



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

7-18 August 2006
Manila, Philippines

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

WCPFC-SC2-2006/04 (Rev. 1)

AGENDA ITEM 1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting will open at 08:30 on Monday, 7 August 2006.

1.1 Welcome address

The Acting Chair (Dr Shelton Harley) will open the meeting. He will introduce the dignitaries below who will welcome the meeting.

Dignitaries will make the welcome addresses.

The Acting Chair will welcome delegations of the WCPFC Members, participating territories and observers to the second regular session of the Scientific Committee. Participating Members, territories and observers will be introduced.

1.2 Election of Chairman

The Commission appointed Dr Shelton Harley (New Zealand) to serve as Interim Chair of the Scientific Committee following the resignation of the inaugural Chair in December 2005. In accordance with Rule 10 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, a new Chairman of the Scientific Committee will be elected for the inaugural Chair's unexpired term.

The Scientific Committee will consider an automatic extension of new Chair's office for another two years, from the start of the 2nd Scientific Committee meeting to the conclusion of the 4th Scientific Committee meeting in 2008.

1.3 Adoption of agenda

The provisional agenda for the Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee was prepared and distributed on 9 May 2006 in accordance with Rule 1 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. In accordance with Rule 3, this Provisional Agenda

(WCPFC/SC2/2006/04 Rev. 1) incorporates suggestions for supplementary items received from Members 30 days in advance of the Second Regular Session.

1.4 Meeting arrangements

The Chairman will outline the procedural matters including the time schedule for the meeting and any in-house arrangements.

After the conclusion of Agenda Item 2, the plenary will be adjourned to allow six Specialist Working Groups to carry out their work.

1.5 Reporting arrangements

Scientific Committee Report

The Scientific Committee will adopt a Summary Report and a ~10-page Executive Summary that will address the requests from the Commission. Relevant text under Agenda Items highlighted with an asterisk (*) will be incorporated in the Summary Report as recommendations to the Commission.

The Scientific Committee will appoint lead and supporting rapporteurs, who will be assigned to specific agenda items.

Specialist Working Group Reports

The Specialist Working Groups will each produce a full report and a summary that will be incorporated into the Summary Report of the Scientific Committee. The SWGs will appoint lead and supporting rapporteurs, who will be assigned to specific agenda items.

The suggested 1-page summary will be incorporated directly into the main Scientific Committee report and include: details of the number of papers reviewed and their general topics and details of Scientific Committee agenda items on which the SWG has provided advice to the Scientific Committee.

Each full SWG report will include a summary of papers considered by the SWG (to be provided by the authors) including subsequent discussion and advice and recommendations for the Scientific Committee. Each SWG report will append the agenda, a list of working papers, and a list of relevant acronyms and abbreviations used. All presenters will provide a concise 1-2 paragraph summary of their paper to the convenor of their SWG before their presentation.

Reporting Procedure

The SWGs will review draft SWG reports throughout the first week of the Scientific Committee and clear them under the supervision of the relevant convenors. Convenors will present a brief summary of their SWG reports at the plenary. The Scientific Committee will accept each report as a record of the work of the Scientific Committee through its SWGs. Editorial corrections and/or clarification may occur, if necessary, after the Scientific Committee meeting.

1.6 Intersessional activities of the Scientific Committee

The Chair will report on intersessional activities of the Scientific Committee and the Secretariat.

AGENDA ITEM 2 REVIEW OF FISHERIES

2.1 Overview of Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) fisheries

A presentation will be made describing the fisheries for highly migratory species in the WCPO region. The Scientific Committee will be invited to ask questions and provide comments.

2.2 Overview of Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) fisheries

A presentation will be made describing the fisheries for highly migratory species in the EPO region. The Scientific Committee will be invited to ask questions and provide comments.

2.3 Fishery reports from Members, Participating Territories and Cooperating Non-Members (CCMs)

CCMs will be given the opportunity to make a short presentation, no more than 3 minutes, highlighting recent changes and developments in their fisheries as described in Part 1 of their Annual Report to the Commission. A short number of questions will be allowed.

Summaries of a maximum of ½ page (provided by authors) and key issues raised in subsequent discussion will be incorporated into the Scientific Committee report.

It will be assumed that all reports have been read prior to the meeting and the use of PowerPoint or other visual presentations is discouraged due to time constraints.

2.4 Reports from regional fisheries bodies and other organizations

Regional fisheries bodies or other organizations in attendance will be able to make a brief presentation on their key issues in relation with the science issues of the Commission. Such presentations need to be arranged with the Chair well in advance of the start of this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM 3 SPECIALIST WORKING GROUPS (SWGs)

(Biology SWG, Ecosystem and Bycatch SWG, Fishing Technology SWG, Methods SWG, Statistics SWG, and Stock Assessment SWG)

SWG conveners will open their meetings in accordance with meeting schedules (WCPFC-SC2-2006/05). Each SWG will respond to the requests from the Commission as the highest priority.

3.1 Reports of SWGs

The SWGs will make every effort to finalize their reports by consensus. Respective reports should include text that can be considered by the Scientific Committee for incorporation into the Summary Report of the Scientific Committee, particularly as discussion relates to Scientific Committee Agenda Items marked with an asterisk (*).

The conveners of the SWGs report to the Scientific Committee will include: a description of the agenda items considered, a summary of the papers presented, the outcomes of subsequent discussion, the results of deliberations on the requests from the Commission and advice and recommendations to the Scientific Committee.

3.2 Acceptance of the reports of the SWGs, including advice and recommendations

The Scientific Committee will accept the SWG reports as part of the Summary Report of the Scientific Committee meeting. Once accepted, any recommendations from each SWG will form the basis of Scientific Committee deliberations under the relevant agenda items.

3.3 Terms of Reference for SWGs

The Scientific Committee will review and revise, as considered necessary, Terms of Reference of the six SWGs..

AGENDA ITEM 4 STATUS OF THE STOCKS AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

The Scientific Committee will review information on the status of the stocks. Stock assessments and other analyses will be reviewed by the Stock Assessment Working Group and that group will provide some draft text for the Scientific Committee to consider.

4.1 Bigeye tuna

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status and trend in abundance of the bigeye tuna stock.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs, in particular:

- Recommendations about current levels of catch/effort/fishing mortality (whichever is appropriate) taking into account the current status of the stock and results of projections.
- In accordance with paragraph 4 of the Conservation and Management Measure-2005-01, the Scientific Committee will identify levels of fishing effort to ensure that the bigeye and yellowfin stocks will remain at an agreed level above B_{MSY} ;
- Advice in relation to any conservation and management measures and resolutions adopted by the Commission;
- Recommendations on the use of temporary purse seine closures to achieve necessary reductions in catch and effort (e.g. season and length of closures). In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Conservation and Management Measure-2005-01, the Scientific Committee will review a draft proposal for a system of temporary purse seine closures.

4.2 Yellowfin tuna

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status and trend in abundance of the yellowfin tuna stock.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs, in particular:

- Recommendations about current levels of catch/effort/fishing mortality (whichever is appropriate) taking into account the current status of the stock and results of projections;
- In accordance with paragraph 4 of the Conservation and Management Measure-2005-01, the Scientific Committee will identify levels of fishing effort to ensure that the bigeye and yellowfin stocks will remain at an agreed level above B_{MSY} ;
- Advice in relation to any conservation and management measures and resolutions adopted by the Commission;
- Recommendations on the use of temporary purse seine closures to achieve necessary reductions in catch and effort (e.g. season and length of closures). In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Conservation and Management Measure-2005-01, the Scientific Committee will review a draft proposal for a system of temporary purse seine closures.

4.3 Skipjack tuna

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status and trend in abundance of the skipjack tuna stock.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider last year's advice and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs, in particular:

- Recommendations about current levels of catch/effort/fishing mortality (whichever is appropriate) taking into account the current status of the stock and results of projections;
- Advice in relation to any conservation and management measures and resolutions adopted by the Commission;
- Recommendations on the possible impacts on skipjack of any recommended purse seine closures. In accordance with paragraph 11 of the Conservation and Management Measure-2005-01, the Scientific Committee will review a draft proposal for a system of temporary purse seine closures.

4.4 South Pacific albacore tuna

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status and trend in abundance of the South Pacific albacore tuna stock.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs, in particular:

- Recommendations about current levels of catch/effort/fishing mortality (whichever is appropriate) taking into account the current status of the stock and results of projections;
- Advice in relation to any conservation and management measures and resolutions adopted by the Commission;

4.5 Swordfish in the Southwest Pacific

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status and trend in abundance of the swordfish stock in the South Pacific.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs, in particular:

- Recommendations about current levels of catch/effort/fishing mortality (whichever is appropriate) taking into account the current status of the stock and results of projections;

4.6 Northern stocks

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status of northern stocks, especially North Pacific albacore, Pacific bluefin tuna, and North Pacific striped marlin, and their recent trends in abundance.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize for the subsequent consideration of the Northern Committee and the Commission management advice and recommendations provided from the SWGs particularly in relation to stocks of North Pacific albacore, Pacific bluefin tuna and North Pacific striped marlin.

4.7 Other stocks

a. Status and trends*

The Scientific Committee will consider any other assessments, if available. Discussion under this item may include ecological risk assessment which will be reviewed by Ecosystem and Bycatch SWG. The Scientific Committee will finalize, as appropriate, statements provided from the SWGs regarding the current status of any other stocks, including southwest Pacific striped marlin, if available and trends in abundance.

b. Management information*

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize, as appropriate, statements of management advice provided from the SWGs on any other stocks described in agenda 4.7a.

AGENDA ITEM 5 BYCATCH MITIGATION

5.1 Seabirds*

The Scientific Committee will review and finalize, as appropriate, recommendations from the relevant SWGs on specific seabird bycatch mitigation measures for consideration at the Third Regular Session of the Commission.

5.2 Sea turtles*

The Scientific Committee will review progress from SWGs with development of a turtle research program and provide advice on the basis of any trials for consideration by the Commission.

5.3 Juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna*

Beginning in 2006, the Scientific Committee will annually review any mitigation measures, explored and evaluated by the SWGs, for juvenile bigeye and yellowfin taken around FADs, and finalize advice and recommendations for consideration by the Commission.

5.4 Other fish and non-fish bycatch*

The Scientific Committee will consider any advice and recommendations from the SWGs on the management of non-target fish species and mitigation of non-fish bycatch.

AGENDA ITEM 6 DATA AND INFORMATION

6.1 Observer programmes

a. Scientific priorities and objectives of the regional observer programme*

The Scientific Committee will review any advice and recommendations in relation to scientific priorities and objectives of the regional observer program

from the SWGs, begin to develop a program of work for its implementation, and make recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

b. Levels of observer coverage*

The Scientific Committee will consider any advice from the SWGs on levels of observer coverage, and provide advice and recommendations, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

c. Data collection requirements*

The Scientific Committee will review any advice on data collection requirements from the SWGs, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

6.2 Data confidentiality, security, and dissemination

a. Principles and procedures for the dissemination of scientific data by the Commission*

The Scientific Committee will review any advice and recommendations from the SWGs and the ad hoc Task Group [Data] on Principles and Procedures for the Dissemination of Scientific Data by the Commission, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

b. Rules and procedures to govern the security and confidentiality of data collected and held by the Commission*

The Scientific Committee will review any advice and recommendations from the SWGs and the ad hoc Task Group [Data] on rules and procedures to govern the security and confidentiality of data collected and held by the Commission, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

6.3 Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Project (IPDCP) update and review

The IPDCP Steering Committee meeting will be held in the margins of the first week of the Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee. Membership of the Steering Committee should include Indonesia, the Philippines, donors, the Chairman of the Scientific Committee, the SPC OFP, and interested Members, Participating Territories and Cooperating Non-members.

The Scientific Committee will review the Steering Committee Chair's summary report and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

6.4 Tagging initiatives

The Scientific Committee will review advice and recommendations from the SWGs regarding a proposal for the implementation of a regional tagging program including the establishment of a steering committee to oversee the project, a joint WCPFC-IATTC

Pacific-wide tagging program, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM 7 COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

7.1 Technical and Compliance Committee

The Scientific Committee will advise the Technical and Compliance Committee in regard to any issues arising during the meeting that may be relevant to the work of the TCC. Issues could include, among other, recommendations from the Scientific Committee in relation to:

- observer programmes;
- data confidentiality, security, and dissemination; and
- bycatch mitigation.

7.2 IATTC

The Scientific Committee will review any comments from the IATTC on the draft MOU between the WCPFC and IATTC, discuss any other issues of cooperation such as use of common data sources, collaboration on stock assessments, and any other research programmes of potential mutual interest (e.g. tagging, bycatch mitigation), and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

7.3 ISC

The Scientific Committee will review comments from the ISC on the draft MOU between the WCPFC and ISC, discuss any other issues of cooperation such as use of common data sources, collaboration on stock assessments, attendance at ISC meetings, and research programmes, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, to be considered by the Northern Committee and the Commission.

7.4 SPC

The Scientific Committee will review the 2005/2006 MoU between the WCPFC and SPC and recommend any amendments for subsequent consideration by the Commission. Note that actual schedule of scientific services to be provided by SPC-OFP under the MoU will be discussed following the finalization of the 2007 work program. The Scientific Committee may also consider other SPC and WCPFC initiatives of mutual interest under this item.

7.5 CCSBT

The Scientific Committee will review the current MoU between the WCPFC and CCSBT, consider any other areas of interaction and cooperation between the two organizations, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

7.6 SPRFMO

The Scientific Committee will consider any areas of potential interaction and cooperation with the future proposed new RFMO for straddling fish stocks and discrete high seas fish

stocks in the South Pacific Ocean, and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission.

7.7 FAO

The Scientific Committee will consider any cooperation with the FAO, in particular becoming a member of the Coordinating Working Party on Fishery Statistics (CWP) and establishing a partnership agreement for the Fishery Resource Monitoring System (FIRMS), and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for subsequent consideration by the Commission

AGENDA ITEM 8 CONSIDERATION OF THE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES AND PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES

8.1 Special Requirements Fund

a. Review of 2005/2006 activities

The Scientific Committee will review relevant 2005/2006 intersessional activities for capacity building of developing States and participating territories supported by the Special Requirements Fund.

b. Advice and recommendations to the Commission*

The Scientific Committee will provide advice and recommendations in relation to existing activities and proposed new initiatives for the Special Requirement Fund.

8.2 Other matters

The Scientific Committee will consider any other issues raised by Developing States and Participating Territories

AGENDA ITEM 9 FUTURE WORK PROGRAM

9.1 Research plan for Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee will consider the research plans for the individual SWGs and a draft Research Plan that will outline principles and research direction for the Scientific Committee and its SWGs for the next 3-5 years, and make recommendations, if any, to be considered by the Commission.

9.2 2007 Work Program

The Scientific Committee will adopt a program of work and associated budgetary requirements for the Committee and individual SWGs for 2007 and a provisional work program and budget for 2008. Where possible, the Scientific Committee will assign responsibility for their implementation (including any prioritization required as part of the service agreement between SPC and the Commission) and consider processes for progressing work program items intersessionally.

AGENDA ITEM 10 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

10.1 Rules of Procedure

The Scientific Committee will consider and finalize draft Rules of Procedure produced by the small drafting group as agreed at SC-1 (paragraph 10.10 of SC-1 report).

10.2 Independent review of science services

The Scientific Committee will consider draft Terms of Reference for the independent review of the Commission's science structure and function during the 3-5 year transitional period. In addition recommendations will be made on the implementation of the review.

10.3 Future operation of the Scientific Committee

Based on the experiences of SC-1 and SC-2, the Scientific Committee will consider the future operation of the Scientific Committee including the use of Specialist Working Groups and the reporting of the Scientific Committee meeting.

10.4 2007 provisional budget and 2008 indicative budget for the Scientific Committee *

The Scientific Committee will consider a proposed provisional budget for 2007 and an indicative budget for 2008 for adoption by the Commission.

10.5 Next meeting*

Members are invited to propose next meeting time and venue.

AGENDA ITEM 11 OTHER MATTERS

11.1 Commission's publication policy

The Scientific Committee will review a draft publication policy of the Commission and provide advice and recommendations, if any, for its finalisation.

AGENDA ITEM 12 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

12.1 Adoption of the Summary Report and Executive Summary of the Second Regular Session of the Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee will adopt the Summary Report of its Second Regular Session and its Executive Summary.

AGENDA ITEM 13 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting is scheduled to close at 1800 h on Friday, 18 August 2006.