



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

**A PROPOSAL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE VOLUNTARY FUND**

**WCPFC-NC6/WP-08
3 September 2010**

1. NC5 agreed that CCMs could elect to provide voluntary support to the ISC in 2009–2010. Well in advance of ISC10 the WCPFC Secretariat will prepare and circulate a draft administrative arrangement to support financial contributions from NC CCMs, based on the WCPFC’s existing contributions formula that could be applied to the scientific work that ISC undertakes on behalf of the NC. Priority activities identified by the ISC include: i) data administration, ii) website administration, iii) albacore sampling, and iv) a comprehensive multilateral biological research proposal. (para.76 of NC5 Summary Report)

2. At WCPFC6, there was the following discussion on the NC voluntary fund.
“At the request of Japan, the Secretariat agreed to establish a voluntary fund for contributions to the NC to support the work of the ISC, particularly on updating biological data for stock assessment species. Contributions by NC members to the fund are encouraged”(para.95 of WCPFC6 Summary Report).

3. So far, several ISC-related project proposals have been made. Below is the summary of the proposals:

i. ISC Database Design and Maintenance Proposal

Labor (to augment salary)	\$55,000
Travel	\$15,000
<u>Databese design(contract)</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Total	\$75,000

ii. ISC Website Development Proposal

Website maintenance (Contract)	\$14,000
Website support (Part-time labor)	\$14,000
<u>Supplies, fees, overhead, etc.</u>	<u>\$ 2,500</u>
Total	\$30,000

iii. ISC Multi-species Biological Sampling Program to Improve Stock Assessments for Highly Migratory Species Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean.

Year 1	\$260,000
Year 2	\$ 86,800

Year 3	\$ 86,800
Total	\$434,000

- iv. Conventional tagging & releasing of Pacific bluefin tuna from Japanese troll fishery operating in the Tosa Bay

Cost for tags	\$ 5,000
Field travel for tag&release	\$ 10,000
Purchase of fish	\$150,000
Additional cost	\$ 10,000
<u>(advertisement for recapture reporting, rewards etc)</u>	
Total	\$175,000

- v. Sampling program for estimating Pacific bluefin tuna egg production by fish size

Purchase of fish	\$ 5,000
Labor for samplers	\$ 15,000
Equipment, transportation	\$ 5,000
Preparation of section	\$ 15,000
<u>Labor for part-timer</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Total	\$ 45,000

4. Further, ISC10 estimated the cost for a peer review of ISC stock assessment.

- vi. Peer review of ISC albacore stock assessment

Estimated cost	\$50,000-90,000
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5. Given the voluntary nature of the fund, NC members are strongly encouraged to contribute to part of the proposed costs to support the ISC work by nominating specific project(s) they would like to contribute to.