JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ON THE MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA Second Session (JWGI-02)

Virtual Meeting 16:00, 26 June 2025 (Pacific Daylight Time) / 10:00, 27 June 2025 (Pohnpei Time)

CHAIRS' SUMMARY OF THE SECOND JOINT IATTC-NC INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP MEETING ON PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA MANAGEMENT

IATTC-NC-JWGI02-2025/00

AGENDA ITEM 1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

- 1. The 2nd Intersessional meeting of the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWGI01) was held on 26 / 27 June 2025. The meeting was opened by co-chairs Mr. Masanori Miyahara (Japan, WCPFC Northern Committee Chair) and Mr. Josh Madeira (USA, IATTC). The co-chairs welcomed participants and noted the significant work that has been done to advance the long-term harvest strategy for Pacific bluefin tuna, notably the work on the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE). The co-chairs outlined the progress to date regarding the development of the MSE and the meeting objectives to review and discuss the final results that were recently adopted by the ISC.
- 2. A list of participants in the JWGI-02 is included in **Annex A.**

AGENDA ITEM 2 ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND MEETING PROCEDURES

3. The agenda was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 3 LONG-TERM HARVEST STRATEGY

3.1 Review results of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)

- 4. Dr. Desiree Tommasi (ISC PBFWG) provided a detailed presentation on the final results of the MSE, including the development of the operating models, results, and key findings. The presentation can be viewed at <u>Results of the PBF MSE | WCPFC Meetings</u>. The full report is posted to the meeting website at <u>ISC25/ANNEX 08 Report of the Pacific Bluefin Tuna Management Strategy Evaluation | WCPFC Meetings</u>.
- 5. ISC PBFWG Chair Dr. Shuya Nakatsuka noted that the bycatch allocation for Australia and New Zealand is not considered in the calculation of the first TAC, but it was considered very low (< 1% of total impact) and very unlikely to impact the results. In addition, Dr. Nakatsuka noted the results of the robustness set that indicated challenges in responding to low recruitment. He explained that Japan continues to monitor recruitment data, and this will be used to inform the JWG on future management.

3.2 Discussion on the results of the MSE

- 6. In response to a question, Dr. Tommasi explained that the calculation of fishing impact in the MSE depends on a combination of factors, notably the predicted age of the fish and the fishing fleet (the relative fishing intensity is split across fleet segments and regions).
- 7. The co-chair responded to a question regarding potential JWG decisions on the long-term harvest strategy and impacts on future management actions. The co-chair noted that discussions need to progress on the long-term harvest strategy at the upcoming JWG-10 meeting before we can predict impacts on future management actions.

AGENDA ITEM 4 OTHER BUSINESS

8. There were no other items discussed.

AGENDA ITEM 5 ADOPTION OF REPORT

9. The co-chairs offered to draft a short summary report after the conclusion of the meeting and to post it to the meeting website. The JWG approved of this approach for the meeting summary for JWGI-02.

AGENDA ITEM 6 CLOSE OF MEETING

10. The meeting closed at 11:30 on June 27, 2025 (Pohnpei).

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List of Participants

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