



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
Twenty-Second Regular Session
11-19 August 2026
Apia, Samoa (Hybrid)

MEETING NOTICE

WCPFC-SC22-2026-01
21 July 2026

The Twenty-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 (SC22) will be held in Apia, Samoa from 11 (Tuesday) to 19 (Wednesday) August 2026. The Heads of Delegation (HoDs) and SC Theme Convenors meetings will be held on Monday, 10 August 2026. The meeting venue is the [EFKS Youth Hall Mulinu'u](#), Apia, Samoa.

This Meeting Notice and Provisional Agenda are now posted on the [SC22 meeting page](#) on the WCPFC website. The Provisional Annotated Agenda and meeting documents will be posted on the SC22 meeting page in due course.

SC22 MEETING STRUCTURE

As agreed at SC8, the SC will conduct four thematic sessions during the plenary: Data and Statistics, Ecosystem and Bycatch Mitigation, Management Issues, and Stock Assessment. The SC22 meeting will be supported by the [SC22 meeting site](#) and the [Online Discussion Forum](#) (ODF). The SC22-ODF will be available in due course.

SC22 will be held as a hybrid meeting, allowing for both in-person and virtual participation via Zoom. CCM¹ representatives may participate virtually only if their HoD, or an officially designated alternate, is unable to attend the meeting in person. For any technical support regarding virtual participation, please contact the Secretariat's IT team at ITSupport@wcpfc.int.

Steering Committee meetings for the Pacific Tuna Tagging Project and the WCPFC Pacific Marine Specimen Bank will be held before SC22. The Steering Committee meeting for the Japan Trust Fund will take place on the margins of SC22. In addition, Informal Small Group (ISG) meetings will be convened on the margins of the plenary session, and the ISG topics will be considered at the HoD meeting.

Contact information for SC officers and the Secretariat is provided in the table, below.

SC Chair	Emily Crigler: emily.crigler@noaa.gov
SC Vice Chair	Rohan Currey : rohan.currey@aff.gov.au
ST Theme	Valerie Post: valerie.post@noaa.gov
SA Theme	Hidetada Kiyofuji: kiyofuji_hidetada20@fra.go.jp

¹ WCPFC Members, Cooperating Non-members and Participating Territories

	Berry Muller: bmuller@mimra.com Michelle Sculley: michelle.sculley@noaa.gov
MI Theme	Shuya Nakatsuka: nakatsuka_shuya49@fra.go.jp
EB Theme	Leyla Knittweis: Leyla.Knittweis@mpi.govt.nz
Secretariat	SungKwon Soh: sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int Elaine Garvilles: elaine.garvilles@wcpfc.int

REGISTRATION

Meeting registration is available on the [SC22 meeting site](#) and all participants are requested to complete their registration via this site. Early registration is strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for approval processes to be completed and to ensure participants receive timely notifications when meeting documents are uploaded.

All CCMs are requested to use the **online registration system to approve their delegations** and are **strongly requested to complete registration by Friday, 7 August 2026**. For IT-related inquiries related to registration, please contact ITSupport@wcpfc.int.

HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING AND THEME CONVENORS MEETING

Two SC22 preparatory meetings will be held at the meeting venue on Monday, 10 August 2026:

- 1) The Conveners' Meeting with the SC Chair and the SPC-OFP representatives will be held at 14:00 to finalize their theme session arrangements and meeting procedure.
- 2) The Heads of Delegation Meeting will be convened by the SC Chair at 16:00. All Theme Convenors are expected to attend.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING MEETING PAPERS

The procedure for submitting papers to SC22 is based on the guidelines established at SC2 (Attachment S, SC2 Summary Report) and the recommendations adopted at SC20 (paragraphs 767–774 of the SC20 Summary Report).

- 1) Authors should note that the SC Chair, Theme Convenors, and the Secretariat will assess the suitability of each submission based on the abstract and the justification provided, following the functions of the Scientific Committee as outlined in Article 12 of the Convention. This review process does not apply to Annual Report – Part 1, reports from Commission-approved SC projects, or documents submitted by the Commission's Scientific Services Providers, such as SPC and ISC.
- 2) All documents for SC22 must be submitted via the dedicated [SC Document Submission System](#), the details of which will be provided in due course. A simplified flowchart outlining the SC22 paper submission process is included in **Annex 1**.
 - a) Annual Report – Part 1

A template for Annual Report Part 1 is available at [Guidelines/SC-01](#) on the WCPFC website (note: there have been no changes in the Addendum since 2024). The deadline for submitting Part 1 Report is 7 July 2026.

b) Meeting Documents

All papers submitted to the Scientific Committee should address specific requests from the Commission or the Scientific Committee and include information relevant to those requests. Submissions should also provide clear and actionable advice for the SC's consideration.

3) The following requirements and deadlines apply to all papers and meeting documents submitted to SC22.

a) A paper title, preliminary abstract, and a justification explaining how the paper aligns with the functions of the Scientific Committee (as outlined in Article 12 of the Convention) must be submitted by 22 June 2026 (50 days before the start of the SC22).

b) Full papers must be submitted by 12 July 2026 (30 days before the start of SC22).

4) All papers received will be posted on the SC22 meeting site by 28 July 2026 (two weeks before the start of SC22). All participants will be responsible for downloading and printing their papers, where desired. Limited printing and photocopying services will be available at the meeting venue.

a) Working Papers (WP)

Papers considered by the relevant Theme Convenors and the Chair as a working paper for presentation to the SC should be directly relevant to a specific agenda item and will support substantive discussion. Working Paper presentations will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes, except for stock assessments, which will have a maximum of 30 minutes. Relevant Theme Convenors will attach a cover page, assign a unique document number, and post it on the SC22 meeting site (e.g., WCPFC-SC22-2026/ST-WP-XX).

b) Information Papers (IP)

Papers classified by the relevant Theme Convenors and the Chair as information papers should be of general interest, that is, supplementary documents circulated for information purposes only, not intended for presentation, but which may be referenced during discussions. Relevant Theme Convenors will attach a cover page, assign a unique document number, and post it on the SC22 meeting site (e.g., WCPFC-SC22-2026/SA-IP-XX).

c) Observer Papers (OP)

OPs are those papers submitted by Observers to the Commission to provide relevant background information or specific positions or statements related to issues under consideration by the Scientific Committee (e.g., WCPFC-SC22-2026/OP-XX). As a general rule, observers may submit Information Papers unless invited by the Secretariat, SC Theme Convenors, or the SC Chair to present a Working Paper.

ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUM (ODF) FOR SC22

All ODF users should refer to the following guidelines:

1) The ODF website will be accessible to all registered and approved SC22 participants.

- 2) Commission-funded SC projects that will not be discussed during the plenary will be posted on the ODF platform. The ODF discussion outputs may be briefly reviewed, if required, under the "Other Issues" section of each theme session or under Agenda Item 10 (SC Work Programme and Budget) for finalization.
- 3) Stock assessment papers should be made available on the ODF to facilitate more detailed technical discussions before the plenary. This will allow the SC plenary to focus on higher-level issues. In cases where technically complex questions arise on the ODF, authors may respond to them during the plenary session, indicating that they will be addressed at that time.
- 4) Other information papers may also be posted on the ODF upon request by authors seeking feedback, or by the SC Chair, Vice-Chair, or Theme Conveners who wish to include the papers in their sessions but are constrained by time limitations. Authors are fully responsible for responding to any comments or questions raised on their papers.
- 5) Following the closure of the ODF (or at the end of the first week of the meeting), a *Summary of the SC22 Online Discussion Forum* will be posted. The SC may consider any specific issues raised by CCMs under Agenda Item "Other Matters," and appropriate action may be taken under the relevant agenda item as needed.

FUNDING FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES

The Commission will fund the participation (a daily allowance and the most direct economical airfare) of two representatives 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 (Aaron.Nighswander@wcpfc.int) by 15 July 2026 under the signature of their WCPFC Official Contact for eligible developing countries and participating territories.

The latest travel arrangement for funded nominees is to be finalized two weeks before commencing travel.

VISA TO VISIT SAMOA

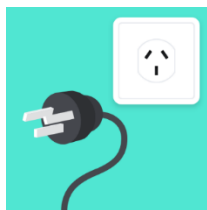
Most participants visiting Samoa do not require a visa for stays of up to 60 days; however, visitors must hold a valid ticket for the return journey to their country of origin or next destination and a passport valid for at least six months. You may also need to show proof of sufficient funds and confirmed accommodation.

For further information on visa requirements, please refer to: <https://mpmc.gov.ws/divisions/immigration/>.

CURRENCY IN SAMOA

The currency used in Samoa is the Samoan tālā (WST). A range of major foreign currencies can be exchanged for the tālā, including Australian Dollars (AUD), United States Dollars (USD), New Zealand Dollars (NZD), and Euros (EUR). Other currencies such as British Pounds (GBP), Japanese Yen (JPY), Canadian Dollars (CAD), and Swiss Francs (CHF) may also be accepted. Exchange services are available at banks such as BSP (Bank of the South Pacific), ANZ, and NBS (National Bank of Samoa), which are generally the most reliable options.

POWER OUTLET REQUIREMENTS



Samoa uses **Type I** power outlets, which feature three flat pins in a V-shape, consistent with Australia and New Zealand. The standard voltage is 230V at 50Hz. A travel adapter is necessary if your devices use different plug types, while a voltage converter may be needed for 110V – 120V electronics.

TRANSPORTATION

You may contact your hotel to arrange transportation from the airport to your accommodation. In addition, the car rental companies listed in **Table 1** also offer airport transportation services.

Table 1. Car Rental Companies in Samoa

Company	Contact Information
AA Rent-A-Car	(685) 25100 info@aarent-a-car.net
Blue Pacific Car Hire	Vaitele Tai Email: sales@bluepacific.ws Phone #: +685 22668 Website: www.bluepacific.ws
Funway Rentals Samoa	(685) 22045 Website: funwayrentals@samoa.ws
Indoors Car Rental	(685)7539519 indoors.car.rental@gmail.com
JJs Expats Rentals	Tiktok: jjexpatsrentals Instagram : JJR_ENTALS Email: jjexpatsrental@gmail.com
Rental Car 4 Less	Vaea Street Email: rentalcar4less@gmail.com Phone #: +685 25755 Website: www.holidaysamoa.net
TSAB Car Rental	Nu'u Fou Email: lopatiaukusitino2@gmail.com Phone #: +685 7600661/ 685 7696929
Reef Rentals	Lepea Email: info@reefrentalssamoa.ws Phone #: +685 27669/ 685 7208906 Website: www.reefrentalssamoa.ws
Juliana Car Rental	Vaitele Email: julianaacarrentals@gmail.com Phone #: +685 23009
Samoana Rental	Matautu. East Coast Rd Email: sales@samoana.ws Phone #: +685 28460/ 7581864 Website: www.samoana.ws
Saks Rental	Loimata Ave Email: saksrental.samoa@gmail.com Phone #: +685 24432 Website: www.saks.ws

Moana Car Rentals	Alafua Email: info@moanarentals.com Phone #: +685 7600001/ 685 7762000. (685) 25411 Website: www.moanarentals.com
Lulu Car Rentals	(685) 7166593/ (685) 7570089 hello@lulu.rent
Le Talie Car Rentals	(685) 29014 letalie.rentalcar@gmail.com
USO Rentals	Lepea Email: usorentals@gmail.com Phone #: +685 7771980

ACCOMMODATION

Participants requiring accommodation are advised to book directly with their preferred hotel or property listed in **Table 2** below as soon as possible.

Table 2. Accommodation for Apia, Samoa

Hotel	Contact Details	Estimated Price/night (in WST)	No. of Rooms/Units	Driving time to meeting venue
Hotel Millenia	Phone: +685 28284/28286 Email: booking@hotelmilleniasamoa.com Website: www.hotelmilleniasamoa.com/en/	Standard room (2 pax) \$200 Deluxe Room (3pax) \$300 Deluxe Room (4pax) \$350 Budget Room (2pax) \$150	22 30 3	2 min
Amanaki Hotel	Phone: +685 27889 Email: contact@amanakihotel.com Website: www.amanakihotel.com	Standard Room (2pax) \$280 Deluxe Room (4pax) \$330	9 8	2-3 min
Hotel Elisa	Phone: +685 21116/31202 Email: hotelelisa04@gmail.com	Standard Room (2pax) \$280 Seaview Room (2pax) \$300	8 8	2 min
Le Sanita Hotel	Phone: +685 33007 Email: reservation@lesanitahotel.ws	Standard Retreat (2pax) \$250 Deluxe Elegance (2pax) \$400 VIP Suites (3pax) \$500	22 2 2	10-15 min

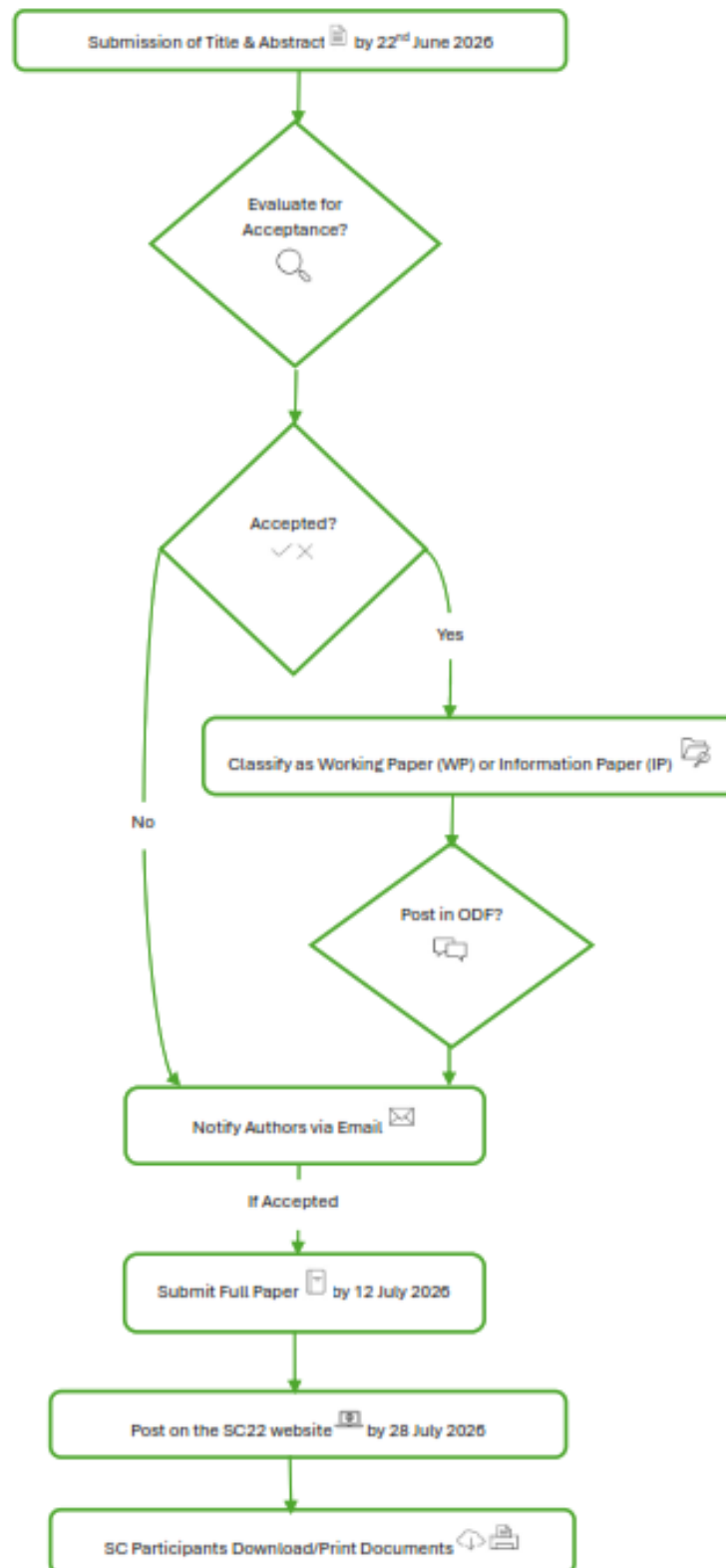
Lava Hotel	Phone: +685 8445282 Email: reservations@lavahotel.ws ; sales@lavahotel.ws Website: www.lavahotel.ws	King Room (2pax) \$450, extra rollaway bed \$100 (1pax) Twin Room (2pax) \$493	47 2	2 min
Tanoa Tusitala Hotel	Phone: +685 21122 Email: tusitala@tanoahotels.com ; gm.tth@tanoahotels.com Website: https://www.tanoahotels.com/samoa-tusitala-hotel/	Double Deluxe Room (4pax) \$450 Deluxe King (2pax) \$430	40 30	1 min
Talofa Inn	Phone: +685 28911/26612/25755 Email: talofainnsamoa@gmail.com	Single Room (1pax) \$180 Double Room (2pax) \$220 Triple Room (3pax) \$290	2 2 2	4 min
Tauese Seaview Hotel	Phone: +685 33310 Email: taueseseaviewhotel@gmail.com Website: http://taueseseaviewhotel.com/	Twin Room (2pax) \$280 King Room (2pax) \$280	10 15	3-5 min
Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey's Hotel and Bungalows	Phone: +685 8462800 Email: reservations.samoahotel@sheraton.com Website: Sheraton Samoa Aggie Grey's Hotel and Bungalows	Bungalow (2pax) \$449 Family Room (2pax) \$539 King Room (2pax) \$369	10 2 10	5-7 min

Samoana Boutique Hotel	Phone: +685 31000 Email: info@samoanahotel.com Website: https://www.samoanahotel.com/en/	Standard Room (2pax) \$220 Deluxe Room (2pax) \$270 Superior Room (2pax) \$290 2 Bedroom Family Apartment (4pax) \$550 3 Bedroom Family Apartment (4pax) \$600	4 10 3 2 2	6 min
The White House Hotel	Phone: +685 7741881 Email: admin@whitehousesamoa.com	Standard Double Room (2pax) \$180 Family Room (2pax) \$300 Triple Room (3pax) \$220	9 2 1	5 min
Valentines Motel	Phone: +685 22158 Email: valentinesamoa@gmail.com	Standard (AC) Room (2pax) \$140 Standard (Fan) Room (2pax) \$100 Triple Room (AC) (3pax) \$230	4 9 1	4 min

		Triple Room (Fan) (3pax) \$200	1	
Moatoga Hotel	Phone: +685 27001/24064 Email: moatogahotel@gmail.com	Standard Room (2pax) \$195 Triple Room (3pax) \$295 Family Room (5pax) \$395	14 4 4	4 min
Taufusi Hotel	Phone: +685 39482 Email: info@taufusihotel.com Website: https://taufusihotel.com/	Standard Room (2pax) \$350 Luxury Room (4pax) \$450 Superior Suite (5pax) \$600	17 3 1	6 min
Olivias Accommodation	Phone: +685 764 9725/ 779 6149 Email: samoa.olivia@gmail.com Website: https://www.oliviasaccommodation.com/	Double Room (2pax) \$154 Triple Room (3pax) \$163 Quadruple Room (4pax) \$210 3 Bedroom Holiday Home (6pax) \$426	5 7 2 1	8 min

For further assistance, please contact the Samoa Fisheries Division at fisheries@maf.gov.ws, or Moli Amosa Iakopo at moli.iakopo@maf.gov.ws (phone: +685 7233250), or Lorian Finau Groves at lorian.finau@maf.gov.ws.

Annex 1. Simplified Flowchart of the SC22 Paper Submission Process



Annex 2. WCPFC Convention, Article 12

Article 12 ***Functions of the Scientific Committee***

1. *The Scientific Committee is established to ensure that the Commission obtains for its consideration the best scientific information available.*
2. *The functions of the Committee shall be to:*
 - a) *recommend to the Commission a research plan, including specific issues and items to be addressed by the scientific experts or by other organizations or individuals, as appropriate, and identify data needs and coordinate activities that meet those needs;*
 - b) *review the assessments, analyses, other work and recommendations prepared for the Commission by the scientific experts prior to consideration of such recommendations by the Commission and provide information, advice and comments thereon, as necessary;*
 - c) *encourage and promote cooperation in scientific research, taking into account the provisions of article 246 of the 1982 Convention see below, in order to improve information on highly migratory fish stocks, non-target species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or associated with or dependent upon such stocks in the Convention Area;*
 - d) *review the results of research and analyses of target stocks or non-target or associated or dependent species in the Convention Area;*
 - e) *report to the Commission its findings or conclusions on the status of target stocks or non-target or associated or dependent species in the Convention Area;*
 - f) *in consultation with the Technical and Compliance Committee, recommend to the Commission the priorities and objectives of the regional observer programme and assess the results of that programme;*
 - g) *make reports and recommendations to the Commission as directed, or on its own initiative, on matters concerning the conservation and management of and research on target stocks or non-target or associated or dependent species in the Convention Area; and*
 - h) *perform such other functions and tasks as may be requested by or assigned to it by the Commission.*
3. *The Committee shall exercise its functions in accordance with such guidelines and directives as the Commission may adopt.*
4. *The representatives of the Oceanic Fisheries Programme of the Pacific Community and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, or their successor organizations, shall be invited to participate in the work of the Committee. The Committee may also invite other organizations or individuals with scientific expertise in matters related to the work of the Commission to participate in its meetings.*