



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Koror, Palau
16 – 24 August 2023

MEETING NOTICE AND INFORMATION

WCPFC-SC19-2023/01 [\(Rev.04\)](#)

The Nineteenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC-SC19) will be held in Koror, Palau, from 16 (Wednesday) to 24 (Thursday) August 2023. Heads of Delegations and Convenors Meetings will be held on Tuesday, 15 August 2023. Vice-Chair Ms Emily Crigler (USA) will chair SC19. The meeting venue is the Ngarachamayong Cultural Center, Koror, Palau.

This meeting notice together with Provisional Agenda and Provisional Annotated Agenda are now posted on the SC19 website.

SC19 meeting structure

As decided at SC8, SC has four theme sessions during the plenary (Data and Statistics, Ecosystem and Bycatch, Management Issues, and Stock Assessment). During SC19, steering committee meetings will be held for the Japan Trust Fund, the Pacific Tuna Tagging Project, and the WCPFC Pacific Marine Specimen Bank. Informal small group meetings may be held in the margins of the plenary session.

SC19 will be a hybrid meeting, with participation to take place in-person and virtually through Zoom. CCMs are only permitted to make their interventions virtually if the CCM HOD or alternative is not able to attend the meeting physically. Please contact the Secretariat's IT team (ITSupport@wcpfc.int) for any technical assistance regarding virtual participation.

SC19 meeting will be supplemented by the SC19 website and the SC19 Online Discussion Forum (ODF). The ODF will be used to facilitate discussions on the 2022 SC projects and any other items as requested by SC19 meeting document authors. The ODF will be accessible only to approved SC19 registered participants. The opening and duration of the ODF will be advised in due course. The results of the ODF will be provided to SC19 as a *Summary of Online Discussion Forum* and considered as needed under the relevant agenda items.

Registration

Online meeting registration is available at the SC19 meeting site and all participants are requested to register through this link.: <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/sc19>.

Heads of Delegation Meeting and Convenor's Meeting

Two SC19 preparatory meetings will be held at Ngarachamayong Cultural Center on **Tuesday, 15 August 2023**:

- 1) The **Convener’s Meeting** with the SC Chair and the SPC-OFP representatives will be held at 14:00 to finalize their theme session arrangements and meeting procedure; and
- 2) The **Heads of Delegation Meeting** will be convened by the SC Chair at 16:00. All Theme Convenors are expected to attend.

Guidelines for submitting meeting papers

The procedure for submission of papers for SC19, as determined at SC2, is as follows:

- 1) Annual Report – Part 1

Following WCPFC19, an updated template for Annual Report Part 1 is available at <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/sc-01/annual-report-commission-part-1-information-fisheries-research-and-statistics-revised>. Completed reports shall be submitted to the WCPFC Secretariat (BOTH sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int and contact.ar@wcpfc.int) by **17 July 2023**.

- 2) Meeting documents

Titles and preliminary abstracts of meeting documents **MUST be submitted as early as possible, but no later than 12 July 2023** (five weeks in advance of the start of SC19). Authors who intend to present a Working Paper or submit an Information Paper (refer to Item 3 below) must contact the relevant Convenor(s) as soon as possible after this SC19 Meeting Notice is posted. Authors and convenors should discuss the suitability of the paper, and under which specific agenda item it falls. Please refer to the Provisional Annotated Agenda, when available.

All full papers MUST be submitted by 29 July 2023 (18 days in advance of the start of SC19). Please submit titles, abstracts, and full papers to:

- i) SC Acting Chair (Emily Crigler; emily.crigler@noaa.gov),
- ii) relevant Theme Convenors below, and
- iii) the Secretariat (SungKwon Soh; sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int)

Chair	<i>TBD</i>
Vice Chair (Acting Chair)	Emily Crigler (1): emily.crigler@noaa.gov
ST Theme	Valerie Post (6): valerie.post@noaa.gov
SA Theme	Hidetada Kiyofuji (2): hkiyofuj@affrc.go.jp Berry Miller (1): bmuller@mimra.com Michelle Sculley (1): michelle.sculley@noaa.gov
MI Theme	Robert Campbell (14): robert.campbell@csiro.au Laura Tremblay-Boyer: laura.tremblay-boyer@csiro.au
EB Theme	Yonat Swimmer (6): yonat.swimmer@noaa.gov Emily Crigler (1): emily.crigler@noaa.gov

All papers received will be posted on the SC19 website by **2 August 2023** (two weeks in advance of the start of SC19). All participants will be responsible for downloading and printing their papers, where desired. Limited printing and photocopying services will be available at the meeting venue.

3) Working Papers and Information Papers

The SC Chair and Theme Convenors will be responsible for accepting or rejecting a paper, and if accepted, directing the Secretariat to post the paper as either a Working Paper or an Information Paper.

Working Papers (WP): Papers considered by Theme Convenors and the Chair as a working paper for presentation to the SC should be directly relevant to a specific agenda item and will support substantive discussion. Relevant Convenors will attach a cover page, assign a unique number, and send it to the Secretariat (e.g., WCPFC-SC19-2023/ST-WP-XX).

Information Papers (IP): Papers considered by Theme Convenors and the Chair as an information paper should be of general interest – i.e., a supplementary paper circulated for information only and not for presentation –but may be referred to in discussion. Relevant Convenors will attach a cover page, assign a unique number, and send it to the Secretariat (e.g., WCPFC-SC19-2023/SA-IP-XX).

Funding for Developing Countries and Participating Territories

The Commission will fund the participation (a daily allowance and most direct economical airfare) of one representative from each developing country and participating territory that is a member of the Commission. Formal nominations for participants to receive this support should be submitted to the Secretariat (Aaron.Nighswander@wcpfc.int) by **15 July 2023** under the signature of their WCPFC Official Contact for eligible developing countries and participating territories.

The latest travel arrangement for funded nominees to be finalized is two weeks prior to commencing travel.

Visa to visit Palau

Most participants visiting Palau do not require an entry permit for stays up to 30 days; however, all visitors must have an onward ticket and a passport valid for at least 120 days. International Certificate of Vaccination for Yellow Fever is required if arriving from an infected area.

For further information on visa requirements please refer to:

<https://visaguide.world/oceania/palau-visa/>

For countries with risk of yellow fever transmission you may refer to this site:

[https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/countries-with-risk-of-yellow-fever-transmission-and-countries-requiring-yellow-fever-vaccination-\(november-2022\)](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/countries-with-risk-of-yellow-fever-transmission-and-countries-requiring-yellow-fever-vaccination-(november-2022))

Currency in Palau

The currency used in Palau is the U.S. dollar. Bank of Guam provides currency exchange services for the Australian Dollar, Philippine Peso, Japanese Yen, Hong Kong Dollar, Taiwanese Dollar and Korean Won. While Bank of Hawaii provides currency exchange services for the Australian Dollar, Chinese Yuan, Japanese Yen, Hong Kong Dollar, Korean Won and Central Pacific Franc. Banking hours are Monday to Friday, from 9 am to 4 pm.



COVID Protocols

All participants are encouraged to wear masks, socially distance, and follow the hosts requirements for social gatherings at SC19.

Airport Transfers

Please contact your hotels for transportation arrangements from Palau Airport to your respective hotels. See Table 1 for car rental information.

Table 1. Car Rentals

Company	Sedans	SUV	Van	Additional Information
Budget Car Rentals Phone: 4886233 Email: budgetpalau@palaunet.com	\$52.95	\$57.95	7-Seater: \$75.00	Insurance is optional for CDW: Collision Damage Waiver --\$18.95/day and ZDC: Zero Deductable Coverage---\$7.95/day
IA Rent A Car Phone: 4881113 Email: iabc@palaunet.com	\$32.50	\$52.00	7-Seater: \$58.00	Insurance is optional at \$17.00/Day for all vehicles
IR Car Rental Phone: 4885600 Email: irudimch_n_co@palaunet.com	\$39.00	\$89.00	7-Seater: \$75.00	No Insurance
National/Alamo & Ent. Car Rental Phone: 4886286 Email: reservations@ehiglobalpalau.com	\$45.00	\$65.00	7-Seater: \$90.00	Insurance is optional at \$15.00/Day for all vehicles

PIDC Car Rental Phone: 4888350	\$35.00		7-Seater: \$65.00	No Insurance
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Accommodation

Available accommodation is listed in **Table 2** below. Those participants needing accommodation should book directly with the hotel of their choice as soon as possible.

Table 2. Accommodation in Koror

Hotel	Room Rates (in USD)	Amenities	Distance to the Meeting Venue			No. of Rooms <u>/Units</u>
			Distance	Walk	Drive	
Palasia Hotel Palau Phone: 4888888 Website: www.palasiahotelpalau.com	\$140/Townview \$160/Bayview (Single/ Double)	Free Wifi, Fridge,Cable TV, Gym, Pool, Restaurant on Site	1.5km	19min	3 min	165
	\$190/Townview \$210/Bayview (Triple)					
Palau Hotel Phone: 4885678 Website: www.palauhotel.net	Single: \$130	Free Wifi, Smoke Free Property	1.1km	14min	2 min	54
	Double: \$140					
	Triple: \$150					
Palau Central Hotel Phone: 4884500 Email: info@palaucentralhotel.com	Standard (2pax): \$180	Free Wifi, Fridge, Cable TV, Restaurant on Site	1.5km	19min	3 min	55
	Deluxe (3pax): \$240					
West Plaza Hotel Lebuu Phone: 48818143 Email: west.plaza@wctc-palau.com	Single: \$125	Grocery Store on Site	1.1km	15min	4 min	28
	Double: \$146.5					
	Triple: \$182					
West Plaza Hotel_Desekel Phone: 4882521 Website: www.desekel.wphpalau.com Email: west.plaza@wctc-palau.com	Single: \$90	Wifi Access (Prepaid Card), Mini Bar, Cable TV, Grocery Store on Site	1.1km	13min	4 min	30
	Double: \$90					
	Triple: \$110					
West Plaza Hotel_Malakal Phone: 4885291 Website: www.malakal.wphpalau.com Email: west.plaza@wctc-palau.com	Single: \$136	Wifi Access (Prepaid Card), Mini Bar, Cable TV, Restaurant on Site	3.4km	41min	7 min	34
	Double: \$136					
	Triple: \$220					
DW Motel Palau Phone: 4882641 Email: info@davidwilliamsmotel.com	Single: \$107	Wifi Access (Prepaid Card), Mini Bar, Cable TV, Restaurant on Site	1.3m	16min	4min	20
	Double: \$107					
	Triple: \$125					

Sea Passion Hotel Phone: 4880066 Website: www.seapassion.com	Single: \$210	Free Wifi only in Lobby, Fridge, Cable, Free Breakfast	2.9km	34min	6 min	75
	Double: \$160 to 260					
	Triple: \$365					
Cove Resort Palau Phone: 4884333 Website: www.coveresortpalau.com	Single: \$318	Free Wifi, Mini Bar, Cable, Free Breakfast	3.2km	38min	7 min	74
	Double: \$390					
	Triple: \$460.20					
Garden Palace Downtown Phone: 4888870 Email: gardenpalace@gmail.com	Single: \$230	Wifi Access (Prepaid Card), Mini Bar, Cable TV	0.55km	6min	2 min	
	Double: \$230					
	Triple: \$245					
Palau Carolines Resort Phone: 4883754 Website: www.carolinesresort.com	Standard (2pax): \$260.15	Free Wifi, Fridge, Cable TV, Restaurant on Site	3.5km	43min	5 min	8
Palau Plantation Resort Phone: 4883631 Email: reservations@palauplantation.com	Single: \$225	Free Wifi, Mini Bar, Cable	1.2km	15min	5 min	20
	Double: \$225					
	Triple: \$324					
Palau Royal Resort Phone: 4882000 Email: info@palau-royal-resort.com	Single: \$250	Free Wifi, Fridge, Cable TV, Restaurant on Site	3.4km	41min	8 min	
	Double: \$340					
	Triple: \$456					
Yuhi Motel Phone: 4888966 Email: reservations@yuhimotel.com	Single: \$99	Free Wifi, small kitchenette, Fridge	1.1km	14min	4 min	10
	Double: \$99					
	Triple: \$125					
Penthouse Hotel Phone: 4881941 Email: the-penthouse@palaunet.com	Single: \$93.50	Free Wifi, tv Cable, Fridge, Restaurant	2.5km	17min	7min	5
	Double: \$109.50					
	Triple: NA					
Lehns Motel Phone: 4881486 Email: lehnsreservations@gmail.com	Single: \$62.65	Wifi Access (PT card), kitchenette, Fridge	1.5km	15min	5 min	10
	Double: \$75.00					
Palau Paradise Comfort Phone: 7752004 Email: palauparadise@gmail.com	\$75 per night Studio 2beds & 1 IBD, up to 4 beds	Free wifi, kitchenette	100 m	3min	1 min	2
Ngermid Oasis Airbnb Phone: 7795737 Email: booking.com	\$96 per night 2BD 1BA house	Free Wifi, swimming pool, Kitchenette	5km	30min	10min	1

Yogi Dives b&b Phone: 4885467 Email: booking.com	\$331 per night 3 BD 9 Beds 3 baths	Free wifi, Full Kitchen, backyard	3km	21min	8min	1
EmeraldDream Phone:7752296 Email: emeraldreamsservice@gmail.com	\$325 per night 4BD house	Free wifi, rent the entire house	300m	5min	2 min	1
Mokko Rentals 2B Phone: Email: https://www.airbnb.com/	\$105 per night 2BD 3beds 1 bath	Free wifi , rent the entire apartment	2.6km	33min	8min	1