



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE  
SIXTH REGULAR SESSION**  
7-10 September 2010  
Fukuoka, Japan

---

**COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

---

**WCPFC-NC6/WP-06  
31 August 2010**

**Paper prepared by the Secretariat**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Article 22 of the Convention requires the Commission to collaborate with other relevant intergovernmental organizations, particularly those which may contribute to the attainment of the objective of the Convention. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) are identified as organizations, among others, that the Commission may enter into relationship agreements with for the purposes of collaboration, cooperation, consultation and avoiding duplication.

2. A summary of the status of relations with other organizations has been presented at each meeting of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies to date. The reports have included an overview of relations between WCPFC and the following organisations:

- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC);
- Commission for the Conservation for Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT);
- International Scientific Committee for Tunas and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC);
- Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC);
- Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA);
- UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO);
- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR);
- Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);
- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP);
- Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); and

- Agreement for the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP).

3. On the direction of the Commission, agreements on cooperation, coordination and consultation have been formalized with SPC, FFA, CCSBT, IATTC, IOTC, ISC, SPREP and ACAP. The Agreements with each of these organizations can be found on <http://wcpfc.int/relations-with-other-organisations>.

## **EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS**

### ***The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)***

4. Based on Article 13 of the Convention, the first MoU with SPC for the provision of data management and scientific services was finalized and signed following WCPFC2. Consistent with the provisions of paragraph 29 of the Commission's *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission*, an agreement for the exchange of data with the SPC was adopted at WCPFC5.

5. On the basis of recommendations from the *Independent Review of Interim Arrangements for Science Structure and Functions* adopted at WCPFC5, the Secretariat drafted a 3-year umbrella arrangement for the provision of data administration and science services with the SPC-OFP, which was recommended by the SC5 and approved at WCPFC6 in December 2009.

### ***The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)***

6. The existing MoU between WCPFC and CCSBT was signed following the endorsement of the WCPFC2 in December 2005 at Pohnpei, FSM.

### ***International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC)***

7. On the basis of recommendations from the *Independent Review of Interim Arrangements for Science Structure and Functions* adopted at the SC5, the Secretariat prepared a draft revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ISC. The revised draft, however, was not accepted by the Northern Committee, will be sustained until review at WCPFC7.

### ***The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)***

8. A MoU was executed by representatives of the IATTC and WCPFC following its endorsement by WCPFC3 at Apia, Samoa in December 2006.

9. The two Secretariats attempt to meet at least once annually to consult on issues and developments of mutual interest. The last such meeting was held on the occasion of the KOBE II discussions in Barcelona, Spain in June 2010 to discuss the joint

arrangement for Cross Certification of Observers whereupon a final agreed draft between Secretariats has been concluded to present to Members of both Commissions. This Draft will be presented to the IATTC Members early September and to WCPFC Members at TCC6.

10. IATTC80 considered a draft data exchange agreement to support the exchange of data between the two Commissions. The initial draft, prepared by the WCPFC Secretariat, was based on Appendix 4 of the *Rules and Procedures for the Protection of, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission*. IATTC80 proposed some refinements to that draft which was presented and approved by WCPFC6 and signed by both Commissions at the end of the Commission meeting in December 2009.

11. An ongoing issue to be addressed are the operations by vessels of IATTC in the overlap of Convention Areas around French Polynesia without regard for the WCPFC CMMs. Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 22 of the WCPFC Convention will be reviewed at TCC6.

***The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)***

12. As directed by the WCPFC4, a MoU between the two secretariats was finalized. There is also a service level agreement (SLA) between the FFA and the Commission for VMS services consistent with paragraph 5 of Article 15 of the Convention. This Agreement has recently been the subject of discussion between the agencies, which will be considered at TCC6.

***The Agreement for the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP)***

13. The WCPFC4 adopted a MoU with ACAP.

***The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)***

14. The WCPFC4 adopted a MoU with SPREP.

***The Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)***

15. The WCPFC4 adopted a MoU with IOTC.

***The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)***

16. WCPFC5 adopted an Arrangement with CCAMLR. The Arrangement was signed by the Chair of CCAMLR on 12th January 2009.

***North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC)***

17. WCPFC5 recommended that efforts commence to establish a formal relationship with the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC). A draft MoU was developed by the two Secretariats and approved by WCPFC 6 in December 2009, and is currently in the process of final signing.

## **OTHER POTENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

### ***The UN Food and Agriculture Organization***

18. The WCPFC4 decided that there is no urgency to develop a MoU with FAO.

### ***The International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (TCCAT)***

19. Regular dialogue is maintained with the ICCAT directly and through the tuna-RFMO network. There are no developments to report in respect of formalizing an arrangement for consultation, cooperation and collaboration with ICCAT during 2010.

### ***Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs)***

20. The Secretariat is actively engaged in an initiative of the Secretariat's of the RFMOs with a principle interest in tuna to promote collaboration, information exchange and consultation ([www.tuna-org.org](http://www.tuna-org.org)). The Secretariat and several of the CCMs were represented at the four meetings of the tuna-RFMOs workshops in 2010 which were held in pairs at Barcelona, Spain in May/June 2010 and Brisbane, Australia in June/July 2010, respectively. SC6 and TCC6 will be addressing the recommendations from these meetings.

### ***The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)***

21. PICES is an intergovernmental scientific organization that was established in 1992 to promote and coordinate marine research in the northern North Pacific and adjacent seas. Its present members are Canada, Japan, People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. PICES continues to invite WCPFC to participate in its annual meetings. The Secretariat has responded that funding and staffing constraints prevented participation, but that it looked forward to close cooperation in future years.