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**THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND  
MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND  
CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN**

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**WCPFC-SC-2005/04  
15 June 2005**

**MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Scientific Committee of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean will hold its first regular session in Noumea, New Caledonia on 8–19 August 2005 (note: while the Scientific Committee convened in the margins of WCPFC-1 in Pohnpei, this was only to elect the Scientific Committee Chair). The meeting will be hosted by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Government of New Caledonia.

**Noumea, New Caledonia**

For first-time visitors, Noumea is a modern city of approximately 150,000 inhabitants. The weather in August is typically cool (approximately 16–24°C). There is much to see and do in and around Noumea, with the emphasis on water activities – the lagoon and barrier reef around New Caledonia is one of the most spectacular in the world.

**Meeting webpage**

An interim meeting webpage will be maintained by SPC. See <http://www.spc.int/oceanfish/html/wcpfc/sc1>. The webpage will in due course be transferred to the WCPFC website ([www.wcpfc.org](http://www.wcpfc.org)). The page will be progressively updated as the meeting approaches.

**Meeting Venue**

The venue for the meeting will be the SPC conference facility. See <http://www.spc.int/AC/headquarters.htm>.

**Accommodation**

There are many hotels of various categories within walking distance of SPC. We have arranged preferential rates (indicated below in CFP) for meeting participants at the following hotels:

**Le Lagon** (5 minutes walk) ★★

149 Route de l'Anse Vata

99845 Noumea Cedex

Tel : (687) 26 12 55

Fax (687) 26 12 44

Email : [lelagon@lagoon.nc](mailto:lelagon@lagoon.nc)

Web : <http://www.lelagon.com>

Single	5,350
Studio + cooking facilities (1 person)	6,350
Studio + cooking facilities (2 people)	8,350
2 bedroom apartment (max 3 people)	9,350

**Hotel Lantana Beach** (10 minutes walk) ★★

113 Promenade Roger Laroque

98845 Noumea Cedex

Tel: (687) 26 22 12

Fax : (687) 26 16 12

Email : [lantana@canl.nc](mailto:lantana@canl.nc)

Single	5,350 (6,700 including breakfast)
Double	5,850 (7,700 including breakfast x 2)
Triple	6,350 (8,700 including breakfast x 3)

**Casa Del Sole** (10 minutes walk) ★★★

10 Route de l'Aquarium, 98846 Noumea

Tel: (687) 25 87 00

Fax : (687) 25 87 11

Email : [resa.casa@newcaledoniahotels.nc](mailto:resa.casa@newcaledoniahotels.nc)

Web: <http://www.newcaledoniahotelsresorts.com/casa.php?lg=en&page=&unset=1>

1 bedroom apartment (max 2 people)	1 <sup>st</sup> floor	6,100	floors 2-12	7,000
2 bedroom apartment (max 3 people)	1 <sup>st</sup> floor	7,200	floors 2-12	11,100

**Hotel Novotel Surf** (10 minutes walk) ★★★

Pomenade Anse Vata

98847 Noumea Cedex

Tel : (687) 28 66 88

Fax : (687) 28 52 23

Email : [novotelnc.resa@offratel.nc](mailto:novotelnc.resa@offratel.nc)

Web : [www.novotel.grands-hotels.cc](http://www.novotel.grands-hotels.cc)

Garden View	8,500
Sea View	9,500

**Nouvata Park Hotel** (10 minutes walk) ★★★★★

123 Promenade Roger Laroque

98845 Noumea Cedex

Tel : (687) 26 22 00

Fax : (687) 26 16 77

Email : [resa@newcaledoniahotels.nc](mailto:resa@newcaledoniahotels.nc)

Web : <http://www.newcaledoniahotelsresorts.com/parkroyal.php?lang=en>

Pacifique wing (single or double)	6,800
Nouvata Park wing (single or double, add 2,500 for 3 <sup>rd</sup> person)	
Superior pool side	9,800
Superior ocean side	9,800
Delux pool side	11,900
Delux ocean side	13,400
Delux suite ocean side	24,000

**Le Meridien** (20 minutes walk) ★★★★★

Pointe Magnin

98846 Noumea Cedex

Tel : (687) 26 50 00

Fax : (687) 26 51 00

Email : [le.meridien@meridien.nc](mailto:le.meridien@meridien.nc)

Web : [www.noumea.lemeridien.com](http://www.noumea.lemeridien.com)

Standard Delux Garden View	15,500 (17,500 including breakfast)
Superior Delux Lagoon View	18,500 (20,500 including breakfast)

**Exchange Rates**

At 15 June 2005 exchange rates were as follows:

NZD 1 =	69 francs XPF
AUD 1 =	74 francs XPF
USD 1 =	97 francs XPF
Euro 1 =	119.3317 francs XPF

**Booking Accommodation**

Participants should indicate their preferred accommodation arrangements on the attached registration form.

**Registration**

Participants are asked to return the completed registration form to Hélène Ixeco ([HeleneI@spc.int](mailto:HeleneI@spc.int)) by email (preferred) or fax (687-263818) as soon as possible. The closing date for registration is 18 July 2005. We would prefer registrations to be submitted in batches by a key contact for each Member/Observer delegation if at all possible.

### **Airport Transfers**

Tontouta International Airport is approximately 55 km from Noumea. SPC will arrange airport transfers for all participants that provide flight details on their registration forms.

### **Visa for New Caledonia**

A visa to enter New Caledonia is compulsory except for citizens from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand (and all New Zealand passport holders), USA (and all US passport holders), and European Union countries.

Participants should make their own arrangements to obtain a visa if they require one to enter New Caledonia. French Embassies/Consulates are situated in Australia (Sydney and Canberra), Fiji (Suva), New Zealand (Auckland and Wellington), Papua New Guinea (Port Moresby), and Vanuatu (Port Vila).

Participants are advised to make their own arrangements if they need to obtain visas for countries visited in transit to Noumea.

For participants from the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu, SPC can arrange for a visa to be issued on arrival in Noumea provided that we are advised of the participant's passport details (full name, date of birth, passport number, date of issue and date of expiry) and their flight number and dates of arrival/departure at least two weeks prior to arrival. Participants from the above countries who require a visa on arrival are therefore advised to send this information by fax or email (preferred) to Helene Ixeco – [HeleneI@spc.int](mailto:HeleneI@spc.int) – as soon as possible.

### **Specialist Working Groups (SWG)**

As recommended by SCG 3 and adopted by the Commission at its first meeting in Pohnpei last December, the Scientific Committee will comprise six Specialist Working Groups (SWGs). The SWGs will be similar to those trialled at the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish (SCTB 17) in 2004. The SWGs will be convened by the same individuals as at SCTB 17, with the exception that Chi-Lu Sun will replace Talbot Murray as the Biology SWG Convener.

Statistics SWG (Convener: Tim Lawson)

Fishing Technology SWG (Convener: David Itano)

Methods SWG (Convener: John Sibert)

Biology SWG (Convener: Chi-lu Sun)

Stock Assessment SWG (Co-Conveners: Naozumi Miyabe and Max Stocker)

Ecosystem and Bycatch SWG (Convenor: Paul Dalzell)

As in previous years under the SCTB format, the Statistics, Fishing Technology and Methods SWGs will hold preliminary meetings on 8–9 August, following the official opening of the Scientific Committee. These preliminary meetings will be held at the SPC conference facility and in the main auditorium at the adjacent IRD facility. The timing of the preliminary meetings and other information will be advised by the respective Conveners in due course. The venue for each preliminary meeting will be decided once approximate numbers attending each are known and will be announced at the SC opening. Please indicate on the registration form which of the preliminary meetings you will be attending.

## **Submission of Papers**

The procedure for submission of papers will be as follows:

- Paper titles should be submitted to SWG Conveners and SPC (contact Peter Williams: [PeterW@spc.int](mailto:PeterW@spc.int)) by **01 July**. SWG Conveners in consultation with the Scientific Committee Chair would have the final say on which papers are presented (i.e. Working Papers) and which are simply provided for information (Information Papers).
- All papers must be submitted to SPC in electronic form by **22 July**. 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**. 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 Hélène Ixeco ([HeleneI@spc.int](mailto:HeleneI@spc.int)) when registering of any difficulties that are anticipated.

## **Provisional Agenda and Timetable for SC-1**

The Provisional Agenda and Timetable is available at

<http://www.spc.int/OceanFish/Html/wcpfc/sc1/pagenda.pdf>

## **Funding for Developing Countries and Territories**

At the time of writing, it is unclear whether the Commission is going to be in a position to fund the participation of one representative from each developing country and territory that is a member of the Commission. The difficulty is of a legal and technical nature and arises through the lack of a Commission Executive Director. It is hoped that these difficulties will be resolved shortly. The organisers will advise member representatives of the situation in due course.

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**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Name:**

**Email address:**

**Phone number:**

**Affiliation:** Member/Participating Territory ( )  
 (underline one only  
**and name):** Observer ( )

**Participation category**  
 (underline one only):

Scientific Representative (one only per member)

Participant in Member delegation

Observer Representative (one only per observer)

Participant in Observer delegation

**Arrival date:** Flight No:

**Departure date:** Flight No:

<b>Hotel preference:</b> (indicate 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> preferences)	1. Hotel	Room type
	2. Hotel	Room type
	3. Hotel	Room type

**If sharing a room with another participant, specify name:**

**I will be attending the following Preliminary SWG meetings (underline):**

Monday 8 Aug.	Statistics	Methods	Fish. Tech.	None
Tuesday 9 Aug.	Statistics	Methods	Fish. Tech.	None