

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

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Date: 17 August 2023

No. pages: 16

Message from the Chair of the ERandEM IWG

Dear Colleagues,

First, thanks to all delegations who have provided details of their nominations for the ERandEM IWG in response to WCPFC [Circular 2023/52](#). I know that there are others who have contributed to the IWG in the past so I am sure that we will hear from more of you soon.

I appreciate CCMs' patience over the period since the Circular was issued. I have been familiarizing myself with the work of the ERandEM IWG including the recent work to develop an EM CMM and EM SSPs.

I do want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the great progress on Electronic Monitoring that has been made through the WCPFC ER and EM Working Group under the leadership of the previous Chair Ms Claire van der Geest, and also by FFA Members through their work on [Standards, Specifications, and Procedures \(SSPs\)](#) .

Since commencing in the role, I have also had some informal consultations with some CCMs representatives as well as reviewed updates on progress in other RFMOs, including the work in the IOTC. The Secretariat has a webpage set-up to support the intersessional activities of the ERandEM IWG at this link <https://www.wcpfc.int/erandem-iwg> .

In addition, I am pleased to share that on Tuesday 1 August the first 23 vessels in New Zealand's rollout of up to 300 inshore and HMS vessels began operating our new camera system. After three missed go-live dates this was a huge event and has kept me busy, but rest assured there has been plenty of lessons learnt that I hope I can bring to the WCPFC work! If anybody wants to hear about the New Zealand on-board camera approach, please don't hesitate to reach out.

In terms of the current status of the work of the WCPFC ERandEM IWG, the **attached** Chairs summary report from the 5th WG session provides a very nice summary. In particular, the summary highlights the framing for the following three key pieces of work:

- At-sea monitoring CMM
- Electronic Monitoring CMM
- Associated SSPs

I am also aware of a range of Legal and Policy questions that were raised that would help support this work.

To help me determine the best next steps, over the next month I really want to hear from Members, CNMs, and Observers on where they feel we are and on the next steps. You can contact me:

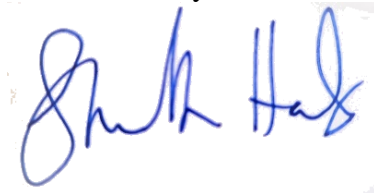
- In the margins of the 19th Scientific Committee meeting; or
- By emailing me at Shelton.harley@mpi.govt.nz to setup a Zoom / Teams call between SC19 and TCC19.

I ask that participants provide me with **written feedback by Thursday 7th September 2023** (cc: Assistant Compliance Manager Eidre.Sharp@wcpfc.int).

Based on the feedback received to date and in consultation with the WCPFC Secretariat, we may arrange an online session of the IWG between TCC19 and the Commission meeting. I anticipate that the online discussion forum would be a useful way to generate additional feedback in advance of any such session.

Please distribute this circular to all relevant people in your country and/or organization.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Shelton Harley
ERandEM IWG Chair