



**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**  
**Eighteenth Session**  
Suva, Fiji (Hybrid)  
27 November-3 December 2024

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**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE COMMISSION'S WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2025 AND  
INDICATIVE BUDGETS FOR 2026 AND 2027**

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**FAC18-2024-06\_Rev02**  
**3 December 2024**

### Purpose

1. This paper sets out draft budget estimates for the Commission to undertake the proposed programme of work for 2025, together with indicative figures for 2026 and 2027, for review and recommendation to the Commission by the 18<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC18).

### Changes in Rev01

2. The following changes were made after discussions during the first session of FAC18 on 27 November 2024:

- A budget line was created under Part 1 of Annex 3 to include USD300,000 for the SRF in the budget.
- Additional funds were added under Part 1 of Annex 3 for additional audit-related costs.
- Additional funds were added under Annex 11 for enhancements to the meeting website as requested by SC20, and included in Part 1 of Annex 3 of the budget.
- Corrections were made to Annex 2 to account for the voluntary contribution by Chinese Taipei.
- Annex 6 was amended to include the estimated costs for expenditure related to the voluntary contribution by Chinese Taipei.
- The Funding for Northern Committee was updated in Annex 7.

### Changes in Rev02

3. The following changes were made after discussions during the third session of FAC18 on 2 December 2024:

- **The five lowest ranked projects by SC were removed from the budget resulting in a USD280,000 savings.**
- **Three options for fully funding the SIDS offset for a second meeting participant is included in Annex 7a.**

## Overview

4. The proposed budget for the General Account Fund for 2025 is **USD9,738,471**. The expenditures proposed for 2025 are for activities emanating from previous Commission decisions, recommendations of the 2024 sessions of the Northern Committee (NC20), the Scientific Committee (SC20), the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC20), the various intersessional working groups, and the Secretariat’s estimation of the ongoing operational costs for the Commission and its Secretariat.

5. The budget is structured in two parts. **Part 1** relates to the administrative expenses to sustain the operations of the Secretariat. **Part 2** relates to the expenses for the work of the Science and Technical and Compliance Programmes of the Commission.

6. The proposed Part 1 budget for the administrative expenses of the Secretariat in 2025 is **increased by USD183,032**, compared to the 2025 indicative budget presented at WCPFC20. The primary reason for the increase is the funding for the Special Requirements Fund. This figure accounts for USD220,000 when taking into account the *Future Work – Commission* budget line (sub-item 1.8).

7. The proposed Part 2 budget for both the Science Programme and the Technical and Compliance Programme in 2025 is **increased by USD74,209** when compared to the 2025 indicative budget presented to WCPFC20 for 2025. The increase from the indicative budget is related to additional projects under the Science Programme.

8. WCPFC20 endorsed an indicative budget for 2025 in the amount of **USD9,481,230**. The proposed budget for 2025 represents a 2.7% increase from the 2025 indicative budget and a 4.6% increase from the 2024 budget (see paragraph 4, above).

9. The net total of proposed member contributions in 2025 is **USD9,281,161** which includes an estimated USD3,400 for bank interest, USD50,000 from the CNM Contributions Fund, a USD500,000 drawdown from the Working Capital Fund, and a USD233,865 offset for Small Island Developing States.

10. Per Staff Regulation 19 (f), an annual market survey has been conducted for support staff salaries. Inflation for over the last year has been **5.59%**. Per Staff Regulation 19 (f), the maximum amount of increase due to inflation that can be automatically included in the budget is 5%. Due to the minimal amount above 5%, the additional .59% has also been included in the budget.

11. The table below outlines items under consideration by the Commission at WCPFC21 that are not currently included in the budget.

Item	2025	2026	2027
-ROP-IWG (in-person meeting in conjunction with TCC21, and travel by SIDS Chair)	25k for a one-day meeting held in conjunction with TCC		

-Port State Measures WG (in-person meeting in conjunction with TCC21, and travel by SIDS Chair) -FAD MO IWG (in-person meeting in conjunction with TCC21)			
JWG SPA (possible hybrid meeting in conjunction with TCC21)	TBC		
ERandEM WG (in-person meeting in conjunction with TCC21, possible consultancy costs for assurance and audit processes)	TBC	TBC	
Transshipment-related <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work related to the framework set out in TCC20 DP07</li> <li>• Necessary technical adjustments to WCPFCs TSER system and app to reflect any amendments to data fields for transshipment notification and post-transshipment declarations from WCPFC21 decisions</li> <li>• Technical work to support automation of the sharing of TSER data with relevant coastal CCMs</li> </ul>	TBC	TBC	
Technical work to support the Implementation of Secretariat tasks in Labour Standards CMM		TBC	TBC
Science Management Dialogue	-35k if held with SC22 -195k for a stand-alone, two-day meeting in Pohnpei		

12. As required by the Commission’s Financial and Staff Regulations, the following Annexes accompany the budget estimates:

- Annex 1** Consolidated Overview of Total Income and Expenditures.
- Annex 2** Summary of Donor Contributions.
- Annex 3** Summary of estimated General Fund budgetary requirements for 2025 and indicative figures for 2026 and 2027. This Annex includes the funding appropriated for 2024 and the forecasted total expenditure to year end against those appropriations, together with the indicative 2025 budget figures considered at WCPFC20.
- Annex 4** Proposed General Fund financing table for 2025, 2026 and 2027.
- Annex 5** A Summary of estimated costs for Established Posts for 2025, 2026, and 2027.
- Annex 6** Summary of budgetary estimates for 2025, 2026, and 2027 for the Commission’s funds other than the General Account Fund.

- Annex 7** Indicative schedule of contributions based on the Commission’s contribution formula. This schedule draws on 2021 – 2023 catch data provided by the Oceanic Fisheries Programme of the Pacific Community (SPC), the gross national income (GNI) and GNI per capita statistics from the World Bank website (www.worldbank.org), and other sources where statistics are not available from the World Bank,
- Annex 7a** Options for funding the offset for SIDS relating to the SRF, as discussed in the third meeting of FAC18.
- Annex 8** Indicative schedule of 2025 contributions for Cooperating Non-Members.
- Annex 9** Catch data provided by SPC and used in the assessment of contributions.
- Annex 10** Reproductions of Schedules 1 and 2 of the Commission’s Staff Regulations.
- Annex 11** Summary of IT Costs at the Secretariat.
- Annex 12** MOU with SPC for Scientific Services.
- Annex 13** The SC20 provided the work programme and budget with an average priority rank score to each project that requires funding support from the Commission. The annex includes details of the Science Programme and average priority scores.

13. **Annex 3** contains the core budget document and is divided into **Part 1 for Administrative Expenses** and **Part 2 for the Science and Technical and Compliance Programmes**. The budget for Administrative Expenses is based on maintaining the required level of Secretariat operations to support the proposed work programme and management of the Commission’s headquarters facilities. The budget figures for the Science and Technical and Compliance Programmes were obtained from the SC20 report and discussions at TCC20.

#### Recommendation

14. FAC18 is invited to consider the proposed 2025 budget and make recommendations to the Commission on the annual budget for 2025, and the indicative budgets for 2026 and 2027.

**ANNEX 1**

**Consolidated Overview of Total Income and Expenditures**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>
Member Contributions	\$ 8,338,589	\$ 9,235,071	\$ 9,504,752	\$ 9,472,071
CNM Contributions	\$ 195,625	\$ 232,426	\$ 239,213	\$ 238,391
Interest and other income	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Donors*	\$ 3,928,119	\$ 305,214	\$ 305,214	\$ 305,214
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 12,465,833</b>	<b>\$ 9,776,111</b>	<b>\$ 10,052,680</b>	<b>\$ 10,019,176</b>
<b>Estimated Expenditures</b>				
Administrative Expenditures	\$ 4,239,728	\$ 5,027,663	\$ 5,303,506	\$ 5,326,208
Science Programme Expenditures	\$ 2,657,311	\$ 2,717,377	\$ 2,597,025	\$ 2,547,265
Tech. and Compliance Programme Exp.	\$ 1,862,153	\$ 1,993,431	\$ 1,957,722	\$ 1,952,098
Project Expenditures (vol. contributions)	2,611,557	\$ 1,584,278	\$ 1,003,575	\$ 1,164,059
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 11,370,749</b>	<b>\$ 11,322,749</b>	<b>\$ 10,861,827</b>	<b>\$ 10,989,630</b>
Income over expenditure	\$ 1,095,084	\$ (1,546,638)	\$ (809,148)	\$ (970,454)
<b>Internal funds to cover deficit</b>				
Working Capital Fund	\$ 800,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000
CNM Fund	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
CNM Fund (offset for Small SIDs)	\$ 126,549	\$ 233,865	\$ 144,247	\$ 143,751
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 976,549</b>	<b>\$ 733,865</b>	<b>\$ 494,247</b>	<b>\$ 493,751</b>
<b>Net position</b>	<b>\$ 2,071,633</b>	<b>\$ (812,773)</b>	<b>\$ (314,901)</b>	<b>\$ (476,703)</b>

\*Income is recognized in the year it is committed but may be expended in future financial years

**ANNEX 2****Summary of Donor Contributions**

<b>Income</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>
Donors				
Canada	\$ 197,126	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
China	\$ 21,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
EU	\$ 416,737	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ISSF	\$ 22,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Japan	\$ 168,474	\$ 156,566	\$ 156,566	\$ 156,566
Korea	\$ 148,648	\$ 148,648	\$ 148,648	\$ 148,648
New Zealand	\$ 2,809,134	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Chinese Taipei	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
USA	\$ 125,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Income from Donors</b>	<b>\$ 3,928,119</b>	<b>\$ 305,214</b>	<b>\$ 305,214</b>	<b>\$ 305,214</b>

## ANNEX 3

**Summary of estimated General Fund budgetary requirements for 2025  
and indicative figures for 2026 and 2027 (USD)**

	<i>Approved budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Proposed budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
<b>Part 1 - Administrative Expenses of the Secretariat</b>						
<b>Sub-Item 1.1</b>	<b>Staff Costs</b>					
Professional Staff Salary	983,173	941,992	989,884	967,152	987,716	1,008,471
Professional Staff Benefits and Allowances	990,655	728,889	973,966	984,735	996,868	1,009,113
Professional Staff Insurance	181,521	165,738	200,817	174,229	176,682	179,209
Recruitment/Repatriation	25,565	27,247	0	25,565	25,565	25,565
Support Staff	563,422	547,461	621,161	669,825	693,588	702,764
<b>Total, sub-item 1.1</b>	<b>2,744,337</b>	<b>2,411,327</b>	<b>2,785,827</b>	<b>2,821,507</b>	<b>2,880,420</b>	<b>2,925,122</b>
<b>Sub-Item 1.2</b>	<b>Other Personnel Costs</b>					
Temporary Assistance/Overtime	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500	16,500
Chairs Expenses	60,000	35,511	60,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Consultants (Note 1)	153,000	154,685	153,000	153,000	153,000	153,000
<b>Total, sub-item 1.2</b>	<b>229,500</b>	<b>206,696</b>	<b>229,500</b>	<b>219,500</b>	<b>219,500</b>	<b>219,500</b>
<b>Sub-item 1.3</b>	<b>Official Travel</b>					
<b>Sub-item 1.4</b>	<b>General Operating Expenses</b>					
Electricity, Water, Sanitation	42,000	46,689	42,000	48,000	48,000	48,000
Communications/Courier	84,000	82,026	82,000	84,000	84,000	84,000
Office Supplies & Fuel	41,000	40,854	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000
Audit	7,000	12,742	7,000	17,510	18,540	18,540
Bank Charges	13,000	10,783	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
Official Hospitality	10,000	6,751	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Community Outreach	8,000	7,913	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Miscellaneous Services	6,000	5,497	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Security	110,867	108,387	110,867	117,065	117,065	117,065
Training	12,000	12,779	12,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
<b>Total, sub-item 1.4</b>	<b>333,867</b>	<b>334,421</b>	<b>331,867</b>	<b>359,575</b>	<b>360,605</b>	<b>360,605</b>
<b>Sub-item 1.5</b>	<b>Capital Expenditure</b>					
Vehicles	22,000	13,000	0	0	22,000	0
Information Technology	48,400	45,032	48,400	48,400	48,400	48,400
Furniture and Equipment	32,000	29,564	32,000	32,000	32,000	32,000
<b>Total, sub-item 1.5</b>	<b>102,400</b>	<b>87,596</b>	<b>80,400</b>	<b>80,400</b>	<b>102,400</b>	<b>80,400</b>
<b>Sub-item 1.6</b>	<b>Maintenance</b>					
Vehicles	6,000	6,512	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Information and Communication Technology	169,039	184,207	169,039	191,012	179,912	179,912
Website Hosting	20,130	26,877	20,130	26,877	26,877	26,877
Buildings & Grounds	63,000	62,573	63,000	63,000	63,000	63,000
Gardeners and Cleaners	92,568	90,358	92,568	97,743	97,743	97,743
Insurance	28,500	29,250	28,500	29,250	29,250	29,250
<b>Total, sub-item 1.6</b>	<b>379,237</b>	<b>399,776</b>	<b>379,237</b>	<b>413,882</b>	<b>402,782</b>	<b>402,782</b>
<b>Sub-item 1.7</b>	<b>Meeting Services</b>					
Annual Session	205,000	245,000	205,000	205,000	205,000	205,000
Scientific Committee	220,000	187,250	220,000	235,000	220,000	220,000
Northern Committee (Note 2)	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
Technical and Compliance Committee	174,800	167,430	174,800	174,800	174,800	174,800
<b>Total, sub-item 1.7</b>	<b>617,800</b>	<b>617,680</b>	<b>617,800</b>	<b>632,800</b>	<b>617,800</b>	<b>617,800</b>
<b>Sub-item 1.8 Future Work - Commission (Note 3)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>220,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>220,000</b>	<b>220,000</b>
<b>Sub-item 1.9 Funding for Developing CCM to Meetings</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>	<b>300,000</b>
<b>TOTAL, Section 1/Item 1</b>	<b>4,607,141</b>	<b>4,239,728</b>	<b>4,844,631</b>	<b>5,027,663</b>	<b>5,303,506</b>	<b>5,326,208</b>

	<b>Approved budget 2024</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure 2024</b>	<b>Indicative budget 2025</b>	<b>Proposed budget 2025</b>	<b>Indicative budget 2026</b>	<b>Indicative budget 2027</b>
<b>ANNEX 3 (continued)</b>						
<b>Part 2 - Science &amp; Technical &amp; Compliance Programme</b>						
<b>Section 2 (Item 2)</b>						
<b>Sub-item 2.1</b>	<b>Scientific Services (SPC) (Note 4)</b>					
	1,000,734	1,000,734	1,020,749	1,020,749	1,041,164	1,061,987
<b>Sub-item 2.2</b>	<b>Scientific Research</b>					
Additional Resourcing SPC (Note 4)	180,204	180,204	183,808	183,808	187,484	191,234
SPC additional stock assessment scientist (Note 4)	165,000	165,000	168,300	168,300	171,666	175,099
P35b Pacific Marine Specimen Bank	107,373	107,373	109,520	109,520	111,711	113,945
P42 Pacific Tuna Tagging Project	800,000	800,000	875,000	875,000	950,000	950,000
P68 Estimation of Seabird Mortality	0	0	0	0	30,000	0
P90 Fish Lengths/Weights Conversion Analyses	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	0	0
P108 WCPO silky shark assessment	100,000	100,000	0	0	0	0
P113b Template for stock status/manag. advice	40,000	40,000	0	0	0	0
P114 Improved cannery receipt data	60,000	60,000	35,000	0	0	0
P19X5 Updated reproductive biol. of trop. tunas (Note 4)	44,000	44,000	0	0	0	0
P19X6 (P121) Ecosystem and Climate Indicators	0	0	20,000	20,000	15,000	15,000
P19X7 Scoping study on longline effort creep	30,000	30,000	0	0	0	0
P19X8 (P123) Scoping next generation of assess. software	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	0
P19X9 Manta/mobulid/whale shark assessment	0	0	56,000	0	0	0
P19X10 (P124) Oceanic whitetip assessment	60,000	60,000	60,000	80,000	0	0
P19X11 Sampling strategy for shark biological data	0	0	40,000	0	0	0
P20X01 New Zealand albacore troll fishery catch sampling	0	0	0	0	0	0
P20X02 Fishery characterisation - mobulids, whale sharks	0	0	0	0	0	0
P20X03 Assessing black marlin/sailfish/shortbill spearfish	0	0	0	0	0	0
P20X04 Biology from billfish samples in LL fisheries	0	0	0	40,000	40,000	40,000
P20X05 Developing a sampling strategy for sharks	0	0	0	40,000	0	0
P20X06 Fishery characterisation - thresher/hammerhead	0	0	0	0	0	0
P20X07 Reconciling size composition data collection	0	0	0	50,000	0	0
P20X08 Connectivity of YFT/SKJ in WPEA&WCPFC-CA	0	0	0	60,000	0	0
<b>Total, sub-item 2.2</b>	<b>1,656,577</b>	<b>1,656,577</b>	<b>1,617,628</b>	<b>1,696,628</b>	<b>1,555,861</b>	<b>1,485,278</b>
<b>Sub-item 2.3</b>	<b>Technical &amp; Compliance Programme</b>					
ROP Travel for Audits and Training	35,000	7,177	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
ROP - Consultancy	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000
ROP Data Management	923,904	923,904	923,904	923,904	923,904	923,904
Vessel Monitoring System - Capital Costs	20,000	0	20,000	0	0	0
Vessel Monitoring System	200,000	148,238	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Vessel Monitoring System - Airtime	214,527	202,726	218,818	214,527	218,818	223,194
IT Security Audit	10,500	0	10,500	0	0	0
Information Management System (Note 5)	120,000	122,531	120,000	120,000	120,000	120,000
Monthly Reports and CCM Dashboards (Note 6)	40,000	25,600	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
CMS Future Work (Note 7)	50,000	65,633	30,000	30,000	30,000	20,000
Enhance Secretariat Analytical Capacity (Note 8)	80,000	76,680	80,000	80,000	40,000	40,000
Compliance and Monitoring Analyst Consultant (Note 9)	30,000	35,400	0	0	0	0
Repeatable reports - next generation approach (Note 10)	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	30,000
E-Monitoring and E-Reporting Activities	30,000	39,264	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
CCM/Staff Training (Note 11)	25,000	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Targeted Capacity Building	40,000	0	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Workshops/IATTC Cross Endor. Train.	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Regional Capacity Building Workshops (Note 12)	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000
<b>Total, item 2.3</b>	<b>2,043,931</b>	<b>1,862,153</b>	<b>1,998,222</b>	<b>1,993,431</b>	<b>1,957,722</b>	<b>1,952,098</b>
<b>TOTAL, Section 2/Item 2</b>	<b>4,701,242</b>	<b>4,519,464</b>	<b>4,636,599</b>	<b>4,710,808</b>	<b>4,554,746</b>	<b>4,499,363</b>
<b>Total, Parts 1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>9,308,383</b>	<b>8,759,192</b>	<b>9,481,230</b>	<b>9,738,471</b>	<b>9,858,252</b>	<b>9,825,571</b>



*Note 1: Consultancies proposed are:*

Legal support services (including travel)	\$65,000
Meetings' rapporteur (including travel)	\$63,000
Miscellaneous Consultancies	\$25,000
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	\$153,000

*Note 2: Northern Committee*

As per WCPFC9, additional funds will be assessed from non-developing state members of the NC to fund attendance at the NC meeting by developing states and territories if needed.

*Note 3: Sub-item 1.8 Future Work - Commission*

Budget line added in 2020 to account for unidentified future work that may be required by the Commission. Amount reduced to \$0 for the proposed 2025 budget with the additional projects under Scientific Research.

*Note 4: Section 2 Science programme*

- Refer to Annex 12 and Para 3 of Annex 13 for SPC scientific services, additional resourcing, and additional scientists
- Refer to Para 4 of Annex 13 for job descriptions of the proposed projects for 2025 funding support

*Note 5: Information Management System*

2025/26 - Includes continual improvements to IT-related tools to improve ease of use for CCMs to manage their own reporting (refer to TCC19-2023-22)

*Note 6: Monthly Reports and CCM Dashboards*

Renamed AR Part 2/CMS Online Host. and Pub. - because AR Part 2 and CMR system upgrades to be completed in 2025 - reflects a shift to consider additional opportunities to support CCMs with their own reporting

*Note 7: CMS Future Work*

2025 - for CCFS subsampling approach improvements, planned CMR system report enhancements and obligation compliance rating trends

*Note 8: Enhance Secretariat Analytical Capacity*

2025/26 - continuing exploration of work that delivers strategic solutions, to better support the current and future information management needs of the Commission (refer TCC20-2024-04).

*Note 9: Compliance and Monitoring Analyst Consultant*

2024/25 - TCC19 supported supplementary dedicated analytical capacity for the Secretariat in 2024 and 2025 (TCC19 Outcomes para 61). Focus includes exploring what might be needed to assist the Secretariat in understanding the potential uses of data from the Commissions monitoring programmes, with an initial focus on Secretariat support to VMS monitoring, high seas transshipment monitoring and high seas pocket management, and optimize with the support of routine reports the Secretariats and CCMs joint work to address data quality issues and gaps affecting monitoring (refer TCC19-2023-18).

*Note 10: Repeatable reports - next generation approach*

2024/26 - To deliver efficiencies in the Secretariat's generation of required annual reporting, supports continuous improvement in the editorial work and leverages recent work to improve data management in the compliance area (refer TCC20-2024-04)

*Note 11: CCM/Staff Training Guidance and Learning Aids*

Renamed CCM/Staff VMS Training to broaden the scope of the intended activities, including support for training guidance and learning aids

*Note 12: Regional Capacity Building Workshops*

FFA/SPC to advise on the use of these funds

## ANNEX 4

### Proposed General Fund financing table for 2025

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<b>Proposed budget expenditure total</b>	9,738,471
less	
<b>Estimated interest</b>	(3,400)
<b>Transfer from Working Capital Fund</b>	(500,000)
<b>CNM Contributions Fund</b>	0
<b>Total assessed contributions</b>	<u><u>9,235,071</u></u>

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### Proposed General Fund financing table for 2026

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<b>Proposed budget expenditure total</b>	9,858,252
less	
<b>Estimated interest and other income</b>	(3,500)
<b>Transfer from Working Capital Fund</b>	(350,000)
<b>CNM Contributions Fund</b>	0
<b>Total assessed contributions</b>	<u><u>9,504,752</u></u>

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### Proposed General Fund financing table for 2027

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<b>Proposed budget expenditure total</b>	9,825,571
less	
<b>Estimated interest and other income</b>	(3,500)
<b>Transfer from Working Capital Fund</b>	(350,000)
<b>CNM Contributions Fund</b>	0
<b>Total assessed contributions</b>	<u><u>9,472,071</u></u>

## ANNEX 5

### Summary of estimated Established Posts costs for 2025-2027

USD

2025

<i>Professional Position Entitlement</i>	Executive Director (1)	Science Manager (2)	Compliance Manager (2)	Finance & Administration Manager (2)	ICT Manager (3)	Deputy Compliance Manager (3)	Science Programme Coordinator (4)	Data Analyst (4)	Policy Adviser (4)	Total
Base salary	174,415	126,588	126,588	126,588	97,588	90,733	74,884	74,884	74,884	967,152
Super	13,081	9,494	9,494	9,494	7,319	6,805	5,616	5,616	5,616	72,536
COLDA	61,045	44,306	44,306	44,306	34,156	31,757	26,209	26,209	26,209	338,503
Housing	13,200	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	224,400
Location Allowance	28,778	20,887	20,887	20,887	16,102	14,971	12,356	12,356	12,356	159,580
Education	20,500	0	41,000	20,500	0	0	0	20,500	0	102,500
Leave fares	6,727	4,221	12,440	6,329	4,534	8,000	2,200	6,156	4,624	55,231
Reunion fares	0	0	6,220	3,165	0	0	0	3,000	0	12,385
ED Allowances	19,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,600
Health & Medical	9,085	9,085	9,085	9,085	9,085	9,085	9,085	9,085	9,085	81,761
Life Ins.	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	51,039
Personal accident insurance	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	4,590
Medevac Access	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	36,839
Recruitment/Repat costs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25,565	0	25,565
<b>Total</b>	<b>356,706</b>	<b>251,255</b>	<b>306,694</b>	<b>277,027</b>	<b>205,458</b>	<b>198,024</b>	<b>167,024</b>	<b>220,045</b>	<b>169,448</b>	<b>2,171,282</b>
<i>Support Staff Position</i>	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7			
Base salary	0	125,919	90,039	136,150	71,911	66,124	0	490,143		
Health & Medical	0	9,330	6,220	12,440	9,330	9,330	0	46,650		
Life Insurance	0	9,882	6,588	13,176	9,882	9,882	0	49,410		
Personal accident ins.	0	1,530	1,020	2,040	1,530	1,530	0	7,650		
Social security/Retirement plan	0	19,517	13,956	21,103	11,146	10,249	0	75,972		
Leave fare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>166,179</b>	<b>117,823</b>	<b>184,909</b>	<b>103,799</b>	<b>97,116</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>669,825</b>		

**2026**

<i>Professional Position Entitlement</i>	Executive Director (1)	Science Manager (2)	Compliance Manager (2)	Finance & Administration Manager (2)	ICT Manager (3)	Deputy Compliance Manager (3)	Science Programme Coordinator (4)	Data Analyst (4)	Policy Adviser (4)	Total
Base salary	177,903	128,740	128,740	128,740	99,247	95,875	76,157	76,157	76,157	987,716
Super	13,343	9,655	9,655	9,655	7,444	7,191	5,712	5,712	5,712	74,079
COLDA	62,266	45,059	45,059	45,059	34,736	33,556	26,655	26,655	26,655	345,701
Housing	13,200	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	224,400
Location Allowance	29,354	21,242	21,242	21,242	16,376	15,819	12,566	12,566	12,566	162,973
Education	20,500	0	41,000	20,500	0	0	0	20,500	0	102,500
Leave fares	6,727	4,221	12,440	6,329	4,534	8,000	2,200	6,156	4,624	55,231
Reunion fares	0	0	6,220	3,165	0	0	0	3,000	0	12,385
ED Allowances	19,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,600
Health & Medical	9,357	9,357	9,357	9,357	9,357	9,357	9,357	9,357	9,357	84,214
Life Ins.	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	51,039
Personal accident insurance	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	4,590
Medevac Access	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	36,839
Recruitment/Repat costs	0	0	0	25,565	0	0	0	0	0	25,565
<b>Total</b>	<b>362,525</b>	<b>254,949</b>	<b>310,388</b>	<b>306,286</b>	<b>208,368</b>	<b>206,472</b>	<b>169,321</b>	<b>196,777</b>	<b>171,745</b>	<b>2,186,831</b>
<i>Support Staff Position</i>	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7			
Base salary	0	130,975	90,039	144,210	76,660	68,834	0	510,717		
Health & Medical	0	9,330	6,220	12,440	9,330	9,330	0	46,650		
Life Insurance	0	9,882	6,588	13,176	9,882	9,882	0	49,410		
Personal accident ins.	0	1,530	1,020	2,040	1,530	1,530	0	7,650		
Social security/Retirement plan	0	20,301	13,956	22,352	11,882	10,669	0	79,161		
Leave fare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>172,018</b>	<b>117,823</b>	<b>194,218</b>	<b>109,285</b>	<b>100,245</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>693,588</b>		

**2027**

<i>Professional Position Entitlement</i>	Executive Director (1)	Science Manager (2)	Compliance Manager (2)	Finance & Administration Manager (2)	ICT Manager (3)	Deputy Compliance Manager (3)	Science Programme Coordinator (4)	Data Analyst (4)	Policy Adviser (4)	Total
Base salary	181,461	130,929	130,929	130,929	100,934	100,934	77,452	77,452	77,452	1,008,471
Super	13,610	9,820	9,820	9,820	7,570	7,570	5,809	5,809	5,809	75,635
COLDA	63,511	45,825	45,825	45,825	35,327	35,327	27,108	27,108	27,108	352,965
Housing	13,200	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	26,400	224,400
Location Allowance	29,941	21,603	21,603	21,603	16,654	16,654	12,780	12,780	12,780	166,398
Education	20,500	0	41,000	20,500	0	0	0	20,500	0	102,500
Leave fares	6,727	4,221	12,440	6,329	4,534	8,000	2,200	6,156	4,624	55,231
Reunion fares	0	0	6,220	3,165	0	0	0	3,000	0	12,385
ED Allowances	19,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,600
Health & Medical	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,638	9,638	86,741
Life Ins.	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	5,671	51,039
Personal accident insurance	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	510	4,590
Medevac Access	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	4,093	36,839
Recruitment/Repat costs	0	0	25,565	0	0	0	0	0	0	25,565
<b>Total</b>	<b>368,463</b>	<b>258,710</b>	<b>339,714</b>	<b>284,482</b>	<b>211,331</b>	<b>214,797</b>	<b>171,660</b>	<b>199,116</b>	<b>174,084</b>	<b>2,222,357</b>
<i>Support Staff Position</i>	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7			
Base salary	0	130,975	90,039	144,210	81,718	71,721	0	518,662		
Health & Medical	0	9,330	6,220	12,440	9,330	9,330	0	46,650		
Life Insurance	0	9,882	6,588	13,176	9,882	9,882	0	49,410		
Personal accident ins.	0	1,530	1,020	2,040	1,530	1,530	0	7,650		
Social security/Retirement plan	0	20,301	13,956	22,352	12,666	11,117	0	80,393		
Leave fare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>172,018</b>	<b>117,823</b>	<b>194,218</b>	<b>115,127</b>	<b>103,579</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>702,764</b>		

**ANNEX 6**

**Summary of budgetary estimates for 2025, 2026, and 2027 for the Commission's funds  
other than the General Account Fund (USD)**

<b>Other Funds</b>					
<b>Chinese Taipei Trust Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
For capacity building of small island developing states.	230,240	229,445	subject to contributions	subject to contributions	subject to contributions
<b>CNM Contributions Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
Fund to collect CNM Contributions. <i>Note 1</i>	176,548	276,549	233,865	144,247	143,751
<b>Japan Trust Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
For capacity building in fisheries statistics, regulation and enforcement for small island developing states.	168,474	168,474	156,566	156,566	156,566
<b>Special Requirements Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
Article 30 of the Convention purposes.	0	281,850	subject to contributions	subject to contributions	subject to contributions
<b>Voluntary Contributions Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
For other earmarked activities.	651,169	598,284	275,339	0	125,021
<b>West Pacific East Asia Project Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
New Zealand	300,662	1,056,955	966,425	657,900	693,859
<b>Working Capital Fund</b>					
	<i>Indicative budget 2024</i>	<i>Estimated expenditure 2024</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2025</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2026</i>	<i>Indicative budget 2027</i>
To provide cash flow finance in the absence of sufficient contributions	800,000	800,000	500,000	350,000	350,000

*Note 1* Under Financial Regulation 5.2 (b) (ii) an offset was established for small island developing states to be taken from the CNM Contributions Fund.

## ANNEX 7

### Schedule of contributions based on the Commission's contribution formula

<b>2025 Contribution Table</b>									
<i>Member</i>	<i>Base fee component: uniform share 10% of budget</i>	<i>National wealth component: 20% of budget</i>	<i>Catch component: 70% of budget</i>	<i>Addition for Northern Committee</i>	<i>SIDS Offset</i>	<b>Total</b>	<i>Percent of Budget by member</i>	<i>Offset for Small Island Developing States*</i>	<i>Total of components: 100% of budget</i>
Australia	35,520	117,041	15,400	0	0	<b>167,961</b>	1.85%	0	167,961
Canada	35,520	108,773	42	0	0	<b>144,334</b>	1.59%	0	144,334
China	35,520	235,552	192,845	0	0	<b>463,916</b>	5.10%	0	463,916
Cook Islands	35,520	1,010	18,648	0	1,786	<b>53,391</b>	0.61%	36,087	89,478
European Union	35,520	273,239	81,423	0	0	<b>390,182</b>	4.29%	0	390,182
Federated States of Micronesia	35,520	6,630	540,770	0	18,868	<b>564,052</b>	6.41%	18,868	582,920
Fiji	35,520	8,616	23,111	0	2,177	<b>65,070</b>	0.74%	2,177	67,247
France	35,520	109,941	14,828	0	0	<b>160,289</b>	1.76%	0	160,289
Indonesia	35,520	22,389	190,494	0	0	<b>248,402</b>	2.73%	0	248,402
Japan	35,520	129,541	1,094,013	0	0	<b>1,259,074</b>	13.84%	0	1,259,074
Kiribati	35,520	5,409	523,016	0	18,254	<b>545,691</b>	6.20%	18,254	563,944
Korea	35,520	79,951	1,050,181	0	0	<b>1,165,652</b>	12.81%	0	1,165,652
Marshall Islands	35,520	2,100	297,708	0	10,854	<b>324,473</b>	3.69%	19,947	344,421
Nauru	35,520	639	374,087	0	13,279	<b>396,966</b>	4.51%	45,019	441,985
New Zealand	35,520	80,512	18,672	0	0	<b>134,704</b>	1.48%	0	134,704
Niue	35,520	91	5	0	1,153	<b>34,462</b>	0.39%	28,112	62,575
Palau	35,520	903	40	0	1,180	<b>35,282</b>	0.40%	22,850	58,133
Papua New Guinea	35,520	4,883	161,818	0	6,545	<b>195,675</b>	2.22%	6,545	202,220
Philippines	35,520	11,854	112,637	0	0	<b>160,011</b>	1.76%	0	160,011
Samoa	35,520	6,280	5,889	0	1,544	<b>46,145</b>	0.52%	1,544	47,689
Solomon Islands	35,520	3,719	69,461	0	3,518	<b>105,181</b>	1.19%	3,518	108,699
Chinese Taipei	35,520	62,758	982,289	0	0	<b>1,080,567</b>	11.88%	0	1,080,567
Tonga	35,520	5,389	590	0	1,343	<b>40,155</b>	0.46%	4,198	44,353
Tuvalu	35,520	570	149,719	0	6,014	<b>179,795</b>	2.04%	17,169	196,964
United States of America	35,520	425,791	292,192	0	0	<b>753,502</b>	8.28%	0	753,502
Vanuatu	35,520	5,657	254,673	0	9,576	<b>286,274</b>	3.25%	9,576	295,850
<b>Totals</b>	<b>923,507</b>	<b>1,709,239</b>	<b>6,464,549</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>96,090</b>	<b>9,001,206</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>233,865</b>	<b>9,235,071</b>

\* To be offset by the CNM Contributions Fund.

ANNEX 7 Cont.

Offset for Small Island Developing States as per Financial Regulation 5.2(b) (ii)					Offset for SIDS per WCPFC21			Total Offsets
Member	Population	Maximum Payable for wealth component	National wealth component	Offset for Small Island Developing States	Percent of total budget	Percent of General Offset	General Offset for SIDS	
Cook Islands	20,200	1,010	35,311	34,301	0.6%	1.9%	1,786	36,087
Federated States of Micronesia	115,220	5,761	6,630	0	6.4%	19.6%	18,868	18,868
Fiji	936,380	46,819	8,616	0	0.7%	2.3%	2,177	2,177
Kiribati	133,510	6,676	5,409	0	6.2%	19.0%	18,254	18,254
Marshall Islands	42,000	2,100	11,194	9,094	3.7%	11.3%	10,854	19,947
Nauru	12,780	639	32,379	31,740	4.5%	13.8%	13,279	45,019
Niue	1,819	91	27,050	26,959	0.4%	1.2%	1,153	28,112
Palau	18,060	903	22,573	21,670	0.4%	1.2%	1,180	22,850
Papua New Guinea	10,329,939	516,497	4,883	0	2.2%	6.8%	6,545	6,545
Samoa	225,680	11,284	6,280	0	0.5%	1.6%	1,544	1,544
Solomon Islands	740,420	37,021	3,719	0	1.2%	3.7%	3,518	3,518
Tonga	107,770	5,389	8,244	2,855	0.5%	1.4%	1,343	4,198
Tuvalu	11,400	570	11,725	11,155	2.0%	6.3%	6,014	17,169
Vanuatu	334,510	16,726	5,657	0	3.3%	10.0%	9,576	9,576
<b>Total</b>				<b>137,775</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>96,090</b>	<b>233,865</b>

**Additional Funding for Northern Committee as agreed in WCPFC9-2012-22 FAC 6 Summary Report 5.4 (25)**

Non-developing States Members of NC	Percent of total budget	Percent of NC fund	Additional cost
Canada	1.56%	3.0%	0
China	5.02%	9.5%	0
Japan	13.63%	25.9%	0
Korea	12.62%	23.9%	0
Chinese Taipei	11.70%	22.2%	0
United States of America	8.16%	15.5%	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>52.70%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>0</b>



**ANNEX 7 Cont.**

**Schedule of contributions based on proposed 2025 budgets without the Offset for Small Island Developing States and Additional funds Assessed on Non-Developing States Members of NC**

Member	2025					2026 Indicative			2027 Indicative	
	Base fee component: uniform share 10% of budget	National wealth component: 20% of budget	Catch component: 70% of budget	Total of components: 100% of budget	% of budget by member	Total of components: 100% of budget		% of budget by member	Total of components: 100% of budget	% of budget by member
Australia	35,520	117,041	15,400	167,961	1.82%	172,866		1.82%	172,271	1.82%
Canada	35,520	108,773	42	144,334	1.56%	148,549		1.56%	148,038	1.56%
China	35,520	235,552	192,845	463,916	5.02%	477,463		5.02%	475,821	5.02%
Cook Islands	35,520	35,311	18,648	89,478	0.97%	92,091		0.97%	91,775	0.97%
European Union	35,520	273,239	81,423	390,182	4.22%	401,576		4.22%	400,195	4.22%
Federated States of Micronesia	35,520	6,630	540,770	582,920	6.31%	599,942		6.31%	597,879	6.31%
Fiji	35,520	8,616	23,111	67,247	0.73%	69,210		0.73%	68,972	0.73%
France	35,520	109,941	14,828	160,289	1.74%	164,970		1.74%	164,402	1.74%
Indonesia	35,520	22,389	190,494	248,402	2.69%	255,656		2.69%	254,777	2.69%
Japan	35,520	129,541	1,094,013	1,259,074	13.63%	1,295,841		13.63%	1,291,385	13.63%
Kiribati	35,520	5,409	523,016	563,944	6.11%	580,413		6.11%	578,417	6.11%
Korea	35,520	79,951	1,050,181	1,165,652	12.62%	1,199,691		12.62%	1,195,566	12.62%
Marshall Islands	35,520	11,194	297,708	344,421	3.73%	354,478		3.73%	353,260	3.73%
Nauru	35,520	32,379	374,087	441,985	4.79%	454,892		4.79%	453,328	4.79%
New Zealand	35,520	80,512	18,672	134,704	1.46%	138,638		1.46%	138,161	1.46%
Niue	35,520	27,050	5	62,575	0.68%	64,402		0.68%	64,181	0.68%
Palau	35,520	22,573	40	58,133	0.63%	59,830		0.63%	59,624	0.63%
Papua New Guinea	35,520	4,883	161,818	202,220	2.19%	208,126		2.19%	207,410	2.19%
Philippines	35,520	11,854	112,637	160,011	1.73%	164,684		1.73%	164,117	1.73%
Samoa	35,520	6,280	5,889	47,689	0.52%	49,081		0.52%	48,913	0.52%
Solomon Islands	35,520	3,719	69,461	108,699	1.18%	111,873		1.18%	111,488	1.18%
Chinese Taipei	35,520	62,758	982,289	1,080,567	11.70%	1,112,122		11.70%	1,108,298	11.70%
Tonga	35,520	8,244	590	44,353	0.48%	45,649		0.48%	45,492	0.48%
Tuvalu	35,520	11,725	149,719	196,964	2.13%	202,715		2.13%	202,018	2.13%
United States of America	35,520	425,791	292,192	753,502	8.16%	775,506		8.16%	772,840	8.16%
Vanuatu	35,520	5,657	254,673	295,850	3.20%	304,489		3.20%	303,442	3.20%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>923,507</b>	<b>1,847,014</b>	<b>6,464,549</b>	<b>9,235,071</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>9,504,752</b>		<b>100.00%</b>	<b>9,472,071</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## ANNEX 7a

### Offset from Developed CCMs - Proportionally

CCM	Contribution percent	Extrapolated percentage	Total
Australia	1.85%	3.20%	\$ 1,473
Canada	1.59%	2.75%	\$ 1,266
European Union	4.29%	7.42%	\$ 3,421
France	1.76%	3.05%	\$ 1,406
Japan	13.84%	23.95%	\$ 11,040
Korea	12.81%	22.18%	\$ 10,221
New Zealand	1.48%	2.56%	\$ 1,181
Chinese Taipei	11.88%	20.56%	\$ 9,475
United States of America	8.28%	14.34%	\$ 6,607
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.78%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 46,090</b>

### Offset by Non-SIDS - Proportionally

CCM	Contribution percent	Extrapolated percentage	Total
Australia	1.85%	2.74%	\$ 1,263
Canada	1.59%	2.36%	\$ 1,085
China	5.10%	7.57%	\$ 3,490
European Union	4.29%	6.37%	\$ 2,934
France	1.76%	2.62%	\$ 1,205
Indonesia	2.73%	4.05%	\$ 1,868
Japan	13.84%	20.54%	\$ 9,469
Korea	12.81%	19.02%	\$ 8,766
New Zealand	1.48%	2.20%	\$ 1,013
Philippines	1.76%	2.61%	\$ 1,203
Chinese Taipei	11.88%	17.63%	\$ 8,126
United States of America	8.28%	12.29%	\$ 5,667
<b>Total</b>	<b>67.37%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 46,090</b>

**Offset by Non-SIDS - Equal Share**

<b>CCM</b>	<b>Total</b>
Australia	\$ 3,841
Canada	\$ 3,841
China	\$ 3,841
European Union	\$ 3,841
France	\$ 3,841
Indonesia	\$ 3,841
Japan	\$ 3,841
Korea	\$ 3,841
New Zealand	\$ 3,841
Philippines	\$ 3,841
Chinese Taipei	\$ 3,841
United States of America	\$ 3,841
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 46,090</b>

## Annex 8

### 2025 Contributions for CNMs (formula agreed at WCPFC7)

Cooperating Non-Member	<i>Base fee component: uniform share 10% of budget</i>	<i>National wealth component: 20% of budget</i>	<i>Catch component: 70% of budget</i>	<i>Total of components: 100% of budget</i>	<i>50% of Contributions</i>
Curacao	33,894	29,086	0	62,980	<b>31,490</b>
Ecuador	33,894	11,346	68,884	114,124	<b>57,062</b>
El Salvador	33,894	7,728	16,993	58,615	<b>29,308</b>
Liberia	33,894	1,137	0	35,031	<b>17,516</b>
Nicaragua	33,894	3,627	0	37,521	<b>18,760</b>
Panama	33,894	26,444	0	60,338	<b>30,169</b>
Thailand	33,894	17,605	0	51,500	<b>25,750</b>
Vietnam	33,894	10,848	0	44,742	<b>22,371</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>271,154</b>	<b>107,821</b>	<b>85,877</b>	<b>464,852</b>	<b>232,426</b>

## ANNEX 9

## Average Annual Catches 2021-2023

Commission Member	Own EEZ, Archipelagic	%	Own EEZ, Non-Archipelagic	%	Ex-Own EEZ	%	Total	% in Conv Area	Own EEZ, Discounted	%	Ex-Own EEZ	%	Discounted Total	% of Catch Component
AUSTRALIA	0	0	3,811	99.6	16	0.41	3,826	0.15	3,811	99.6	16	0.4	3,826	0.24
CANADA	0	0	0	0	10	103.33	10	0	0	0.0	10	0.0	10	0.00
CHINA	0	0	0	0	49,697	100	49,697	1.94	0	0.0	47,914	0.0	47,914	2.98
COOK ISLANDS	0	0	606	12.13	4,391	87.87	4,997	0.19	243	5.2	4,391	94.8	4,633	0.29
EUROPEAN UNION	0	0	0	0	20,255	100	20,255	0.79	0	0.0	20,230	0.0	20,230	1.26
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA	0	0	39,375	24.92	118,609	75.08	157,985	6.15	15,750	11.7	118,609	88.3	134,360	8.37
FIJI	664	6.42	6,559	63.42	3,118	30.15	10,342	0.4	2,624	45.7	3,118	54.3	5,742	0.36
FRANCE	0	0	12,162	99.99	1	0.01	12,163	0.47	3,683	100.0	1	0.0	3,684	0.23
INDONESIA	424,315	78.19	118,325	21.81	0	0	542,640	21.13	47,330	100.0	0	0.0	47,330	2.95
JAPAN	0	0	72,473	26.66	199,394	73.34	271,867	10.59	72,473	26.7	199,345	73.3	271,818	16.92
KIRIBATI	5	0	123,011	60.37	80,744	39.63	203,760	7.93	49,204	37.9	80,744	62.1	129,948	8.09
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	0	0	0	0	260,928	100	260,928	10.16	0	0.0	260,928	0.0	260,928	16.25
MARSHALL ISLANDS	0	0	16,509	19.68	67,365	80.32	83,874	3.27	6,604	8.9	67,365	91.1	73,968	4.61
NAURU	0	0	28,174	25.65	81,676	74.35	109,850	4.28	11,270	12.1	81,676	87.9	92,945	5.79
NEW ZEALAND	0	0	4,639	100	0	0.01	4,639	0.18	4,639	100.0	0	0.0	4,639	0.29
NIUE	0	0	3	100	0	0	3	0	1	100.0	0	0.0	1	0.00
PALAU	0	0	25	98.67	0	0	25	0	10	100.0	0	0.0	10	0.00
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	109,581	55.82	77,552	39.5	9,184	4.68	196,317	7.64	31,021	77.2	9,184	22.8	40,205	2.50
PHILIPPINES	124,569	76.56	16,927	10.4	21,215	13.04	162,711	6.34	6,771	24.2	21,215	75.8	27,986	1.74
SAMOA	0	0	1,172	54.11	994	45.91	2,166	0.08	469	32.0	994	68.0	1,463	0.09
SOLOMON ISLANDS	19,012	41.52	15,874	34.66	10,909	23.82	45,795	1.78	6,350	36.8	10,909	63.2	17,258	1.07
TONGA	0	0	360	99.17	3	0.74	363	0.01	144	98.2	3	1.8	147	0.01
TUVALU	0	0	3,984	10.06	35,606	89.94	39,590	1.54	1,594	4.3	35,606	95.7	37,199	2.32
CHINESE TAIPEI	0	0	4,539	1.83	242,961	98.17	247,499	9.64	4,539	1.9	239,521	98.1	244,059	15.20
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0	0	10,122	13.94	62,475	86.06	72,598	2.83	10,122	13.9	62,475	86.1	72,598	4.52
VANUATU	0	0	245	0.38	64,086	99.62	64,331	2.5	98	0.2	63,178	99.8	63,276	3.94
TOTAL	678,146	26.4	556,447	21.7	1,333,637	51.9	2,568,231	100.00	278,748	17.4	1,327,432	82.6	1,606,180	100.00

## ANNEX 10

### Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Staff Regulations

#### SCHEDULE 1 (as of January 2020)

#### ALLOWANCES

***Establishment Grant: Regulation***

16(d) All Staff USD1,565

***Cost of Living Differential Allowance (COLDA): Regulation***

23(q) The index as of March 2010 is 191.9

***Maximum Rate for Executive Director's Rent -free Accommodation: Regulation 24***

Provisionally USD2,000 per month

***Domestic Assistance Allowance for Executive Director: Regulation 24***

USD4,000

***Housing Assistance for staff in non-Commission accommodation: Regulation***

28(d) All professional staff: USD1,200 per month.

***Location:*** (approved at WCPFC4)

2010: 16.5% of base salary

**Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
Staff Regulations**

**SCHEDULE 2(a) (as of January 2024)**

**WCPFC Professional Staff Salary Scale in USD**

<b>Grade/Step</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>	<b>Step 7</b>	<b>Step 8</b>	<b>Step 9</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	\$137,890	\$142,027	\$146,288	\$150,676	\$155,196	\$159,852	\$164,648	\$169,587	\$174,415
<b>Grade 2</b>	\$93,600	\$97,204	\$100,946	\$104,832	\$108,868	\$113,060	\$117,413	\$121,933	\$126,588
<b>Grade 3</b>	\$72,123	\$74,936	\$77,858	\$80,895	\$84,050	\$87,328	\$90,733	\$94,272	\$97,588
<b>Grade 4</b>	\$55,354	\$57,513	\$59,756	\$62,086	\$64,507	\$67,023	\$69,637	\$72,353	\$74,884
<b>Grade 5</b>	\$41,092	\$42,838	\$44,659	\$46,557	\$48,535	\$50,598	\$52,748	\$54,990	\$55,516

<b>Position</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Executive Director	1
Senior Managers	2
Managers	3
Assistant Managers	4
None	5

**Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
Staff Regulations**

**SCHEDULE 2(b) (as of January 2025)**

**WCPFC Support Staff Salary Scale in USD**

<b>Grade/Step</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>	<b>Step 7</b>	<b>Step 8</b>	<b>Step 9</b>
<b>Grade 1</b>	\$33,677	\$35,900	\$38,269	\$40,794	\$43,486	\$46,357	\$49,416	\$52,677	\$56,152
<b>Grade 2</b>	\$29,650	\$31,605	\$33,694	\$35,916	\$38,287	\$40,815	\$43,507	\$46,378	\$49,345
<b>Grade 3</b>	\$26,888	\$28,665	\$30,556	\$32,570	\$34,722	\$37,016	\$39,456	\$42,061	\$45,019
<b>Grade 4</b>	\$23,490	\$25,042	\$26,694	\$28,454	\$30,334	\$32,336	\$34,471	\$36,744	\$39,172
<b>Grade 5</b>	\$20,094	\$21,420	\$22,834	\$24,342	\$25,947	\$27,657	\$29,485	\$31,430	\$34,295
<b>Grade 6</b>	\$15,888	\$16,937	\$18,055	\$19,246	\$20,516	\$21,871	\$23,314	\$24,854	\$26,495
<b>Grade 7</b>	\$11,686	\$12,455	\$13,277	\$14,153	\$15,087	\$16,085	\$17,145	\$18,279	\$19,467

<b>Position</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Administrative Officer	2
Data Quality Officer	2
MSC Officer	2
Finance Officer	3
IT Officer	3
CCM Support Officer	4
Human Resource Officer	4
VMS Operator	5
Reporting Analyst Officer	4/5
Data Control Technician	6
Receptionist	6



**ANNEX 11**

<b>IT Budget</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Part 1 Budget</b>			
<b>Capital Budget</b>			
Laptop and Desktop Refresh	1,150	14	16,100
Software for Laptop and Desktop Refresh			
Windows Upgrades for new computers	200	14	2,800
Network Hardware	8,500	1	8,500
Server Hardware Refresh	11,000	1	11,000
Other			
Misc	10,000	1	10,000
			<b>48,400 Total</b>
<b>Maintenance Budget</b>			
Reoccurring Licenses- Desktops and Laptops			
Nito PDF	35	48	1,680
Antivirus - SEPM	25	70	1,750
Microsoft Office365	209	33	6,890
Zoom	1,999	1	1,999
Reoccurring Licenses- Servers			
PRTG	1,750	1	1,750
VMware vSphere 5 Enterprise	6,400	1	6,400
QuickBooks	4,917	1	4,917
Malwarebytes	2,400	1	2,400
FortiWeb	1,200	1	1,200
Spam Filter	3,200	1	3,200
Veaam Support	1,690	1	1,690
Firewall Support	3,200	1	3,200
Misc Subscriptions			6,036
AI and Specialized applications			5,600
Contractors			
Penetration Testing	16,000	1	16,000
Disaster Recovery	13,000	1	13,000
Maintenance Contract West Pac Technology	50,000	1	50,000
Maintenance Contract Eighty Options	35,200	1	35,200
Maintenance Contract Taz-e	12,000	1	12,000
Maintenance Contract Kapiti Apps	5,000	1	5,000
Meeting Site Changes Contract Eighty Options**	11,100	1	11,100
			<b>191,012 Total</b>
<b>Website Hosting</b>			
Website - Production	7,364	1	7,364
Website - Staging	5,375	1	5,375
GIS - Production	7,069	1	7,069
GIS - Staging	7,069	1	7,069
			<b>26,877 Total</b>
<b>Part 2 Budget</b>			
IMS Development	120,000	1	120,000
E-Monitoring and E-Reporting Activities*	30,000	1	30,000
CMS Future work, including CCFS enhancements*	30,000	1	30,000
Monthly Reports and CCM Dashboards	40,000	1	40,000
			<b>220,000 Total</b>
			<b>486,289 Grand Total</b>

\* Note these funds may also be used for policy and legal consultancies as applicable

\*\* As requested by SC20

**Agreement for the Annual Provision of Scientific Services to the  
Commission and Assistance to Members by the Pacific Community**

(Pursuant to Article 2 of MOA)

**I. Period covered by this Agreement**

This Agreement is for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024. It will be reviewed annually and can be extended by one calendar year.

**II. Specific Services and Terms of Reference for the Provision of Scientific Services for 2024**

The scientific services to be provided to the Commission by SPC's OFP during the period of this Agreement are as follows:

Activity	Description of Service	Specific Outputs	Timing	Performance <sup>1</sup>
<i>Core SPC services</i>				
<b>1. Data management, statistical analyses and related services</b>				
<b>i.</b>	<b>Data Management</b>			
	1) Incorporate data provided by Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) under the Commission's data provision policy into existing databases and facilitate access of Commission Secretariat staff to those data as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Databases updated and installed at WCPFC headquarters</li> <li>• Updated database query tools for regional databases available at</li> </ul>	January-December	

<sup>1</sup> To be completed by SPC and WCPFC in November each year and provided as a paper to the Regular Session of the WCPF Commission and its appropriate subsidiary bodies (e.g., FAC)

		WCPFC headquarters • WCPFC staff training as required		
	2) Produce a summary on the status of the provision of scientific data to the Commission.	• SC / TCC / WCPFC papers as required • Continued update of the WCPFC Scientific Data Catalogue	Mid-July, mid-September and mid-November	
<b>ii.</b>	<b><i>Compilation of catch and effort estimates</i></b>			
	1) Compile estimates of annual catches by species, gear type and flag, as specified in the procedures for <i>Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission</i> AND in support of the functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.	SC papers	Mid-July	
	2) In relation to reporting of set start time, assist Flag CCMs with understanding and submitting information about the date/time standard that can be linked back to GMT/UTC, and urge relevant Flag CCMs to contact the SSP as soon as practicable should assistance be needed. ( <i>paragraph 79-80, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document</i> )	SC papers		
	3) Recognizing the importance of catch and effort data related to short-billed spearfish and sailfish species, provide assistance on the necessary amendments to the <i>Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission</i> ( <i>paragraph 81, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document</i> )	SC papers		
	4) Estimates of annual catches by vessel flag, EEZ, archipelagic waters, and IATTC/WCPFC overlap area for use in determining the catch component of the Commission's assessed contributions	Catch table provided to the Commission Secretariat	Late-Sept	

	<p>5) For catches for which estimates are not otherwise available, conduct statistical analyses to estimate catches, particularly regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) purse-seine catches of bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna,</li> <li>b) discards of target tuna species, and</li> <li>c) provide updates of catch estimates of non-target species, including estimate uncertainties (e.g., CVs) of bycatch for the purse seine fishery, noting the challenges of reduced observer coverage through the Covid period (Refer to Note 1 and 2 below):</li> </ol> <p><u>Note 1:</u> <i>SC14 recommended that the Scientific Services Provider continue the work on purse seine and longline bycatch estimates and provide updates every 2-3 years. (Paragraph 83, SC14 summary report).</i></p> <p>Previous papers provided include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>PS bycatch estimates: SC14-ST-IP-04 and SC17-ST-IP-06</i></li> <li>• <i>LL bycatch estimates: SC14-ST-WP-03, SC16-ST-IP-11 and SC19-ST-WP-02</i></li> </ul> <p>The purse seine bycatch update is due in 2024 under a 3-year cycle.</p> <p><u>Note 2:</u> Future papers consider the following SC17 recommendation in Para 58 in the SC17 Summary Report:</p> <p><i>58. SC17 recommended that future analyses providing estimates of purse seine bycatch include estimates of marine mammal bycatch to the species level, where possible, to allow for additional monitoring of bycatch and bycatch rates of marine mammal species.</i></p> <p>Estimates of marine mammal/cetacean interactions can be produced if requested (ref: SC17-ST-IP-10, SC19-EB-WP-10).</p>	SC papers	Mid-July	
	<p>6) To facilitate CCM’s data submission for efficient stock assessments,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) the data manager at the SSP liaise and consult with CCMs about the possibility of bringing forward the data submission deadline for fleets, especially historical data updates;</li> <li>b) the Secretariat and SSP explore options for the WCPFC website to include a portal for CCMs to enter/edit/manage their ACE data submissions, and</li> </ol>	SC papers		

	c) the SSP develop guidelines for standardised structure/file layouts for Annual Catch Estimates and aggregate catch/effort data that can be used by CCMs to submit these data.			
<b>iii.</b>	<b><i>Data dissemination</i></b>			
	1) Produce and publish on the Commission's website the <i>Tuna Fishery Yearbook</i> , containing annual catch estimates by gear type, flag and species.	Yearbook published on WCPFC website	Dec	
	2) Disseminate public domain catch, effort and size data on the <u>Commission's website</u> at agreed level of resolution, enhancing where possible, while ensuring that the WCPFC rules for public domain data are applied.	Update WCPFC public domain webpage	Jan-Dec	
	3) Continue to produce the <i>Overview of Tuna Fisheries in the WCPO, including Economic Conditions</i> paper and include summaries of northern stocks in the WCPFC Convention Area; and more information on the "other" fisheries (Para 38, SC15 Summary Report).	SC paper	Mid-July	
	4) Generate the Annual Catch and Effort (ACE) tables based on the latest data, publish the ACE Tables on the <u>relevant WCPFC webpages</u> according to the agreed schedule.	Update WCPFC ACE Tables webpage	Mid-July, mid-September and November	
	5) Generate and disseminate the latest version of the <u>WCPFC public domain bycatch data</u> , including data defined in the Bycatch Data Exchange Protocol on the WCPFC public domain webpage.	Update WCPFC BDEP and public domain bycatch webpages	November	
	6) Update and disseminate the WCPFC Data Catalogue via the <u>WCPFC Data Catalogue webpage</u> .	Update WCPFC Data Catalogue webpage	November	
<b>iv.</b>	<b><i>Technical / policy advice</i></b>			
	1) Provide <i>ad-hoc</i> advice on science and data-related implications of relevant MCS activities, including, but not limited to: transshipment, the regional observer programme, port sampling, VMS, port state measures, catch	Advice provided on request	Jan - Dec	

	documentation schemes, the implementation of e-reporting and e-monitoring (ER and EM), etc.			
	2) Provide advice and tasks as needed on data-related procedures of the Commission, e.g., <i>Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to and Dissemination of Non-Public Domain Data and Information Compiled by the Commission, and Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission</i> ".	Advice provided on request	Jan - Dec	
	3) Provide support to coordination and collaboration on data-related matters between the ISC and WCPFC, including specific tables that show provisions of operational level catch and effort data for the North Pacific region from all CCMs.	Advice provided on request	Jan-Dec	
<b>2. Stock assessment and related analytical services</b>				
<b>v.</b>	<b><i>Target species stock assessments and auxiliary analyses</i></b>			
	1) Undertake full assessment for South Pacific albacore tuna (South Pacific-wide) and Southwest Pacific striped marlin in 2024 to be presented at SC20 with due considerations for South Pacific albacore on recommendations in paragraph 301 of SC19 Summary Report and paragraph 31 of WCPFC20 Outcomes Document.	SC papers	Mid-July	
	2) Undertake analyses of catch and effort data, including operational-level data where possible, to construct indices of abundance for target and non-target species; and any additional research on biological parameters, to support stock assessments.	SC paper(s)	Mid-July	
	3) Make available stock assessment data, model settings and results files.	Link to input files, model settings, and output files posted on SPC-FAME website, and link on WCPFC website	Dec	

	4) Indicator papers for bigeye, yellowfin, skipjack tuna and South Pacific albacore for those years when a stock assessment is not conducted, with explanatory details for the figures and a brief interpretation of the trends.	SC paper	Mid-July	
	5) Trends paper for south Pacific albacore longline and troll fisheries.	SC paper	Mid-July	
	6) Develop and consolidate work on Multifan-CL, including work addressing the Yellowfin Peer Review recommendations.	SC papers as required	Mid-July	
	7) Continue working on improving the workflow and systems for efficient repeatability of stock assessments and supporting analyses.	SC papers as required	Mid-July	
	8) Continue working on assessment diagnostics based upon SC19 discussions	SC papers as required	Mid-July	
<b>vi.</b>	<b><i>Model development and refinement</i></b>			
	1) Refinement or development of stock assessment models, as appropriate, and refinement of models for CPUE standardization, model ensemble approaches, and harvest strategy framework.	SC paper(s) as required	Mid-July	
<b>3. Management analyses and CMM performance monitoring</b>				
<b>vii.</b>	<b><i>Conservation and Management Measure performance monitoring</i></b>			
	1) According to Paragraph 52, review CMM 2023-01 ( <i>CMM for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the WCPO</i> ) annually and provide advice as needed to the SC20 to ensure that the various provisions are having the intended effect. 2) Provide any additional technical advice as needed related to the options for a baseline of the Indonesia's "large-fish" handline fishery under Paragraph 48 of the CMM 2023-01.	SC / TCC/ WCPFC papers, and tables or figures as required	Mid-July, mid-September and mid-November	
<b>viii.</b>	<b><i>Development of Harvest Strategy Framework</i></b>			
	A. <u><i>Revised Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan</i></u> The Commission adopted an updated <i>Indicative Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06</i> at WCPFC20 (Attachment 4, WCPFC20			

	Outcomes Document). Activities specified in the updated work plan are noted in relevant sections below.			
	<p><b>B. <u>South Pacific albacore management procedure and monitoring strategy</u></b></p> <p>1) Review the WCPFC20-adopted interim target reference point (iTRP) for South Pacific albacore following the 2024 stock assessment and provide advice as needed to the Commission for any amendment of the iTRP by the Commission (paragraph 32, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document).</p> <p>Noting the following is funded by NZ under the 'Pacific Tuna MSE' project:</p> <p>2) Conduct the following analyses tasked by the Commission (paragraph 33, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document):</p> <p>a) Evaluations of some selected candidate management procedures for South Pacific albacore where the output of the harvest control rule is total allowable effort and alternatively where the output of the same or similar harvest control rule is total allowable catch;</p> <p>b) Evaluation of a range of alternative candidate South Pacific albacore target reference points between <math>SB/SB_{F=0} = 0.42-0.56</math> (long-term average <math>SB/SB_{F=0}</math> WCPF-CA, or preferably equivalent levels defined in terms of reference period) that will be considered in the context of the review of the adopted iTRP.</p> <p>3) Develop the reference set of the Operating Models (Table 1 of SC19-MI-WP-04) to allow the continued progress and evaluation of candidate Management Procedures for South Pacific albacore for adoption by SC20, noting the ongoing investigations that might require a reconditioning of the reference set ahead of SC20, and the potential for other changes in light of the 2024 SPA stock assessment.</p> <p>4) Provide relevant elements to be considered for the monitoring strategy of candidate South Pacific albacore MPs.</p>	SC / TCC / WCPFC papers	Mid-July	
	<p><b>C. <u>Skipjack management procedure and monitoring strategy</u></b></p> <p>1) Noting that data to monitor performance of the skipjack MP will not be available in first year of the MP implementation, commence undertaking a re-evaluation of the skipjack estimation method prior to the next</p>	SC / TCC / WCPFC papers	Mid-July	



	<p>implementation of the management procedure and provide any preliminary progress as required.</p> <p>2) Continue working on the development of skipjack monitoring strategy for adoption at WCPFC21, using the information in Attachment B of WCPFC20-2023-14 as a reference.</p>			
	<p><b>D. <u>Bigeye and Yellowfin Tuna and Mixed Fishery Framework</u></b></p> <p>1) Conduct analyses required to support decision-making on TRPs for bigeye and yellowfin tuna for the Commission’s agreement in 2024.</p> <p>2) Continue development of the mixed fishery MSE framework to support SC advice on performance of candidate management procedures.</p>	SC / TCC / WCPFC papers	Mid-July	
	<p><b>E. <u>Science-Management Dialogue (Virtual meeting, 10-12 September 2024)</u></b></p> <p>1) Provide technical assistance for the conduct of a Science-Management Dialogue in 2024 (SMD-02) and for the development of SMD-02 agenda, focusing on (<i>paragraph 36, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document</i>):</p> <p>a) South Pacific albacore management procedures (including review of the iTRP);</p> <p>b) Development of bigeye and yellowfin tuna TRPs;</p> <p>c) Issues pertaining to the application of the skipjack tuna management procedure, and</p> <p>d) Harvest strategies capacity building for CCMs (SPC-facilitated).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide capacity building activities including education materials and capacity building workshops to build understanding by CCMs of harvest strategy development, functioning and implications to enable their participation in the process of harvest strategy development, decision making and implementation.</li> </ul> <p>2) Provide technical assistance to areas of cooperation with IATTC to enhance cross-RFMO coordination in the development of the management strategy evaluation and management procedures for South Pacific albacore.</p>	SMD-02 papers	Late August	
<b>ix.</b>	<b>Ecosystem and Climate Indicators</b> ( <i>paragraphs 18-26, WCPFC20 Outcomes Document</i> )			

	<p>1) The Ecosystem and Climate Indicator Report Card is updated and presented annually to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.</p> <p>2) Provide a draft proposal on the scope and feasibility of undertaking an assessment of active CMMs and to determine specific CMM provisions that may be susceptible to be impacted by climate change, and present the findings to SC20, TCC20 and WCPFC21. The proposal will include, but not be limited to:</p> <p>a) how to capture potential effects of climate change on WCPFC fisheries and fish stocks.</p> <p>b) mechanisms to test the robustness of existing and candidate management procedures under plausible climate change scenarios within the MSE framework.</p>	SC / TCC / WCPFC papers		
<b>x.</b>	<b><i>Analyses to support development of Conservation and Management Measures</i></b>			
	1) Evaluate the potential impacts of existing, new or revised management measures, and the results of which may be suggested to the Commission and/or meetings of its subsidiary bodies as requested.	SC / TCC / WCPFC papers and <i>ad hoc</i> advice, as required	Jan - Dec	
	2) Provide data and advice regarding the revision of CMMs as requested.	SC / TCC / WCPFC papers as required	Jan - Dec	
<b>4. Other advisory and technical services</b>				
<b>xi.</b>	<b><i>Other advisory and technical services</i></b>			
	1) Provide support to continue Intersessional Working Groups for 2024, including the SP Albacore Roadmap IWG, noting SPA small working group outcomes (Attachment 18, draft WCPFC20 Summary Report), and the FAD Management Options IWG including review of the effectiveness of paragraph 22 of CMM 2021-01 and other FAD related issues tasked by the Commission.	SC paper	Mid-July	
<b>5. Oversight of WCPFC-funded or supported projects</b>				
<b>xii.</b>	1) Oversight of the Commission supported projects (as of January 2024) and appropriate reporting on each as per individual contracts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project 35b: Maintenance of the WCPFC Pacific Marine Specimen Bank</li> </ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project 42: Pacific Tuna Tagging Program</li> <li>• Project 60: Purse seine species composition</li> <li>• Project 90: Fish weights/lengths for scientific analysis</li> <li>• Project 100c: Application of CKMR</li> <li>• Project 108: Silky shark stock assessment in the WCPO</li> <li>• Project 109: Training observers for elasmobranch biological sampling</li> <li>• Project 110: Non-entangling and biodegradable FADs</li> <li>• Project 114: Improved coverage of cannery receipt data</li> <li>• Project 115: Recruitment of skipjack tuna in the equatorial pacific</li> <li>• Project 117: Tuna biological sampling</li> <li>• Project 118: Billfish biological sampling</li> <li>• Project 119: Additional work on trialling and supporting development of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs</li> <li>• Project 120: Updated reproductive biology of tropical tunas</li> <li>• Project 122: Scoping study on longline effort creep in the WCPO</li> <li>• Project 123: Scoping the next generation of tuna stock assessment software</li> <li>• Project 124: Oceanic whitetip shark stock assessment in WCPO</li> </ul>			
	2) Provide a “provisional” list of the SPC-OFP documents for SC20 to the WCPFC Secretariat (Science Manager) as early as possible but no later than by 30 April 2024 for the finalization of the SC20 provisional agenda.			

### III. Financial Support to be provided by the Commission

The financial support to be provided by the Commission to SPC’s OFP for the services outlined above is as follows:

Item	Cost basis	USD
Data management, stock assessment, and other advisory and technical services	Costs based on SPC costs of scientific staff positions, administration costs, travel to SC, TCC and WCPFC annual sessions, and computer support.	1,000,734

Providing essential computer support and software development for stock assessment <sup>2</sup>		180,204
SPC's additional stock assessment scientist		165,000
<b>Total Commission funding</b>		<b>1,345,938</b>

## ANNEX 13

### Scientific Committee’s Future Work Program and Budget

1. The SC20 had a work program and budget informal small group (ISG) meeting in the margin of the plenary session to discuss proposed SC projects. As agreed at SC17, the scoring system, as shown in the matrix below, was used to calculate CCMs’ average scores for priority ranking for each proposed project.

<b>SC Project Scoring System</b> (6,9 = High; 3,4 = Medium; 1,2 = Low)		Importance to WCPFC Management Outcomes or to the functioning of the SC		
	Rank	Low	Moderate	High
Feasibility: Likelihood of Success	Low	1	2	3
	Moderate	2	4	6
	High	3	6	9
Notes:				
<p><b>Importance criteria</b> evaluate the significance of the outcomes of the proposal in contributing to the successful management of the WCPFC stocks or the functioning of the SC (e.g. is the proposal aligned with the WCPFC research and/or management priorities; does the proposal contribute to the effective planning and functioning of the SC; are the intended outputs/benefits well-defined and relevant; what is the level of impact and likelihood that the proposal outputs will be adopted; is the proposal cost effective). High= Essential; Moderate=Important but not essential; Low=Not Important.</p> <p><b>Feasibility criteria</b> evaluate the proposal’s potential for success i.e., how likely is the proposal to achieve its stated objectives (e.g. are the objectives clearly stated, is the methodology sound, are the project objectives realistic and likely to be achieved, does the research team [if identified] have the ability, capacity and track record to deliver the outputs).</p>				

2. Based on the ISG's outputs, SC20 recommended the proposed work program and budget for 2025 and indicative budget for 2026 – 2027, together with CCMs’ priority scores for the budgeted projects in **Table WP-01** (below), to the Commission.

3. SPC-OFP provided the following specific list as the 2025 priority work for the scientific services (Sub-item 1), SSP’s additional resourcing, and additional stock assessment scientist (Sub-item 2) in **Table WP-01**:

- WCPO skipjack tuna stock assessment;
- Southwest Pacific swordfish stock assessment;
- Continuation of the Southwest Pacific striped marlin assessment and associated stock management projections;
- Ongoing work on WCPO tuna stock assessments;
- Development, support, and consolidation work on Multifan-CL;
- Ongoing work on improving the workflow and systems for efficient repeatability of stock assessments and supporting analyses;
- Analytical support for management needs, such as TRPs and harvest strategies, CMM evaluations, that lie outside of existing externally funded work;
- SC20 taskings on approaches to improve data reporting;
- Technical and analytical support to WCPFC meetings called in 2025; and
- Ongoing work on assessment diagnostics based on SC discussions.

While the above indicates 'priority work' for 2025, for a more comprehensive list of potential SSP taskings for 2025, the reader should refer to Annex 12 of this document which reflects the agreed work to be undertaken in 2024 and includes some of the additional ongoing activities that those funding lines support.

**Table WP-01.** Recommended Future Work Program and Budget for 2025 – 20267 with CCMs’ priority scores (reference: SC20-GN-WP-06a; New project ID P20Xi represents an arbitrary Project ID number proposed by SC20).

No.	Project Title	2025	2026	2027	Notes	Tasks	Score
	<b>Sub-item 1. Scientific services</b>						
	SSP scientific services	1,020,749	1,041,164	1,061,987	2% annual increase	Essential	
	<b>Sub-item 2. Scientific research</b>						
	SSP Additional resourcing	183,808	187,484	191,234	2% annual increase TOR: MFCL work	Essential	
	SSP FIRST additional stock assessment scientist	168,300	171,666	175,099	2% annual increase	Essential	
1	<b>P35b.</b> WCPFC Pacific Marine Specimen Bank	109,520	111,711	113,945	Responsibility: SSP 2% annual increase	Essential	
2	<b>P42.</b> Pacific Tuna Tagging Program	875,000	950,000	950,000	Responsibility: SSP	Essential	
3	<b>P68.</b> Seabird mortality		30,000		Responsibility: SSP No budget request for 2025	No scoring	
4	<b>P100c.</b> Preparing WCP tuna fisheries for application of CKMR methods to resolve key SA uncertainties. (Duration: 2023 - 2025)				Responsibility: SSP Funding: SSP, EU, IATTC, and CSIRO; WCPFC18 approved matching fund	No scoring	
5	<b>P110a:</b> Terms of Reference for a project to support additional work on trialling and supporting the development of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs in the WCPO				Responsibility: SSP Funded by the EU and matching fund by ISSF and the US	No scoring	
6	<b>P117.</b> WCPFC tuna biological sampling plan				Responsibility: SSP SSP’s complementary project	No scoring	
7	<b>P118.</b> WCPFC billfish biological sampling plan				Responsibility: SSP SSP’s complementary project	No scoring	
8	<b>P120.</b> Updated reproductive biology of tropical tunas				Responsibility: SSP Funded by EU and WCPFC’s matching fund	No scoring	
9	<b>P122.</b> Scoping study on longline effort creep in the WCPO				No cost extension	No scoring	
10	<b>P122a.</b> Extending the scoping study on longline effort creep in the WCPO to enable cross-tuna RFMO collaboration and broader discussion on CPUE abundance index development				Responsibility: SSP Expanded scope of work from Project 122, part of TARP with CPUE priority.	No scoring	
11	<b>P90.</b> Length-weight conversion	20,000			Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	Priority ranking	6.29

12	<b>P114.</b> Improved coverage of cannery receipt data for WCPFC scientific work	35,000			Responsibility: SSP	Priority ranking	4.92
13	<b>P121.</b> Ecosystem and Climate Indicators	20,000	15,000	15,000	Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	Priority ranking	7.13
14	<b>P123.</b> Scoping the next generation of tuna stock assessment software	50,000	50,000		Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	Priority ranking	7.75
15	<b>P124.</b> Oceanic whitetip assessment in the WCPO (2024-2025)	80,000			Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	Priority ranking	7.27
16	<b>P20X01.</b> New Zealand albacore troll fishery catch sampling	85,000	85,000	85,000	Responsibility: SSP Submitted by NZ	Priority ranking	4.71
17	<b>P20X02.</b> Fishery characterisation of manta and mobula and whale sharks	60,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the SRP	Priority ranking	5.04
18	<b>P20X03.</b> Assessment approaches for WCPO black marlin, sailfish, and shortbill spearfish	40,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the BRP	Priority ranking	5.17
19	<b>P20X04.</b> Biology of South Pacific striped marlin, blue marlin, black marlin, shortbill spearfish, and sailfish in the WCPO from longline fisheries.	40,000	40,000	40,000	Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the BRP	Priority ranking	6.00
20	<b>P20X05.</b> Developing a statistically robust and spatial/temporal optimized sampling strategy for biological data collection – consider ISC’s approach	40,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the SRP	Priority ranking	6.00
21	<b>P20X06.</b> Fishery characterisation and CPUE analysis of thresher and hammerhead sharks in the WCPO	60,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the SRP	Priority ranking	4.67
22	<b>P20X07.</b> Review and reconciliation of size data collected in the WCPFC-CA for assessment purposes	50,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the TARP	Priority ranking	6.54
23	<b>P20X08.</b> Understanding connectivity of the yellowfin and skipjack stocks in the Western Pacific and East Asia region with the WCPFC Convention Area	60,000			Responsibility: IDN, PHL, VNM Submitted by IDN, PHL, and VNM	Priority ranking	5.92
	<b>Total Sub-item 2.</b>	<b>1,976,628</b>	<b>1,640,861</b>	<b>1,570,278</b>			
	<b>Total SC budget (Sub-items 1+2)</b>	<b>2,997,377</b>	<b>2,682,025</b>	<b>2,632,265</b>			



4. The following **TABLE WP-01-supplement** includes brief information on the new projects in **Table WP-01** above. Full information on the terms of reference for each project is available at [SC20-GN-WP-06 \(Terms of reference for proposed projects for 2025-2027\)](#).

**TABLE WP-01-supplement**

No	Project Title	2025	2026	2027	Notes	Score
<b>Sub-item 1. Scientific services</b>						
	SSP scientific services	1,020,749	1,041,164	1,061,987	2% annual increase	
<b>Sub-item 2. Scientific research</b>						
	SSP Additional resourcing	183,808	187,484	191,234	2% annual increase TOR: MFCL work	
	SSP FIRST additional stock assessment scientist	168,300	171,666	175,099	2% annual increase	
1	<b>P35b.</b> WCPFC Pacific Marine Specimen Bank	109,520	111,711	113,945	Responsibility: SSP 2% annual increase	
2	<b>P42.</b> Pacific Tuna Tagging Program	875,000	950,000	950,000	Responsibility: SSP	
3	<b>P68.</b> Seabird mortality		30,000		Responsibility: SSP No budget request for 2025	
4	<b>P100c.</b> Preparing WCP tuna fisheries for application of CKMR methods to resolve key SA uncertainties. (Duration: 2023 - 2025)				Responsibility: SSP Funding: SSP, EU, IATTC, and CSIRO; WCPFC18 approved matching fund	
5	<b>P110a:</b> Terms of Reference for a project to support additional work on trialing and supporting the development of non-entangling and biodegradable FADs in the WCPO				Responsibility: SSP Funded by the EU and matching fund by ISSF and the US	
6	<b>P117.</b> WCPFC tuna biological sampling plan				Responsibility: SSP SSP's complementary project	
7	<b>P118.</b> WCPFC billfish biological sampling plan				Responsibility: SSP SSP's complementary project	
8	<b>P120.</b> Updated reproductive biology of tropical tunas				Responsibility: SSP Funded by EU and WCPFC's matching fund	
9	<b>P122.</b> Scoping study on longline effort creep in the WCPO				No cost extension	
10	<b>P122a.</b> Extending the scoping study on longline effort creep in the WCPO to enable cross-tuna RFMO collaboration and broader discussion on CPUE abundance index development				Responsibility: SSP Expanded scope of work from Project 122, part of TARP with CPUE priority.	
11	<b>P90.</b> Length-weight conversion	20,000			Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	6.29
<b>Objectives</b> This project has three objectives.						

The first component aims to identify gaps, address those gaps which can be resolved with existing information, and develop the sampling plan and protocol to resolve additional gaps, through the following activities (but not limited to):

- identify the priority gaps in conversion factor data for the WCPFC key tuna species, key shark species, and key billfish species
- expand the conversion factors to cover the WCPFC key shark species for groups: mako, thresher and hammerhead shark, after gap analysis against existing conversion factors
- produce a list of species of special interest (SSIs, excluding key shark species) that require conversion factor data
- produce a list of commercially important bycatch species (not covered in the items above)
- include more information on source of data for each conversion factor (e.g. reference of study, sample size, R2, minimum/maximum size of sample, etc.) in tables of conversion factors which will inform the need for more data collection
- produce a list of the remaining bycatch species that require conversion factor data
- produce standard protocols for conversion factor data collection to be collected by observers and port samplers,
- prioritize this list so that the most important work is achieved, and
- present the findings at SC15 for review, acknowledging that some observer providers will voluntarily collect conversion factor data prior to SC15.

The second component relates to investigating potential innovative methods to obtain length-length conversion factor data, including:

- explore the use of EM tools to capture multiple length measurements from fish e-measured by EM Analysts.

The third component relates to collecting the conversion factor data:

- systematically collect representative samples of length measurements of bycatch species support future estimation of fish bycatch in the WCPO; and
- systematically collect length:length, length:weight and weight:weight data on all species to better inform future estimation of fish catch and bycatch estimates in the WCPO.

**Scope of work**

The proposed work programme comprises:

- data compilation activities;
- subsequent statistical analysis activities to design future sampling approaches;
- evaluation of designs for practical field application;
- trials of selected sampling approaches in the field along with trials of equipment required to complete the sampling designs;
- finalisation of future sampling protocols;
- development of associated training standards;
- incorporation of training into trainer trainings and biological sampling trainings as required;
- ongoing co-ordination of sample collection and data submission; and
- reporting on designs and progress with implementation and data collection.

It is intended that a preliminary report would be prepared for SC15 and more comprehensive reports for SC16, SC17 and SC18, with a final report at SC19. An extension to this project is proposed for 2024 and 2025 to enhance the spatial coverage of conversion factor data to areas to the central and eastern WCPO.

12	<b>P114.</b> Improved coverage of cannery receipt data for WCPFC scientific work	35,000			Responsibility: SSP	4.92
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**Objectives**

This project’s overarching objective is to continue the work first started by Lewis (2017) to improve the coverage of cannery receipt data through collaboration with relevant port state CCM authorities.

The specific objectives will cover:

1. Identifying the gaps in the cannery receipt data submissions to the WCPFC;
2. In Year 1 of the project (as an initial step),
  - a) collaboration with one interested port state CCM, to approach several (but at least one) companies to request the provision of cannery data, using the *WCPFC Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse seine Processor data by CCMs to the Commission*<sup>1</sup>. It is envisaged that agreement to submit cannery data will require agreement for data confidentiality and other aspects, to be set out in Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) similar to that outlined in Lewis (2017).
  - b) As a key activity, document the protocols for how cannery receipt data are collected, including an assessment of the accuracy of species identification, particularly on how to distinguish juvenile bigeye and juvenile yellowfin tuna, and any requirements for sub-sampling certain size/species categories, noting the confidentiality of this information;
3. The documentation of the experience from Year 1 to outline a plan for approaching other processor companies in Years 2 and 3 of the project;
4. In Years 2 and 3 of the project, continuation of the work in collaborating with additional relevant port state CCMs, to approach companies to request the provision of cannery data. Also, to revise/improve the protocols as mentioned in 2(b) as necessary;
5. The provision of annual reports of project activities to the WCPFC Scientific Committee;
6. Where coverage of cannery data is adequate, the continuation of the analyses started in Peatman (2020b);
7. The WCPFC Science Service Provider (SSP) continuing the management and data quality assurance of purse seine processor data submission, including the identification of key gaps and resolving duplicate processor data (e.g. when valuable Final Outturn [FOT] data are provided from a different source).

**Scope of work**

The proposed activities include:

- Seeking interest from relevant port-state CCMs to participate in Year 1 of the project;
- Selection of a suitable contractor;
- Initial collaboration (through email/virtual meetings) to plan a visit to the port state CCM country, include potentially identifying a cooperative processing company before the visit;
- Informing relevant flag and coastal state CCMs of any planned visits, and engaging with these CCMs during the project as required;
- Conduct the visit (1-2 weeks) under Year 1 objectives;
- Contractor liaison with the WCPFC Secretariat and SSP;
- Preparation of consultant report for year 1 activities (objectives 1, 2 and 3), including a plan for Year 2 and 3 activities;
- Consultant conducting Year 2 and 3 activities (Objective 4), in liaison with SSP and WCPFC Secretariat;
- Preparation and presentation of reports to SC;
- Ongoing work required under Objectives 6 and 7.

It is intended that annual reports will be prepared for SC19, SC20 and SC21.

13	<b>P121.</b> Ecosystem and Climate Indicators	20,000	15,000	15,000	Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	7.13
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**Objectives**

- Develop and test candidate ecosystem and climate indicators to track the impact of climate and ecosystem changes on WCPFC fisheries and ecosystems.
- Provide technical advice to the Scientific Committee on the suitability of criteria used for testing and evaluating the performance of candidate indicators.
- Support the Scientific Committee in developing tools to communicate ecosystem and climate change impacts to WCPFC and external stakeholders and interest group.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/data-07/guidelines-voluntary-submission-purse-seine-processor-data-ccms-commission>

<b>Scope of work</b>						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical analyses to develop and test candidate indicators.</li> <li>• WCPFC member and expert workshops to refine indicators.</li> <li>• Scientific Committee Reporting.</li> <li>• Routine preparation of adopted indicators</li> <li>• Development of tools for communication to WCPFC and wider stakeholders</li> </ul>						
14	<b>P123.</b> Scoping the next generation of tuna stock assessment software	50,000	50,000		Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	7.75
<b>Objectives</b>						
The objective of the project is to ensure WCPFC tuna stock assessments remain robust and the best available scientific information through the appropriate planning for a state-of-the-art successor to the MULTIFAN-CL assessment software.						
<b>Scope of work</b>						
The project is divided into stages, as follows:						
<b>Year 2024</b> (tasks completed or still to be conducted)						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review and identify a list of necessary features for software to do tuna stock assessments and identify existing software platforms that have these features or capacity to develop these. (completed)</li> <li>2. Conduct two workshops with selected experts from other tuna RFMOs and/or with relevant expertise. The first workshop can be remote (prior to SC20) and the second one potentially in person (post SC20). The main goal will be to communicate the scoping project, upcoming model explorations, and succession plans for MFCL and Stock Synthesis, to seek advice from the scientific community, and to seek collaboration with tRFMOs and various research labs. (completed)</li> <li>3. Explore the new RTMB programming environment and how it could be used in future tuna assessments. Specifically, how to modularize and organize code in RTMB models, on one hand code that is specific to one assessment and on the other hand code that is shared between assessments. (August workshop)</li> <li>4. Establish collaboration with NOAA scientists to explore the feasibility of enhancing the tagging module in Stock Synthesis, making it more similar to the tagging module in MFCL (October meeting),</li> </ol>						
<b>Year 2025</b>						
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Provide support to the stock assessment team transitioning the 2025 swordfish assessment from MFCL to Stock Synthesis. Consider whether any issues identified with the 2024 southwest Pacific striped marlin assessment might be more readily improved by features available in Stock Synthesis that are not available in MFCL.</li> <li>6. Compare various software platforms using a simplified single-region WCPO yellowfin tuna dataset. The comparison will evaluate available features, run time speed, auxiliary tools, time and skills required to develop and diagnose models, and other characteristics. This task would aim to determine which if any platforms can be considered viable candidates, at least in an interim phase of assessment software transitioning for individual assessments.</li> <li>7. Prepare alternative workplans and budget scenarios for a larger implementing (main) project to go beyond the scoping phase. The scoping project/funds in 2026 could transition into the main implementing project based on the discussions at SC21, budget considerations, and funding availability. It is expected that the work leading up to SC21 will inform the workplan options for the main implementing project and budget estimations.</li> <li>8. Communicate further with tuna RFMOs and other research labs to establish which RFMOs and labs are willing and able to commit scientist time to collaborate on specific tasks of the scoping project, as well as contribute resources to the main project.</li> <li>9. Communicate with tuna RFMOs and the NOAA FIMS project team to explore the possibility and possible mode of collaboration to develop future tuna assessment models through the FIMS project, specifically by contributing modules (i.e. tagging module) required for tuna assessments.</li> <li>10. Progress report to SC21</li> </ol>						
<b>Year 2026</b>						
To be decided, based on discussions at SC21 and findings from stages 1 through 9.						

15	<b>P124.</b> Oceanic whitetip assessment in the WCPO (2024-2025)	80,000			Responsibility: SSP (Ongoing)	7.27
<p><b>Objectives</b> Undertake a stock assessment of oceanic whitetip in the western and central Pacific Ocean</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing the previous assessment in the WCPO to assess and improve on methods to increase the understanding of data strengths and weaknesses, and update stock status.</li> <li>• Update WCPO longline catch estimates and abundance indices using recent observer data.</li> <li>• Present the stock status in terms of the metrics outlined in the 2021-2025 Shark Research Plan.</li> <li>• Prepare a report containing the above results for SC21.</li> <li>• If the data are too poor to undertake a full quantitative assessment, then a medium data assessment may be appropriate.</li> </ul>						
16	<b>P20X01.</b> New Zealand albacore troll fishery catch sampling	85,000	85,000	85,000	Responsibility: SSP Submitted by NZ	4.71
<p><b>Objectives</b> To determine the length composition of the commercial troll catch of South Pacific albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>) in New Zealand waters.</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b> This project seeks to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct representative sampling to determine the length composition of albacore tuna during the 2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27 fishing years. The target coefficient of variation (CV) for the length composition is 20 % (mean weighted CV across all length classes).</li> <li>2. Investigate factors associated with variation in the length composition of catches and the extent to which sampling covers the most important sources of variation during the 2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27 fishing years.</li> </ol>						
17	<b>P20X02.</b> Fishery characterisation of manta and mobula and whale sharks	60,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the SRP	5.04
<p><b>Objectives</b> To evaluate trends in manta and mobulid and whale shark populations in the WCPO</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing the previous work in the WCPO to assess and improve on methods and update the information on stock trends.</li> <li>• Present a characterisation of the fisheries catching these species.</li> <li>• Attempt to develop WCPO abundance indices using observer data.</li> <li>• Attempt to present the stock status in terms of the metrics outlined in the 2021-2025 Shark Research Plan.</li> <li>• Prepare a report containing the above results for SC21.</li> </ul>						
18	<b>P20X03.</b> Assessment approaches for WCPO black marlin, sailfish, and shortbill spearfish	40,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the BRP	5.17
<p><b>Objectives</b> Determine the most appropriate modelling/assessment approach(es) to evaluate the stock status and trends for low information billfish species.</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review approaches that have been undertaken on low information billfish and other stocks within and outside of the WCPO to assess potential methods that could be used with the data and information available.</li> <li>• Suggest improvements to increase the data, understanding of the data, enhance the biological information and improve the likelihood of success in evaluating stock status for each species.</li> </ul>						

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a report containing the above results for SC21.</li> </ul>						
19	<b>P20X04.</b> Biology of South Pacific striped marlin, blue marlin, black marlin, shortbill spearfish and sailfish in the WCPO from longline fisheries.	40,000	40,000	40,000	Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the BRP	6.00
<p><b>Objectives</b> Collect biological samples from billfish in the WCPO and analyse them to get estimates for growth and maturity.</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the results from SC20-SA-IP-13 to plan the spatio-temporal data collection.</li> <li>Ensure that data collection is stratified across the WCPO and cover all sex and size classes for each species.</li> <li>Collect fin spines, otoliths, maturity stages information from billfish.</li> <li>Collect length-weight and length-length conversion factor data for all billfish.</li> <li>Undertake age and growth and reproductive analyses to inform productivity rates of this species.</li> <li>Present annual updates to the SC in 2025, 2026 and 2027; and a final report in 2028.</li> </ul>						
20	<b>P20X05.</b> Developing a statistically robust and spatial/temporal optimized sampling strategy for biological data collection – consider ISC’s approach	40,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the SRP	6.00
<p><b>Objectives</b> To identify sampling gaps in biological data stored within the SPC Tissue Bank and to develop a biological sampling plan to collect information for WCPFC shark species which address those sampling gaps.</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b> This proposal seeks to leverage the existing efforts and experience within the WCPFC region in order to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a robust, statistically structured biological sampling plan for the WCPFC to collect biological information (e.g., length composition, age, growth, maturity and genetic data) for the WCPFC key shark species;</li> <li>Evaluate the existing biological samples contained within the SPC Tuna Tissue Bank relative to the sampling plan developed in (a);</li> <li>Conduct a gap analysis to identify additional samples that need to be collected (e.g., spatiotemporal strata, size bins, sexes, etc.);</li> <li>Within a simulation framework, evaluate the robustness of the sampling plan developed in (a) to anticipated logistical challenges of implementing the plan across the WCPO, and to understand the limitations of the existing data following the gap analysis in (c).</li> </ol> <p>A subsequent phase would consist of the implementation of (a) with the collection of the additional samples defined in (c).</p>						
21	<b>P20X06.</b> Fishery characterisation and CPUE analysis of thresher and hammerhead sharks in the WCPO	60,000			Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the SRP	4.67
<p><b>Objectives</b> To evaluate trends in thresher and hammerhead shark populations at a species level in the WCPO and assess the level of/trends in the fishing impacts on these stocks</p> <p><b>Scope of work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewing the previous work in the WCPO to assess and improve on methods and update the information on stock trends.</li> <li>Present a characterisation of the fisheries catching these species.</li> </ul>						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempt to develop WCPO abundance indices using observer data.</li> <li>• Attempt to present the stock status in terms of the metrics outlined in the 2021-2025 Shark Research Plan for low and medium information stocks.</li> <li>• Prepare a report containing the above results for SC21.</li> </ul>						
22	<b>P20X07.</b> Review and reconciliation of size data collected in the WCPFC-Convention Area for assessment purposes	50,000				Responsibility: SSP Submitted by the TARP	6.54
<b>Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the procedures used to collect and process size data for use in WCPFC stock assessments.</li> <li>• Review the key historical approaches and changes in the collection of size composition data for tuna assessments and provide a summary guide on size data collection for stock assessment scientists.</li> <li>• Identify any critical inadequacies in the current size data sampling or areas where oversampling might be occurring.</li> <li>• Provide options for improving the provision and consistency of size composition data for application in stock assessments</li> </ul> <b>Scope of work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the current/historical approaches and key changes in the collection of size composition data for tuna assessments and provide a summary guide on size data collection for stock assessment scientists.</li> <li>• Identify any critical inadequacies in the current size data sampling or areas where oversampling might be occurring.</li> <li>• Provide options for improving the provision and consistency of size composition data for application in stock assessments.</li> <li>• Identify issues with size data provided to the WCPFC and confirm with the relevant CCMs.</li> <li>• Liaise with individual CCMs to identify the best way to deal with discrepancies.</li> </ul>							
23	<b>P20X08.</b> Understanding connectivity of the yellowfin and skipjack stocks in the Western Pacific and East Asia region with the WCPFC Convention Area	60,000				Responsibility: IDN, PHL, VNM Submitted by IDN, PHL, and VNM	5.92
<b>Objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feasibility study of project to understand the connectivity of key stocks (yellowfin and skipjack) across the region, with a particular focus on the western Pacific Ocean and East Asia region (regions 2-YFT and 5-SKJ, respectively) and the wider WCPFC-CA to contribute reducing uncertainties for stock assessments and producing better CMMs.</li> <li>• Development of a ToR and budget for SC21 consideration of the work necessary to answer this question.</li> </ul> <b>Scope of work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify relevant techniques to answer the questions on stock structure.</li> <li>• Identify the samples needed to undertake those techniques.</li> <li>• Evaluate the regional capacity to achieve those sampling levels.</li> <li>• Develop a ToR and budget for SC21 consideration for the 'full' project.</li> </ul>							
<b>Total Sub-item 2.</b>		<b>1,976,628</b>	<b>1,640,861</b>	<b>1,570,278</b>			
<b>Total SC budget (Sub-items 1+2)</b>		<b>2,997,377</b>	<b>2,682,025</b>	<b>2,632,265</b>			