

**TO ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS, COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS,
PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS**

Circular No.: 2023/43

Date: 26 May 2023

No. pages: 03

Arrangements for the June 2023 Workshop on a Revised Tropical Tuna Measure

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your responses to my Circular 2023/33 of 14 April 2023 which provided a summary of CCM views on core revisions to the Tropical Tuna Measure and sought to chart the way forward for progressing our work on the TT measure. The purpose of this Circular is to confirm the proposed dates of 28-29 June 2023 for the Workshop on a Revised Tropical Tuna Measure and the working arrangements for the virtual workshop. I also set out the proposed objectives and agenda for the workshop and wish to provide CCMs with the opportunity to comment on these and so that we are all on the same page.

Dates of the June Workshop and working arrangements

I acknowledge with appreciation the support by CCMs for the proposed dates of the June workshop. I received feedback from two CCMs in response to the Circular 2023/33 of 14 April 2023 in relation to the schedule. Although one CCM noted a clash with another meeting, the other CCM supported the proposed dates of 28-29 June. In light of the difficulty of finding suitable dates in a busy international calendar, I thought it best to keep to the dates proposed.

In view of the time required for this first workshop, I wish to confirm the workshop schedule, in Pohnpei time, as follows:

Date	Meeting time	Comments
Wednesday 28 June 2023	10:00 to 14:00 (inclusive of 30-minute break)	Day 1 (start of workshop) Agenda items 1-3
Thursday 29 June 2023	10:00 to 12:00	Day 2 (conclusion of workshop) Agenda items 4-8

Should CCMs wish to submit working papers or delegation papers to the Workshop, these should be provided to the Secretariat for distribution by no later than 16 June 2023.

Workshop Protocols and registration arrangements for the workshop will be distributed shortly.

For any queries on the workshop arrangements, please direct them to the Executive Director at reha.moss-christian@wcpfc.int, and copied to the Executive Assistant at arlene.takesy@wcpfc.int.

Objectives for the Workshop

In my earlier Circular I noted that some of our work on a revised TT measure is contingent on advice from the Scientific Committee. This applies in particular to the management procedure for skipjack, scientific advice on stock status (in particular bigeye and yellowfin), non-entangling FADs and instrumented buoys. I also suggested that our efforts should be concentrated on laying the groundwork for the necessary scientific advice which can assist in considering relevant hard limits and allocation frameworks. This is in line with our work plan set out in Annex H of the WCPFC19 Summary Report which provides that the June workshop will focus on narrowing down options for hard limits and their allocation and identifying any additional information needs and issues to be considered at SC19.

In light of this, I suggest that the principal objective of the June Workshop will be to identify the necessary scientific advice which can assist in considering relevant hard limits and allocation frameworks. This will enable any information needs to be considered at SC19 or by the Scientific Services Provider as appropriate. This may include any additional analysis required to inform revisions to the TT measure. I also suggest that the Workshop should provide CCMs an opportunity to provide an introduction to their views on hard limits and allocation frameworks. You may recall that such a request was made in Circular 2023/13 of 27 February 2023, but to date CCM views have largely concentrated on revisions to the TT measure. I note that although a simple restatement of positions expressed in past meetings would not be productive, if CCMs have undertaken bilateral discussions with the aim of narrowing points of disagreement over the revisions to the TT measure, the results of any such discussions could usefully be conveyed at the Workshop. I have therefore included this item in the draft agenda for the Workshop.

Draft Workshop Agenda

The draft Agenda for the Workshop is attached at Annex 1. I have sought to explain the areas of the agenda where input from CCMs would be highly valuable in progressing our work.

I request that CCMs provide any comments to me at josie.tamate@gmail.com and the Executive Director at reha.moss-christian@wcpfc.int on the proposed agenda by no later than close of business on **Thursday 15 June 2023**. I am hoping to finalise the agenda and meeting arrangements for the first workshop soon after that date.

Thank you again for all your cooperation on the important work before us in 2023.

Best regards,



Dr Josie Tamate
Chair

cc: Takumi Fukuda
WCPFC Vice-Chair

**DRAFT WORKSHOP AGENDA
[Online, from 28 to 29 June 2023]**

1. Opening of Workshop
 - 1.1. Opening remarks by Chair
 - 1.2. Adoption of agenda
 - 1.3. Workshop meeting arrangements
2. Objectives of the Workshop
 - 2.1. Chair to convey the objectives of the Workshop and invite discussion
3. Requests for further analysis and information by Scientific Services Provider
 - 3.1. Requests for scientific advice to assist in the development of hard limits and allocation frameworks
 - 3.2. Any additional analysis required to inform revisions to the TT measure
 - 3.3. Review and prioritisation of requests and other information requirements
4. Consideration of options for hard limits and allocation frameworks
 - 4.1. Review of provisions of the Convention and CMM 2021-01 which address hard limits and allocation frameworks
 - 4.2. CCMs may provide an introduction to their views on hard limits and allocation frameworks
 - 4.2. CCMs may also use this agenda item to provide any updates to their views on core revisions to the TT measure, including the results of any bilateral discussions with the aim of narrowing differences in positions
5. Second Tropical Tuna Workshop
 - 6.1. Proposed dates for the Second Workshop
 - 6.2. Initial discussion of the objectives of the October Workshop
 - 6.3. Process for development of agenda for the October Workshop
6. Other Matters
7. Workshop Outcomes
 - 7.1. The Chair to issue a Chair's Report outlining the key points of discussions and outcomes of the Workshop.
8. Close of Workshop