



**THIRD REGULAR SESSION**

Apia, Samoa

11-15 December 2006,

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**ITEMS ARISING FROM SC2, NC2 AND TCC2 THAT REQUIRE  
DECISIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

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**WCPFC3-2006/Information Paper 05**

**4<sup>th</sup> December 2006**

[Draft]

Prepared by the Secretariat

1. At the request of the Chairman, Mr Glenn Hurry (Australia), the Secretariat has prepared a summary of issues arising from the meetings of the Commission's three subsidiary bodies during 2006 (Attachment A).
2. The Chairman invites Members, Cooperating Non-members and Participating Territories (CCMs) to take note of these issues so that discussion concerning the advice and recommendations of these subsidiary bodies during the Third Regular Session of the Commission at Apia, Samoa can proceed as smoothly as possible.

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE, Manila, Philippines, 7-18 August 2006**

(Reference from ES = Executive Summary; SR = Summary Report)

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Issue(s)</b>
<b>Agenda Item 4 – Status of Stocks and Management Advice and Implications</b>	
Bigeye tuna ES: Para. 9 SR: Para. 148	With all analyses and their implications, the Scientific Committee recommended a 25% reduction in fishing mortality from the average levels for 2001–2004 to maintain the bigeye stock at a level capable of producing MSY (Figure 5).
Yellowfin tuna ES: Para. 14 SR: Para. 153	In order to maintain the yellowfin stock at a level capable of producing the maximum sustainable yield, the Scientific Committee recommended a 10% reduction in fishing mortality from the average levels for 2001–2004 (Figure 10 for additional information).
Further considerations for bigeye and yellowfin ES: Para. 16 SR: Para. 155	Other commercial fisheries: The annual catches from these fisheries have represented 14–22% of the total bigeye catch and 29–38% of the total yellowfin catch. The Scientific Committee noted the need for more specific information concerning the needs of the Commission with regard to formulating advice on specific management measures for these fisheries.
Skipjack tuna ES: Para. 18 SR: Para. 157	Any increases in purse-seine catches of skipjack may result in a corresponding increase in fishing mortality for yellowfin and bigeye tunas.
South Pacific albacore ES: Para. 20 SR: Para. 159	Given the age-specific mortality of the longline fleets, any significant increase in effort would reduce CPUE to low levels with only moderate increases in yields. CPUE reductions may be more severe in areas of locally concentrated fishing effort.
Swordfish in the SW Pacific ES: Para. 23, 24 SR: Para. 162	As a precautionary measure, the Scientific Committee recommended no further increase in fishing mortality on this stock.
Northern stocks ES: Para. 26 SR: Para. 165	The Scientific Committee did not consider the details of the stock assessment; it had no basis to comment upon the substance of the recommendations from the ISC.
Striped marlin in the SW Pacific ES: Para. 29 SR: Para. 168	As a precautionary measure, the Scientific Committee recommended no further increase in fishing mortality (i.e. fishing effort) on striped marlin in the south-western Pacific.
<b>Agenda Item 5 – Bycatch Mitigation</b>	
Seabirds ES: Para. 30-	In response to the Resolution-2005-01, as an initial mitigation measure for longline fishing vessels, the Scientific Committee recommended 1) seabird

32 SR: Para. 169-174	bycatch mitigation, and 2) improved data collection and research programme.
Sea turtles ES: Para. 33-35 SR: Para. 175-179	The Scientific Committee recommended to the Commission that the Commission adopt the proposed sea turtle data collection and research programme (Attachment M).
	A specifically designed management regime employing sea turtle bycatch mitigation measures, such as circle hooks and fish baits, applied to a fishery sector with a turtle bycatch problem can substantially reduce sea turtle bycatch while maintaining viable target species catch rates. With the information that other measures (e.g. fish bait, deep setting) may also reduce turtle bycatch, the Scientific Committee recommended that the Commission adopt a flexible approach to sea turtle bycatch mitigation based on scientific experiments/observations testing a range of mitigation techniques to determine the appropriate mitigation measures for a particular fishery.
Juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna ES: Para. 36-38 SR: Para. 183-185	The Commission's Science Service Provider should review spatio-temporal aspects of catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna caught in association with FADs and refine analyses of potential management options that the Commission might adopt.
	CCMs should continue research into acoustic selectivity to avoid juvenile bigeye and yellowfin as well as research into the vertical distribution and residence time of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna on FADs.
	CCMs should ensure that relevant information is being collected through observer programmes and port sampling and submitted to the Commission in order to assess the impacts of FADs and other technological aspects on catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin.
Other fish and non-fish bycatch ES: Para. 39-41 SR: Para.187-189	The Scientific Committee endorsed the Ecological Risk Assessment exercise in general, and the productivity-susceptibility analysis (PSA) in particular, in prioritising species for management action or further research. There was agreement to further refine the PSA risk assessment approach and to encourage members to further develop this approach.
	The Commission should develop a dedicated shark research programme to support stock assessment of shark species that rank highly in the Ecological Risk Assessment, in cooperation with other RFMOs. Alternative methods of analysis other than stock assessment should also be explored.
	The Commission should develop long-term data collection, monitoring and research programmes dedicated to all species identified as higher risk in the productivity-susceptibility analysis.
<b>Agenda Item 6 – Data and Information</b>	
Observer programme ES: Para. 42-48 SR: Para.190-201	The Committee endorsed five recommendations together with accompanying notes
	1) Objectives: Five scientific objectives for longline and purse seine fisheries
	2) Objectives: The Secretariat commissions the drafting of objectives and priorities for data to be collected by observers for fisheries other than purse seine and longline, for consideration of the Statistics SWG at its next meeting
	2) Initial minimum coverage: Attain a minimum coverage of 50% of fishing

	<p>effort across all strata. The distribution of observer effort is to be representative of species of interest, fishing areas, seasons, and fishing fleets (types).</p> <p>4) Coverage required to address specific issues of concern: That the data collected from initial levels of coverage should be used to further determine the levels of coverage required to address specific issues of concern to the Commission.</p> <p>5) Data collection requirements (longline and purse seine): That the Secretariat develop a draft list of fields of data that observers should collect, for consideration at the next meeting of the Statistics SWG.</p>
<p>Data confidentiality, security and dissemination ES: Para. 49-52 SR: Para. 202</p>	<p>The Commission adopt the Draft Rules and Procedures for the Access to and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission (Summary Record of the Ad Hoc Task Group [data]).</p> <p>The Secretariat proceeds with further development of an Information Security Policy, based on ISO17799 Information Security Management Standards. The Secretariat is allocated sufficient resources to further develop and implement the Information Security Policy.</p>
<p>IPDCP update and review ES: Para. 53 SR: Para. 210</p>	<p>Three recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Executive Director will continue to liaise with the GEF, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam to develop a project.</li> <li>2) CCMs continue to contribute, as soon as possible, an additional \$100,000 to support the project in Indonesia in 2007–2008.</li> <li>3) The Commission provide funding support to the IPDCP through the core budget.</li> </ol>
<p>Tagging initiatives ES: Para. 54 SR: Para. 220</p>	<p>Three recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Commission endorse the Phase II extension of the tagging project as a Commission-sponsored research project;</li> <li>2) A Steering Committee be established to plan the Phase II component of the project; and</li> <li>3) A voluntary fund be established by the Commission to encourage CCMs to provide the necessary funding for the project.</li> </ol>
<b>Agenda Item 7 – Cooperation with other Organizations</b>	
<p>Cooperation with other organizations ES: Para. 55, 56 SR: Para. 233, 234</p>	<p>The Scientific Committee recommended to the Commission that the Executive Director attend the FAO Coordinating Work Party meeting in March 2007. The Scientific Committee recommended that the Commission develop MOUs with the ACAP, SPREP, CCAMLR, and IOTC.</p>
<b>Agenda Item 8 – Special Requirements</b>	
<p>Special requirements of developing states and participating</p>	<p>The Scientific Committee recommended that stock assessment workshops for small island developing states and territories should be continued in the future, beginning in 2007. These sorts of workshops should be the types of projects that the Commission should fund through the special requirements fund. The Scientific Committee urged further contributions to the special requirements</p>

territories ES: Para. 57 SR: Para. 239	fund.
<b>Agenda Item 9 – Future Work Programme</b>	
Future work programme ES: Para. 58-59 SR: Para. 241, 242	1) Strategic Research Plan: The Scientific Committee recommended the Strategic Research Plan 2007–2011 for the Scientific Committee (Attachment P) be submitted to the Commission for approval.
	2) 2007 work programme and budget: Table 2: Work programme for 2007 and budget
<b>Agenda Item 10 – Administrative Matters</b>	
Administrative Matters ES: Para. 60-63 SR: Para. 250, 252, 263, 270	1) Rules of procedure: The Scientific Committee recommended that the proposed Rules of Procedure (Attachment Q) be adopted at WCPFC3 and also be provided to the TCC and NC.
	2) Independent review: The Scientific Committee recommended the process, terms of reference and schedule for the proposed independent review of the scientific structure and functions of the Commission (Attachment R) be forwarded to the Commission for consideration and endorsement.
	3) Future operation of the scientific committee: The Chair of the Commission should be asked to participate for a few days during future sessions of the Scientific Committee to present the requests from the Commission to the Scientific Committee and provide an indication of the Commission's views on the expected outcomes from the Scientific Committee session.
	4) Next meeting: The Scientific Committee recommended to the Commission that the date and venue for the third regular session of the Scientific Committee should be 13–24 August 2007, in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE, Tokyo, Japan, 11-13 September 2006**

Reference	Issue
<b>Agenda Item 1 – Election of Vice-Chair</b>	
SR. Para. 5	Mr. Benjamin F.S. Tabios Jr. of Philippines was elected as the Vice-Chair.
<b>Agenda Item 2 – Conservation and Management Measures</b>	
SR Para. 11	The Committee agreed that the measure [ <i>Sic.</i> CMM 2005-03] should be continued with no amendment.
SR Para. 12	In case the Commission should adopt measures on southern stock of swordfish at its meeting in 2006, the Committee recommends to the Commission that the following paragraph should be included in any such conservation and management measures so that such adoption will not adversely affect the northern stocks of swordfish.

	“CCMs shall not shift their fishing effort for swordfish to the area north of 20 N in the Convention area.”
SR Para. 13	...request the International Scientific Committee (ISC) and the WCPFC Scientific Committee (SC) work jointly to follow up with the SC2 recommendation and, where necessary, compile or develop detailed definitions and specifications for each of the seabird bycatch mitigation methods recommended by the Second Session of the Scientific Committee (SC2) and included in Table 1 of the SC2 report. It also requests that the results of this joint ISC-SC work be provided to the Third Session of the Northern Committee (NC3) in 2007.
SR Para. 14	It was decided that NC3 would consider, taking into account the results of the joint ISC-SC work (if so requested by WCPFC3), seabird bycatch mitigation measures to apply in the Convention Area north of the 20 degree parallel of North latitude.
SR Para. 19	The Northern Committee recommended to the Commission that the provision of scientific data to the Commission be revised to include Pacific bluefin.
SR Para. 20	The Northern Committee also recommended that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair of the Commission and the Chair of the Scientific Committee develop a proposal for the inclusion of striped marlin in the species to be covered by the work of the Northern Committee.
<b>Agenda Item 3 – Future Work Programme</b>	
SR Para. 21	... the Committee agreed to its Work Program 2007-2011 (Attachment D) with the understanding that this Program is subject to annual review.
<b>Agenda Item 4 – Cooperation with other Organisations</b>	
SR Para. 22	endorsed the Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between WCPFC and ISC (Attachment G of WCPFC/NC2/11) and requested it be considered for approval by the third session of the Commission.
SR Para. 23	The Committee endorsed the Draft MoU between WCPFC and IATTC (Attachment E of WCPFC/NC2/11) and requested it be considered for approval by the third session of the Commission.
<b>Agenda Item 5 – Other Matters</b>	
<b>Secretariat function and costs</b>	
SR Para. 25	In response to the discussion held at the previous session, Japan submitted its revised proposal on the Secretariat function of the Committee (ECPFC/NC2/13). While generally welcoming continued efforts for effective functioning of the Committee, it failed to reach the consensus on the proposal. In order to make progress in this regard, the Commission was requested to explore an acceptable solution to the issue on the understanding that the proposal tabled does not purport to create independent Secretariat but to outsource those services through a contract with an appropriate institution. As an interim measure, Japan expressed its intention to dispatch its expert to support the function of the WCPFC Secretariat in this regard, while working further on estimation of necessary costs (including a possible contribution formula) and possible functions.
<b>Rules of Procedure</b>	
SR Para. 26	A short Committee meeting to be convened during the 3 <sup>rd</sup> session of

	Commission was suggested in order to finalize and submit the Rules for the adoption by the Commission.
<b>Next meeting</b>	
SR Para. 27	Japan offered to host the regular third session, 11-13 September 2007 at a venue to be decided.
<b>Other Business</b>	
SR Para. 29	...Cook Islands was warmly welcomed as a member of the Committee.

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE, Brisbane, Australia, 28 September 3 October 2006**

Reference	Issue
<b>Agenda Item 3 – Review of Status of Measures</b>	
SR. Para. 22	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the revised draft template for Part 2 of the annual report (Attachment E) be adopted for future reports.
	2) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that Part 2 of the annual report be completed on a calendar year basis and submitted to the Secretariat by 31 July each year.
	3) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> the Commission invite the Scientific Committee 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.
	4) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> 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.
<b>Agenda Item 4 – Members’ Compliance Review</b>	
SR Para. 32	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the revised Figure 1 (Attachment F) be adopted as the Commission’s procedures for monitoring and assessing compliance by CCM fishing vessels with Commission Conservation and Management measures.
<b>Agenda Item 5 – Implementation of Cooperative Measures for Monitoring, Control, Surveillance and Enforcement</b>	
<b>Authorization to Fish</b>	
SR Para. 37	1) TCC2 <b>confirmed</b> that only vessels flagged to CCMs may be licensed to operate in the WCPO.
	2) TCC2 agreed there should be no amendments to Conservation and Management Measure-2004-01.
	3) TCC2 <b>agreed</b> that the information requested on non-CCM flag bunker and carrier vessels be provided to the Secretariat by 1 November 2006 so that this information could be summarised and made available to Comm3.
	4) Only vessels on the lists submitted to Comm3 would be considered for any waiver that might be adopted by the Commission at Comm3.
	5) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> a one-year phase-out period for those identified

	bunker and carrier vessels flagged to non-CCMs currently operating in the WCPO.
	6) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that strict regulations be placed on these vessels during that one-year period.
	7) The Secretariat write to the flag States of these non-CCM vessels to inform them of the Commission's decision.
<b><i>Commission VMS</i></b>	
SR Para. 50	TCC2 developed for the Secretariat a draft outline of components (Attachment G) as a basis for preparing a draft Conservation and Management Measure. This would be circulated to CCMs by 17 November for subsequent consideration at Comm3.
SR Para. 51	1) The Commission should develop a stand-alone VMS with the added capability of accepting VMS data forwarded from the FFA VMS. Vessels operating on the high seas in the Convention Area that are required to report VMS data to the Commission will have the option to report those data via the FFA VMS.
SR Para. 51	2) The Commission should adopt the draft minimum ALC standards appended as Attachment H.
SR Para. 69	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that an inter-sessional working group (IWG-ROP) be established to expedite further development of the ROP, in conjunction with the employment of an Observer Programme Coordinator (OPC) by the Secretariat. Draft terms of reference for the IWG-ROP are appended as Attachment J.
	2) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the Commission task TCC3 with developing a Conservation and Management Measure for the establishment of the ROP.
<b><i>High Seas Boarding and Inspection Procedures</i></b>	
SR Para. 73	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the Commission consider the draft boarding and inspection procedures appended as Attachment K, with a view to resolving the outstanding issues so that the procedures may be adopted by the Commission.
<b><i>Port State Measures</i></b>	
SR Para. 77	TCC2 <b>requested</b> that all CCMs provide outstanding information on existing port State and/or port inspection schemes to the Secretariat by 1 February 2007 to allow the Secretariat to develop draft harmonised port State standards to be discussed at TCC3.
<b><i>Transshipment Monitoring</i></b>	
SR Para. 83	TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the exemption granted to the Philippines and FFA members (regarding existing at-sea transshipment activities) be extended for a further 12 months until the Commission considers the adoption of transshipment guidelines at its Fourth Annual Session.
<b><i>IUU vessel lists</i></b>	
SR Para. 101	1) TCC2 <b>agreed</b> that the European Union should work with other interested CCMs to refine the proposal (for a conservation and management measure to establish a list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing activities in the WCPO) over the next month and the proposal should be presented to Comm3 for its consideration.
<b>Agenda Item 6 – Advice on Measures Requested by the Commission</b>	



<b><i>Exploration and evaluation of catch mitigation measures for juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna taken around FADs</i></b>	
SR Para. 110	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the issue of shipboard/observer/port sampling to assist with better characterisation of JBYT catch for each element of the fishery (Indonesia, Philippines, FADs, school, high seas, coastal States) be considered in developing future observer programmes, and that observers collect information on other characteristics of the bigeye and yellowfin fisheries and operations that are associated with higher catches of JBYT.
<b><i>Exploration and evaluation of mitigation measures for incidental catch of seabirds, including those applied and tested by CCAMLR</i></b>	
SR Para. 114	1) A small working group was called to consider the technical specifications of mitigation measures recommended by the SC. Based on information provided by interested CCMs, the group will work inter-sessionally to provide information to the Commission, as a paper by the Members.
<b><i>Exploration and evaluation of the use of circle hook gear technology in longline fisheries as part of turtle by-catch mitigation measures</i></b>	
SR Para. 117	TCC2 <b>endorsed</b> the SC2 recommendation to establish a research programme and encouraged CCMs to continue their own research on the issue.
<b>Agenda Item 7 – Future Work Programme</b>	
<b><i>2007 Work Programme</i></b>	
SR Para. 122	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> the draft 2007 work programme and its indicative budget (Attachment L) to the Commission, requesting the Secretariat develop an explanatory note to accompany the programme for consideration and approval by the Commission.
<b>Agenda Item 8 – Other Matters</b>	
<b><i>Election of Chair</i></b>	
SR Para. 134	1) TCC2 <b>recommended</b> that the issue of a new Chair be held over for consideration at Comm3.
<b><i>Rules of Procedure</i></b>	
SR Para. 137	1) TCC2 <b>agreed</b> that consideration of the Rules of Procedure should be deferred until TCC3.
<b><i>Next meeting</i></b>	
SR Para. 142	1) TCC2 recommended that its Third Regular Session be convened from 27 September-2 October 2007 at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia