



Western and
Central Pacific
Fisheries
Commission

Outcomes of NC20

NC Chair: Masa Miyahara



1. OVERVIEW

- NC20 was held in Kushiro, Japan, on 15 – 16 July 2024.
- Nine NC members and five non-NC members attended the meeting.
- The meeting agreed to submit two draft CMMs for PBFT to the Commission.
- NC20 was resumed electronically on 5 November 2024 to consider the outcomes of the IATTC meeting in October as well as the EU proposal and amended the draft CMM for PBFT MCS.



2. OUTCOMES

(1) Draft CMM for PBFT

- Increase catch limits for fish smaller than 30 kg by 10 % and those for fish 30 kg or larger by 50 %. This measure is designed to allow the parental biomass of the stock to continue to increase. (IATTC adopted the catch limit increase for all-size fish by 50 %.)
- For New Zealand and Australia, 200 mt and 40 mt of catch limits for fish 30 kg or larger were set, respectively, not to cause a negative impact on legitimate fishing operations by bycatch restriction.



(2) Draft CMM on MCS measures for PBFT CMM (IATTC adopted MCS measures of the same substance.)

- A regime is established on MCS measures to implement the above PBFT CMM for both fishing and farming activities.
- Each CNM is required to report its MCS measures annually to the ED of WCPFC by 15 June.
- TCC and NC annually review the above reports and submit recommendations to improve MCS.
- NC will consider the establishment of CDS by the end of 2026, based upon NC/IATTC joint WG outcomes and other advice.



(3) Draft letter of agreement between the IATTC/WCPFC and the SPC for the use of TUFMAN2 code in developing the CDS system

- NC 21 recommends that the Commission endorse this draft letter of agreement.



(4) Work plan of NC

- For North Pacific albacore,
In 2025, review the implementation of CMM by each CCM and rectify it, if necessary.
In 2026, amend CMM in accordance with new outcomes of stock assessment by ISC.
- For Pacific bluefin tuna,
In 2025, review the implementation of CMM by each CCM and rectify it, if necessary.
In 2025, develop HCR through MSE and submit it to the Commission for adoption in 2026.
- For North Pacific swordfish,
In 2025, consider an appropriate amendment to the CMM.



(5) Others

Election of Chair

- Masa Miyahara was nominated to be the next chair. No vice chair was nominated.

Next meeting

- Japan will host NC21 somewhere in Japan for 14-15 July 2025.