



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
THIRD REGULAR SESSION**

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Honolulu, United States of America

**REPORT ON THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE
INDONESIA AND PHILIPPINES DATA COLLECTION PROJECT**

WCPFC-SC3-2007/GN IP-7

IPDCP STEERING COMMITTEE

Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Project

1. The fourth meeting of the Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Steering Committee was held on 14 August 2007, in Honolulu, United States of America, during the third regular session of the Scientific Committee of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

2. The meeting was attended by participants from Indonesia (Victor Nikijuluw) and the Philippines (Noel Barut, Elaine Garvilles); donor CCMs including Chinese Taipei (Chung-Hai Kwoh, Chi-Chao Liu, Ren-Fen Wu) and New Zealand (Kim Duckworth); the chairman of the Scientific Committee (Dae-Yeon Moon); the WCPFC Secretariat (Andrew Wright, SungKwon Soh, Karl Staisch); and the SPC Oceanic Fisheries Programme (Tim Lawson, Peter Williams and Antony Lewis). Mr Duckworth also attended in his role as chairman of the Statistics Specialist Working Group of the Scientific Committee. Participants from Japan (Naozumi Miyabe, Hiroaki Okamoto), New Caledonia (Pablo Chavance) and the World Wildlife Fund (Loraine Hitch) also attended.

1. Opening of the meeting

3. Mr Wright opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and stressing the importance of data from Indonesia and the Philippines to the work of the Commission. Catches of tuna from Indonesia and the Philippines represented 26.4% of the total catch of albacore, bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin in the WCPFC Statistical Area in 2005. While recent progress has been made in the Philippines, the gaps in data from Indonesia and the Philippines continue to be a major source of uncertainty in stock assessments.

2. Appointment of chairman and rapporteur

4. Mr Wright was elected chairman of the Steering Committee. Mr Lawson and Mr Williams were appointed rapporteurs.

3. Adoption of the agenda

5. The agenda presented in Appendix I was adopted.

4. Financial status of the IPDCP

6. The financial status of the IPDCP was reported in IP-1 (Statement of IPDCP Fund). Expenditures in 2007 amounted to USD 59,104, including USD 46,428 for data collection in the Philippines, USD 4,179 for the Eastern Indonesia Tuna Fishery Data

Collection Workshop and USD 8,497 for technical support provided by the SPC Oceanic Fisheries Programme. The balance of the IPDCP fund is currently USD 7,639.

7. At its third regular session in December 2006, the Commission approved the allocation of USD 45,000 from its core budget for IPDCP activities in 2007; USD 30,000 of this amount has been provided to Indonesia for preliminary research and the development of a proposal to collect tuna fishery data in Eastern Indonesia and USD 15,000 will be used for the rescue of historical data from Indonesia, the Philippines and possibly Vietnam.

8. The Commission's provisional budget for 2008 includes USD 115,000 for IPDCP activities; approval of these funds will be considered at the Commission's fourth regular session in December 2007.

5. Review of 2007 IPDCP activities

9. Mr Barut reported that the sampling in tuna landing centres in the Philippines by the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute, and funded by IPDCP, has continued as planned during 2007. Only three samples of ringnet were taken in General Santos during 2006 due to a change in unloading procedures which meant that the port samplers could not cover concurrent unloadings of purse seine and ringnet vessels. However, this situation has improved in 2007 with the hiring of an additional enumerator in August 2007. Data from samples collected under the National Stock Assessment Program as early as 1997, but not forwarded to NFRDI headquarters, were retrieved from eight areas; the data retrieval is ongoing.

10. The implementation of catch and effort logsheets for purse-seine and ringnet vessels commenced in 2007 and the implementation of logsheets for the commercial handline fleet is expected to commence in 2008. The availability of logsheet data will provide, for the first time, detailed spatial information covering these fisheries and therefore represents an important, new source of fishery data to be used in conjunction with the port sampling data.

11. The IPDCP funds provided to NFRDI are used only for the salaries of the enumerators; all other expenses, such as sampling equipment, are co-financed by the Philippines government. It is expected that the Philippines government will assume responsibility for the activities currently financed by IPDCP at some point in the future; however, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, upon which NFRDI depends for its regular funding, has recently experienced budget cuts and so there will continue to be a need for outside funding for tuna fishery data collection in the intermediate term.

12. It was also reported that surveys conducted by the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, and funded by IPDCP, have proceeded as planned during 2007. However, it was noted that there were discrepancies between the catch estimates published by BAS and the results of port sampling by NFRDI. In area 9, for example, BAS estimates indicate that bigeye catches recently increased from 5% of the catch to 20%, which

implies that the handline vessels in area 9 currently catch as much as 10,000 t of bigeye. Port sampling, on the other hand, indicates that the catch of bigeye in area 9 is minor. It was suggested that more training for BAS enumerators on bigeye and yellowfin species identification would be helpful in resolving these problems.

13. The problem of the lack of annual catch estimates stratified by gear type was also discussed. It was suggested that the surveys conducted by BAS are not representative of the catch by gear type, due to the lack of survey resources.

14. The Steering Committee **recommended** that BAS and NFRDI develop and implement procedures to incorporate the port sampling data into the estimation of annual catches, and that BAS advise the Secretariat regarding the resources that may be required to collect data that would allow the estimation of catches by gear type.

15. A recent study that provides independent estimates of the Philippines annual catches by gear and species was requested by BFAR and fishing industry, and made available to the SC3 as a Fisheries Technology Information Paper (FT IP-10). It was acknowledged that review meetings focusing on the Philippines annual catch estimates and involving all key parties (i.e. BFAR, BAS, fishing industry, University of the Philippines, etc.) should be encouraged.

16. Mr Nikijuluw reported on developments in Indonesia (see WP-4) since the Eastern Indonesia Tuna Fishery Data Collection Workshop¹ was held in Jakarta from 30 to 31 January 2007 which was supported by the IPDCP. Two staff have visited Sorong and Bitung in preparation for a one-month trial of tuna fishery data collection. Trials may also be conducted in Kendari and Ternate in due course. The fisheries in Eastern Indonesia are similar in structure to those of the Philippines and so data collection forms developed in the Philippines, suitably modified to reflect local conditions, will be used during the trials. There is support for tuna fishery data collection from local government and industry, and the mayor of Bitung has allocated a room in the fishing port for the trials. In Sorong, the local fisheries academy has been approached in regard to providing data collection personnel.

17. In general, there is strong support for tuna fishery data collection in Eastern Indonesia on the part of the Indonesian government, and it is anticipated that data monitoring stations similar to the station in Benoa, where Indonesian longliners operating in the Indian Ocean are sampled, will be established in all fishery management areas. A workshop will be held in November to develop a full proposal for a data collection system for Eastern Indonesia.

18. While questions remain regarding the adequacy of the current level of BAS surveys for estimating annual catches by gear type in the Philippines, the Steering

¹ See <http://www.wcpfc.int/EITFDC/index.htm>.

Committee was generally satisfied with the results of the IPDCP activities in Indonesia and the Philippines since its last meeting in August 2006.

19. The Steering Committee also discussed the evolving situation in Vietnam with respect to developing fisheries for bigeye and yellowfin tuna. It was noted that annual catch estimates vary from 20,000mt to 45,000mt and that detailed catch statistics for these fisheries are generally lacking. As the Vietnamese fleets are drawing their catch from the WCPO tuna stocks there is a growing need to engage Vietnam in WCPFC initiatives to improve monitoring of tuna fisheries in the western region of the Convention Area.

6. Review of the work programme for 2008–2010

20. Proposals for IPDCP-funded activities in Indonesia and the Philippines during 2008–2010 (see WP–1, WP–2 and WP–3) were considered and approved, subject to funding availability, by the Steering Committee. The proposal for Indonesia is primarily to develop and implement a port sampling programme for Eastern Indonesia, while the proposals for the Philippines are to continue the current level of port sampling and surveys. Funds required in Indonesia and the Philippines during 2008 amount to USD 100,000 and USD 88,896 respectively (see WP–5). However, the total amount, USD 188,696, exceeds the Commission’s core funds provisionally allocated to IPDCP in 2008 by USD 73,696 (Appendix III). The Secretariat will therefore investigate other sources of funding.

21. In this regard, the Steering Committee **recommended** that potential donor CCMs consider, as a matter of urgency, making voluntary contributions so that IPDCP activities can continue in 2008 as proposed.

7. Status of GEF proposal for future IPDCP funding

22. Mr Wright recalled that the third Steering Committee meeting at Manila in August 2006 had encouraged the Secretariat to prepare a project proposal to further develop data collection and fishery monitoring activities in Indonesia and Philippines (and possibly Vietnam) for submission to the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The Secretariat subsequently approached the GEF Secretariat in Washington D.C. in November 2006 for advice on the prospects for successfully securing funding for a proposal for Indonesia, Philippines (and possibly Vietnam) that effectively replicated the Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Management Project currently being implemented for Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The GEF Secretariat responded that current resources are over subscribed and that the next opportunity for funding submissions would expire in October 2007. The Secretariat undertook to prepare a Project Implementation Framework (PIF), the entry level document for the GEF, in time to meet this deadline. In order for a submission to be considered by the GEF it will require endorsement by the GEF Focal Point in beneficiary countries.

8. Other matters

23. There were no other matters.

9. Adoption of the report

24. The report was [adopted] by the Steering Committee on 17 August 2007.

10. Close of the meeting

25. The participants thanked the chairman and the rapporteurs for their efforts, and Mr Barut, Ms Garvilles, Mr Nikijuluw, Mr Smithson, Dr Soh and Mr Williams for their work in preparation for the meeting. The chairman then thanked the participants and the meeting was closed.

Appendix I. Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Appointment of chairman and rapporteur
3. Adoption of the agenda
4. Financial status of the IPDCP
5. Review of 2007 IPDCP activities
6. Review of the work programme for 2008–2010
7. Status of GEF proposal for future IPDCP funding
8. Other matters
9. Adoption of the report
10. Close of the meeting

Appendix II. Working and Information Papers

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| WP–1 | Indonesian Proposal, 2008–2010 |
| WP–2 | Philippines (BAS) proposal, 2008–2010 |
| WP–3 | Philippines (NFRDI) proposal, 2008–2010 |
| WP–4 | Interim report for the preliminary research, 2007 (Indonesia) |
| WP–5 | Summary budget requirement for Indonesia and Philippines, 2008–2010 |
| IP–1 | Statement of IPDCP fund |
| IP–2 | Status of the Indonesian IPDCP |

Summary of budget requirements for Philippines and Indonesia data collection covering the period 2008-2010

		2008		2009		2010		TOTAL	
PHILIPPINES		PHP	US\$	PHP	US\$	PHP	US\$	PHP	US\$
	BAS	1,880,000	40,870	1,930,000	41,957	2,080,000	45,217	5,890,000	128,043
	BFAR	2,200,000	47,826	2,035,000	44,239	2,035,000	44,239	6,270,000	136,304
	OTHER		0		0		0	0	0
	SUB TOTAL	4,080,000	88,696	3,965,000	86,196	4,115,000	89,457	12,160,000	264,348
		2008		2009		2010		TOTAL	
INDONESIA		IDR	US\$	IDR	US\$	IDR	US\$	IDR	US\$
	DGCF/RCCF	880,000,000	100,000	880,000,000	100,000	880,000,000	100,000	2,640,000,000	300,000
	OTHER		0		0		0	0	0
	SUB TOTAL	880,000,000	100,000	880,000,000	100,000	880,000,000	100,000	2,640,000,000	300,000
TOTAL		188,696		186,196		189,457		564,348	
Notes : 1 USD = 46 PHP, 1 USD = 8,800 IDR									