



**Twentieth Regular Session**  
4-8 December 2023  
Rarotonga, Cook Islands (Hybrid)

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**Update on TCC priority work items (TCC Workplan 2022-24)**

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**WCPFC20-2023-34**  
**4 December 2023**

**Prepared by the TCC Chair**

- The TCC Workplan 2022-24 includes twenty-three Project priority specific tasks, in addition to TCC Priority core business tasks.
- Since the workplan was adopted, many of the Project priority specific tasks have progressed to the point of transitioning into standard work items for the Secretariat.
- Some tasks have been delayed for various reasons, most notably competing priorities.
- At TCC19, the TCC Chair undertook to prepare advice to WCPFC20 on the progress of work in the TCC workplan. To this end, a status update table is provided here for the information of WCPFC20. A “traffic light” approach has been taken to give a simple overview of status of work.
  - Green for work completed or progressing as expected.
  - Orange for where work is underway but there have been delays.
  - Red for where work is not progressing at this stage.

Some additional explanatory comments/updates to text are provided (red text is new text compared to what is in the TCC Workplan 2022-24).

- This update is not intended to indicate priority of work, nor provide the basis for discussion on the merits of the agreed project priority tasks. Simply to indicate where TCC has and has not made progress, to inform future planning for the Committee.
- The TCC workplan also includes a list of Commission and TCC Intersessional working groups. Working groups that have ceased or are inactive are identified in this update paper with strikethrough text.

- With a number of project priority tasks having transitioned into ongoing/routine work for the Secretariat, a number of the specific tasks could be consolidated, potentially into a separate section for “ongoing tasks”.
- As discussed at TCC19, with a number of key decision items on the WCPFC20 agenda that could substantially affect the agenda of TCC20 –including the expiry of the CMS CMM, the list of obligations, ongoing work to enhance Secretariat analytical capability, consideration of a revised transshipment proposal– it would be difficult to prepare a comprehensive revision of the TCC Workplan.
- However, with the information provided in this update, along with the decisions to be made and the expected workload for the Secretariat and Chair arising from related issues being considered at this Commission meeting, it would be prudent to prepare a revised and consolidated version of the TCC Workplan (for 2024 at least) early in the new year. This updated workplan would then be used to inform planning towards TCC20.
- Hence, WCPFC20 is invited to:
  - Note the information provided in this status update, and
  - Task the TCC Chair to develop an updated and consolidated TCC Workplan for 2024 to inform planning for TCC20, for circulation to CCMs in the first quarter of 2024.

**1. TCC Priority project specific tasks**

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
<i>Article 14(1)(a) Priority tasks with respect to the provision of information, technical advice and recommendations</i>				
<i>a) Support building the capacity of SIDS, which may include:</i> <i>i. implement observer programs, including training and data management</i> <i>ii. develop and implement MCS information management system (IMS) at a national level</i> <i>iii. improve bycatch reporting</i> <i>iv. set up a system or process for reports on transshipment activities and MTU inspections</i> <i>v. implement minimum standards for Port State measures</i>				Annual TCC Task.  Website to track Implementation of Article 30 of the Convention is available at: <a href="https://www.wcpfc.int/implementation-article-30-convention">https://www.wcpfc.int/implementation-article-30-convention</a>
<i>b) Review information about scientific data provision [TCC task]</i>				Annual TCC task. Report reviewed annually.  Note work on monitoring strategies for harvest strategies (WCPFC20-WP14)
<i>c) Analyze framework for the management and control of chartered vessels to promote compliance with CMMs, clarify flag and chartering CCM's control of chartered vessels, and clarify attribution of catch and effort [TCC task]</i>			Provide advice on any necessary modifications to CMM 2021-04	CMM 2021-04, Conservation and Management Measure for Charter Notification Scheme, shall expire on 28 February 2025 unless renewed by the Commission (CMM 2021-04, para. 8)
<i>d) Develop information and advice to promote compliance with the south Pacific albacore CMM (2015-02 and successor measures) and improve its effectiveness, including providing technical and compliance advice for the development and implementation of the south Pacific albacore roadmap [TCC task]</i>	Provide advice on relevant analyses to inform the work of the SPA IWG	Provide advice on key components of a new south Pacific albacore CMM	Provide advice on key components of a new south Pacific albacore CMM	Work continuing in SPA Roadmap IWG.

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:	
<i>e) Development and implementation of Commission measures for crew safety [TCC task]</i>	Provide advice on intersessional work to improve crew safety, including advice on the development of a draft conservation and management measure	Provide advice on draft conservation and management measure	Provide advice on draft conservation and management measure	Continuing work on a labour standards CMM (work led by Indonesia and NZ)	
<b>Article 14(1)(b) Priority tasks with respect to the monitoring and review of compliance</b>					
<i>f) Review progress of the work included in the multi-year workplan of tasks to enhance the Compliance Monitoring Scheme</i>				Work is being undertaken by the CMS IWG. All documents relevant to the progress of the CMS IWG are available at: <a href="https://www.wcpfc.int/cms-iwg_2020">https://www.wcpfc.int/cms-iwg_2020</a>	
<i>i.</i>	<i>Develop audit points to clarify the assessment of existing Commission obligations under the CMS [TCC task]</i>	Consider work undertaken by the CMS IWG in the development of audit points	Incorporate audit points into review of the dCMR (trial). Provide advice on adoption of audit points	Finalise outstanding audit points	Agreed audit points used in dCMR process at TCC19. Ongoing work to finalise outstanding APs at TCC19 and WCPFC20 (led by Australia).
<i>ii.</i>	<i>Explore investment and technology solutions to facilitate improvements to the compliance</i>	Secretariat to complete delivery	Secretariat to complete delivery		Ongoing work to improve the compliance case file system.

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
	<p><i>case file system [CCMs, Secretariat task] \$</i></p> <p>of WCPFC17 tasks enhance CCFS to make it easier to use.</p> <p>CCMs to trial CCFS messaging tool to track observer requests</p> <p>Implement further refinements to CCFS (for CMM 17-04 Marine Pollution, enhance Article 25(2) and bycatch interactions</p> <p>Implement refinements to aggregate summary tables (based on TCC17 recommendations)</p> <p>(Budget: \$??)</p>	<p>on feasible CCM proposals for refinements to the CCFS</p>		
<b>iii.</b>	<p><i>Develop a risk-based assessment framework to inform compliance assessments and ensure obligations are meeting the objectives</i></p>	<p>Consider the effectiveness of the 2022 list of</p>	<p>Provide recommendations regarding the</p>	<p><b>Complete – risk-based assessment framework noted by WCPFC19.</b></p>

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
	<i>of the Commission [TCC task]</i>	obligations (covering 2021 activities) developed through a trial of RBAF, any improvements on the RBAF and the approach for 2023	adoption of a risk-based assessment approach, taking into account the development of audit points	
<b>iv.</b>	<i>Develop corrective actions to encourage and incentivize CCM's compliance with the Commission's obligations, where non-compliance is identified [TCC task]</i>	Nominate lead; begin work through the CMS IWG on the development of corrective actions	Provide advice on corrective actions developed by the CMS IWG	Incorporate corrective actions into review of the dCMR (trial). Provide advice on adoption of corrective actions
<b>v.</b>	<i>Develop guidelines for participation of observers in closed meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies which consider the Compliance Monitoring Report [TCC task]</i>	[Nominate lead; begin work on the development of an approach to allow participation of observers in review of the dCMR	Admission of observers to dCMR (trial). Provide advice on approach to allow participation of observers	Further review and modify approach as necessary.]
<b>g) Provide advice on CMMs that need revision to improve compliance and monitoring, including those for which interpretation issues have been identified through the CMS process [TCC task]</b>				Annual task. Recommendations to be included in the Provisional and Final CMR adopted by the Commission each year.
<b>h) Respond to capacity assistance needs identified through the CMS process, including through annual consideration of implementation plans[TCC task, Secretariat task]</b>				Annual task. Secretariat report reviewed annually by TCC.

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
<p><i>i) Continued development of the Commission’s Information Management System (IMS) to support implementation of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme with the aim of making it more efficient and effective by streamlining processes. [TCC task, Secretariat task] \$</i></p>	<p>Delivery of a new CCFS system that meets minimum requirements of the current CCFS in Jan 2022</p> <p>Implement any changes to CMR online system considering new CMM on CMS (as adopted at WCPFC18)</p> <p>Support to the risk-based assessment framework trial</p> <p>Enhance Secretariat analytical capability and associated integrated-IMS tools to support the CMS (Budget: \$??)</p>	<p>AR Pt 2 and CMR upgrade (IT-related system consolidation)</p> <p>Enhance Secretariat analytical capability and associated integrated-IMS tools to support the CMS</p> <p>(Budget: \$??)</p>	<p>Continuing work to enhance Secretariat analytical capability.</p> <p>Implement changes to CMR system based on any changes to CMS adopted at WCPFC20.</p>	<p>New CCFS delivered and CMR online system updated in relation to CMS changes. Ongoing work to enhance Secretariat analytical capacity to support CMS including compliance verification.</p>
<p><i>j) Review and provide advice improvements to the ROP data fields, including those in ROP pre-notifications, to allow for more useful consideration in the compliance case file system and compliance</i></p>	<p>Review and provide advice on improvements to the ROP minimum</p>	<p>Consider improvements to the Observer Trip Monitoring</p>	<p>IWG-ROP review/develop recommended modification to</p>	<p>Work to be undertaken by the IWG-ROP to review and develop recommended modifications to ROP data fields including advice on improvements to the ROP</p>

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
<i>review process [TCC task with assistance from Secretariat]</i>	standard data fields for whale sharks and cetaceans – to allow for a distinction between an interaction and a possible infraction in the compliance case file system	<p>Summary data fields, which trigger pre-notifications, to better align with the Commission’s priorities in terms of compliance</p> <p>Review and provide advice on improvements to the ROP minimum standard data fields for sea turtles and seabirds to allow for use of ROP data in the compliance case file system, taking into account overall workloads of observers</p>	ROP MSDF	minimum standard data fields for CWS and PAI cases, as well as implementation of mitigation measures to protect sea turtles and seabirds to allow for use of ROP data in the CCFS
<b>Article 14(1)(c) Priority tasks with respects to implementation of cooperative MCS &amp; E</b>				
<i>k) Further develop port-based initiatives as part of the suite of MCS tools and a summary of port state measures undertaken by members [TCC task]</i>		<del>Provide advice on any necessary modifications to</del>	Provide advice on any necessary modifications to	CMM 2017-02, Conservation and Management Measure on minimum standards for Port State Measures,



Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
		CMM 2017-02	CMM 2017-02	<p>requires that, “<i>The Commission shall review this measure within 2years of its entry in to force, which shall include but not be limited to an evaluation of its effectiveness, and any financial and administrative burdens associated with its implementation.</i>” (CMM 2017-02, para. 28)</p> <p>TCC19 recommendation for review of measure in 2024 “taking into account current Commission implementation of the measure, other RFMOs’ experience, the UN FAO’s Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency regional PSM framework.”</p>
<p><i>l) Development, improvement and implementation of the Commission’s measures for observer safety and related issues [TCC task]</i></p>				<p>Development of Audit Points for CMM 2017-03. Observer interference issues considered as part of CMR process.</p> <p>No work towards further development/improvement of measure</p>
<p><i>m) Enhance how CCM’s and Secretariat’s practices integrate to facilitate ongoing monitoring and compliance with CMM 2014-02 (VMS) [TCC task with assistance from Secretariat] \$</i></p>	<p>Provide advice on future work to enable direct/simultaneous VMS reporting by vessels/ALCs reporting to the WCPFC VMS.</p>	<p>Provide recommendations on ‘VMS best practices’ to minimise data gaps from VMS failures</p>		<p>Future work tasks were recommended by the VMS SWG in their report to TCC17 – <a href="#">TCC17-2021-15A</a>. All documents relevant to the progress of the VMS SWG are available at: <a href="https://www.wcpfc.int/2020_vms-swg">https://www.wcpfc.int/2020_vms-swg</a></p> <p>Secretariat facilitating implementation of</p>

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
				these recommendations (ongoing)
<i>n) Develop improved mechanisms for the flow of observer information from ROP Providers to CCMs needing such information for their investigations [TCC task]</i>	Review and provide advice on CCFS improvements to track observer report requests and responses			IWG work completed. Secretariat implementing recommendations from IWG through ongoing work to enhance IMS.
<i>o) Continued development of the Commission's Information Management System (IMS) to support MCS activities, including exploration of IMS data submission and extraction tools. [TCC task, Secretariat task] \$</i>	RFV upgrade (IT-related system consolidation) – including consideration of the integration of a FLUX protocol to support that work  Develop automated extraction and provision IT tools to support the parameters of common data requests to support MCS activities.  Enhance Secretariat analytical capability and	Enhance Secretariat analytical capability and associated integrated-IMS		Work to upgrade RFV implemented by Secretariat.  Ongoing work to enhance Secretariat analytical capacity to support CMS including compliance verification.

Priority	2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
	associated integrated-IMS tools to support MCS activities  (Budget: \$??)	tools to support MCS activities		
<i>p) Continued development of training resources and learning aids for the IMS [Secretariat task] \$?</i>		Secretariat to explore online training videos as a cost effective way to provide training to CCMs on IMS	Ongoing provision of in-country support and developing/maintaining IMS guidance.	The ' <a href="#">WCPFC Helpdesk</a> ', created late 2020, provides brief reference information for members. These are very short guides with new topics progressively being added as resources permit.  In-country and online training delivered to CCMs by Secretariat. IMS guides developed by Secretariat to support members.
<i>q) Review and consider updates to improve the effectiveness of CMMs related to transshipment at sea and compliance with their provisions</i>				
<i>i.</i>	<i>Review transshipment measure (CMM 2009-06) [TCC task]</i>	Consider and provide advice on TS-IWG draft recommendations to the Commission stemming from the Completed Transshipment Information Analysis and on	Consider and provide advice on TS-IWG draft recommendations to the Commission related to strengthening the transshipment measure.	Work is being undertaken by the TS IWG (led by USA & Vanuatu). Scope of Work for the Transshipment Information Analysis in Support of the Review of CMM 2009-06 agreed in March 2021. All documents relevant to the progress of the TS IWG are available at: <a href="https://www.wcpfc.int/iwg-transshipment">https://www.wcpfc.int/iwg-transshipment</a>  Draft measure prepared for consideration by

Priority		2022	2023	2024	Updates/Progress:
		progress related to other priorities in the Terms of Reference.			WCPFC20.
ii.	<i>Further development of protocols, observer data fields/forms including electronic data fields and databases, as needed, to better monitor transshipments at sea, [TCC task, Secretariat task] \$</i>				Work to be undertaken by ROP-IWG for progression in 2024
r)	<i>Development and implementation of Commission measures for Electronic Reporting &amp; Electronic Monitoring [TCC task]</i>	Consider and provide advice on outputs from the ER and EM Working Group, including those related to existing obligations, data gaps and the prioritization of ER and EM and draft minimum standards for electronic monitoring	<del>Consider and provide advice on outputs from the ER and EM Working Group, including a draft E-Monitoring CMM</del>	<i>[EREMWG workplan]</i>	New Zealand assumed leadership of EREMWG (2023). Proposed workplan developed for activities in 2024.

## Commission & TCC Intersessional working groups

**IWG-ROP:** Review ROP (Current Chair: Harold Villia – Solomon Islands; work ongoing)

**FAD Management Options IWG:** Review and develop FAD measures (Current Chair: Jamel James – FSM; work ongoing)

**CDS IWG:** Develop and implement a Catch Documentation Scheme for WCPFC species (Current Chair: vacant; no current tasking).

**EM and ER IWG:** Continue the development of standards, specifications and procedures for e-technologies (Current Chair: **Shelton Harley New Zealand**; work ongoing).

**CMS IWG:** Work to progress the CMS future work included in Section IX of CMM 2019-06 (Current Chair: **Il Kang Na Korea**; work ongoing)

**TCC Observer WG:** Develop improved process for CCMs to obtain copies of observer reports for their vessels in a timely manner, explore ways to facilitate access to observer reports from both ROP Providers and the Secretariat, and recommend possible improvements to the ROP-CMM, Agreed Minimum Standards and Guidelines of the ROP, and other Commission decisions (Current Chair: vacant; work ongoing).

**TS IWG:** Review CMM 2009-06 through analysis of transshipment data, and identify provisions that should be updated to address current practices (Current Co-Chairs: Felix Ngwango – Vanuatu & Alex Kahl – USA; work ongoing).

**VMS SWG:** to address the VMS Gap and improve the number of vessels reporting to the Commission VMS (Current Co-Chairs: Terry Boone – USA & Viv Fernandes – Australia; no current tasking).

**SPA Roadmap IWG:** work to develop the Roadmap for Effective Conservation and Management of South Pacific Albacore (Current Chair: Neomai Ravitu – Fiji; work ongoing)