



The Commission for the Conservation and Management of
Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Scientific Committee
Second Regular Session

7-18 August 2006
Manila, Philippines

NOTICE OF MEETING AND MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

WCPFC-SC2-2006/01

It is with pleasure that, in accordance with the Commission Rules of Procedure, Rule 1 paragraph 2, I notify the second regular session of the Scientific Committee of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC-SC 2).

With generous assistance from the Government of the Philippines, through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), the WCPFC-SC 2 meeting will occur in Manila, Philippines from Monday 07th August through Friday 18th August 2006. The venue of the meeting will be the [Dusit Hotel Niko](#) (see details below regarding accommodation arrangements).

The following documents are being circulated in association with this Notice:

- a registration form (WCPFC-SC2-2006/02);
- a provisional agenda for the meeting (WCPFC-SC2-2006/03);
- a provisional annotated agenda for the meeting (WCPFC-SC2-2006/04), and
- an indicative schedule for the meeting (WCPFC-SC2-2006/05).

These documents will also shortly be available at www.wcpfc.org on the Meetings page.

Any enquiries about the SC 2 meeting should be directed to the Acting Chairman of the Scientific Committee, Dr Shelton Harley (Shelton.Harley@fish.govt.nz) preferably with a copy to the WCPFC Secretariat's Science Manager, Dr SungKwon Soh (sungkwons@mail.fm). Drs Harley and Soh are the principal contacts in relation to the technical content and structure of SC 2 while the Secretariat, in close consultation with BFAR, will backstop on logistical and administrative arrangements.

Manila, Philippines

Useful information about Manila, including city maps and weather details, is available at: <http://www.manilahotelandtravel.com/>

Webpage

All meeting documents will be posted on the Commission's webpage (www.wcpfc.org).

Meeting Venue

The venue for the meeting, and the meeting of the Ad hoc Task Group (Data) during the preceding week will be the Dusit Hotel Nikko (<http://www.dusit.com> or <http://www.nikkohotels.com>). The address is: Ayala Center, 1223 Makati City, Phone [+63 2] 867 3333, fax [+63 2] 892 1177, email: dusitmn@dusit.com.

Accommodation

Due to security and other considerations BFAR has arranged for a block booking for rooms at the Dusit Hotel Nikko. This attracts a significant discount. The rooms reserved are deluxe twin share. The rate for SC 2 participants is US\$75/night inclusive of a buffet breakfast.

It is essential that prospective participants advise the WCPFC Secretariat (Herolyn Movik, wcpfc@mail.fm) as early as possible of i) their anticipated arrival and departure details and ii) whether or not they wish to share a room (see accompanying Registration Form).

There is a requirement to provide an initial indication of accommodation requirements by Wednesday May 31st. As a result responses to the Secretariat by Friday 26th May would be appreciated.

Exchange Rates

Indicative exchange rates are available at: <http://www.oanda.com/>

Registration

Participants are asked to return the completed registration form to Herolyn Movik by email (preferred - wcpfc@mail.fm) or fax (+691 320 1108) as soon as possible. The closing date for registration is Friday 14th July 2005. For those delegations with more than one member we would prefer registrations to be submitted in batches by a key contact for each Member/Observer.

Airport Transfers

Provided the WCPFC Secretariat is advised of confirmed arrival details the Secretariat, BFAR or Dusit Nikko Hotel staff will be on hand at Manila International Airport to assist with airport transfers.

Visa for the Philippines

Most nationals of WCPFC Members may enter Participants without visas for up to 21 days as long as the period of validity of their passport exceeds their intended stay and they have a valid airline ticket for onward travel.

Participants are encouraged to confirm visa arrangements with a Philippine Consulate. Information is available at www.dfa.gov.ph/consular/visa.htm. Participants transiting other countries en route to Manila, such as Australia or New Zealand, should also make appropriate transit visa arrangements for those countries.

Preparatory Meeting

A Preparatory Meeting, for Heads of Delegation only, will be held on Sunday 6 August at 1600 h, convened by the Acting Chair Dr Shelton Harley. Participants are invited to consider organization of the meeting including the election of a new SC Chair.

Specialist Working Groups (SWG)

The Scientific Committee will comprise six Specialist Working Groups (SWGs) which will meet consecutively during the first week of WCPFC-SC 2.

The SWG and their Convener's are as follows:

- Statistics SWG (Convener: Kim Duckworth)

- Fishing Technology SWG (Convener: David Itano)
- Methods SWG (Convener: Robert Campbell)
- Biology SWG (Convener: Chi-lu Sun)
- Stock Assessment SWG (Co-Conveners: Naozumi Miyabe and Max Stocker)
- Ecosystem and Bycatch SWG (Convener: Paul Dalzell and Peter Ward)

Based on the priorities for the SC that came from WCPFC-SC 1 and WCPFC-2, the Convener's will be working with SC participants to develop agendas for each of the SWGs. As there are no consecutive SWG sessions this year, the time for each SWG will be shorter than in previous years so it will be necessary for conveners to prioritize the issues to be covered.

Submission of Papers

The procedure for submission of papers will be as follows:

- **National Reports**, based on Part 1 of the template provided in Attachment D of the report of the Technical and Compliance Committee, must be submitted to the WCPFC Secretariat by **30th June 2006**.
- **Paper titles** should be submitted to SWG Conveners and the Acting Chairman of the Scientific Committee (Shelton Harley: Shelton.Harley@fish.govt.nz) by **1st July 2006**. SWG Conveners in consultation with the Acting Scientific Committee Chair would have the final say on which SWG will consider each paper, which papers are presented (i.e. Working Papers), and which are simply provided for information (Information Papers).
- **All papers must be submitted to the WCPFC Secretariat in electronic form by 22 July 2006**. Papers not received by this date will not be presented at SC-1, but may still be made available as Information Papers.
- **All papers** will be posted on the SC-1 website by **29 July 2006**. We will attempt to post the important stock assessment papers earlier.
- All participants will be responsible for downloading their papers and printing them out, should that be desired. *We will set up a FTP process to facilitate this. Participants who cannot for one reason or another download papers will be provided with a CD on arrival in Noumea, or, in special circumstances, a hard copy. Please advise Herolyn Movik (wcpfc@mail.fm) when registering of any difficulties that are anticipated.*

Funding for Developing Countries and Participating Territories

The Commission will fund the participation (a daily allowance and most direct economical airfare) of one representative from each developing country and participating territory that is a member of the Commission. Formal nominations for participants to receive this support should be submitted to the Secretariat under the signature of the WCPFC Official Contact for qualifying developing country and participating territory Members by Friday July 14.

Notice of the Data Security Workshop (*ad hoc* Data Task Group) Meeting

As determined by the Commission, Data Security Workshop is scheduled to be held in Manila, Philippines from Monday 31 July through Friday 4th August 2006. The venue of the meeting will be the Dusit Hotel Niko. Details of the meeting will be notified in due course.

Thanks in advance to providing prompt and complete details relating to your participation in this important meeting of the WCPFC Scientific Committee.

Andrew Wright
Executive Director