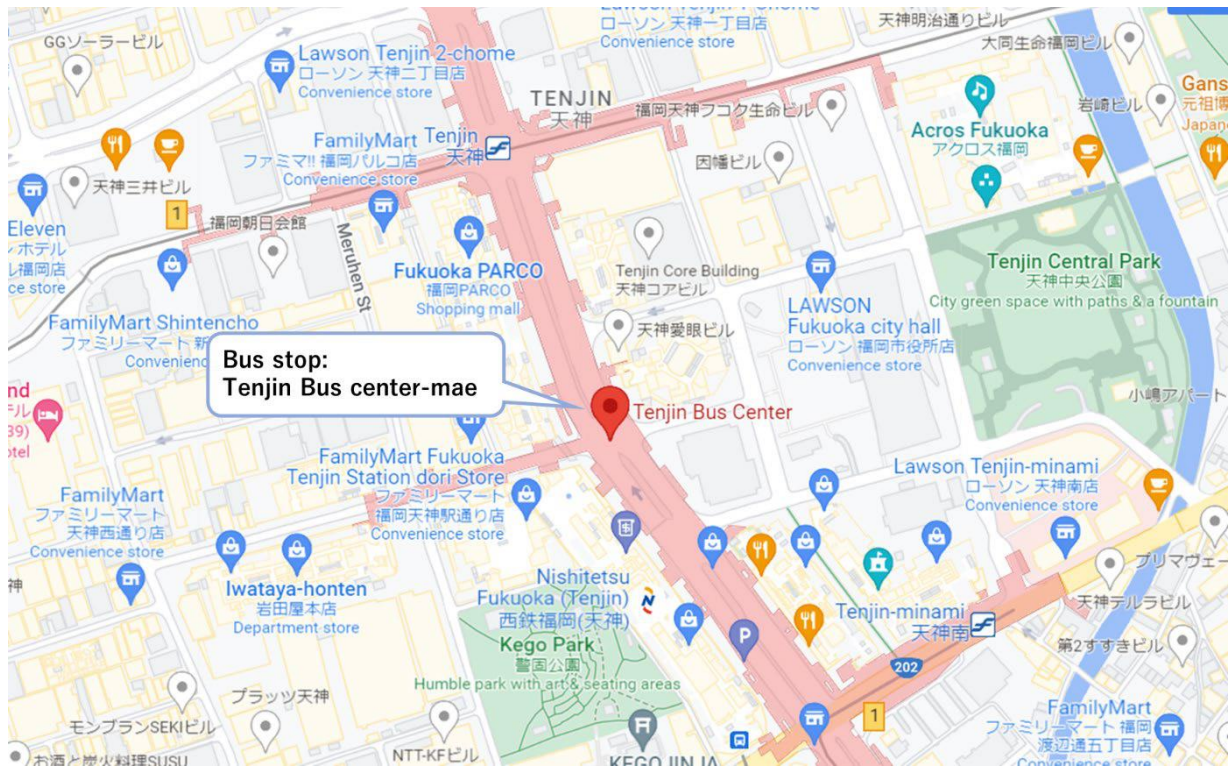


The map of the meeting venue, Hakata and Tenjin area



Transportation Options

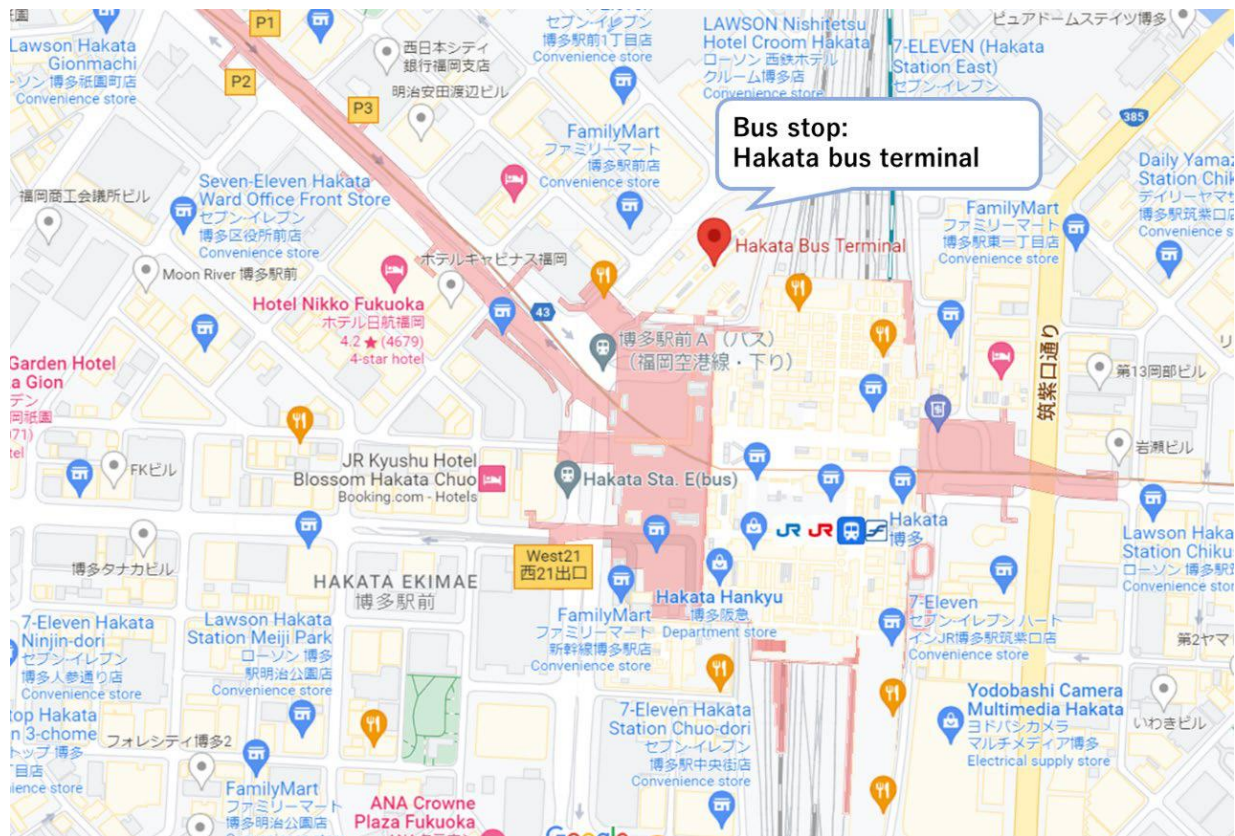
1) Direction from Tenjin Area to Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk



By Bus: From Tenjin, get on the bus bound for “Fukuoka Tower TNC (#W1)” at “Tenjin Bus Center” bus stop and get off at “Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk-mae” bus stop. The hotel is a one-minute walk from the bus stop. Approximately 17-minute ride from the bus stop.

By subway: Take the Fukuoka City Subway, getting off at “Tojin-machi” station (210 JPY). Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk is 20-minute walk from the station.

2) Direction from Hakata Area to Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk



By Bus: From Hakata, get on the bus bound for “Fukuoka Tower TNC (#306)” or to “Fujisaki (#306)” at “Hakata bus terminal” bus stop (1F, #6) and get off at “Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk-mae” bus stop.

The hotel is a one-minute walk from the bus stop. Approximately 17-minute ride from the bus stop.

By Subway: take the Fukuoka City Subway, getting off at “Tojin-machi” station (260 JPY). Hilton Fukuoka Sea Hawk is 20-minute walk from the station.

Attachment 1

Please provide a list which includes the following information for each participant. * Please provide the name as it appears on your passport.	
First Name:	
Middle Name:	
Last Name:	
Sex (F/M):	
Nationality:	
Organization:	
Title:	
Passport Number:	
Passport type (diplomatic, official or general):	
VISA type (official visa or short-term visa):	
Date of Birth:	
Nationality:	
Date of Issue:	
Date of Expiry:	
Passport Issuing Authority:	
Period of Stay in Japan:	
Place of Applying for visas (Embassy or Consulate of Japan):	
Arrival Airport:	
Departure Airport:	
Hotel Name:	
Phone Number (in your home country):	