

Pacific Marine Specimen Bank

WCPFC-22 Steering Committee 2026

OFP- SPC
24/07/2026



1-Preliminaries

1.1-Review and adoption of agenda

1. **PRELIMINARIES**

- 1.1. Review and adoption of agenda

2. **PMSB SAMPLING ACTIVITIES**

- 2.1. Acquisition of samples
 - 2.2. Observer-based sampling
 - 2.3. Port sampling
 - 2.4. Tagging cruises

3. **PMSB PROCESSES FOR ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT**

- 3.1. Training
 - 3.2. Storage
 - 3.3. Electronic reporting and database

4. **PMSB PROCESSES FOR USAGE**

- 4.1. Access and projects
 - 4.2. Output
 - 4.3. Nagoya Protocol

5. **WORK PLAN 2026-2027**

6. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- 6.1. Budget
 - 6.2. Recommendations for SC22

7. **ADOPTION OF REPORT**

PMSB steering committee 2026

Questions?

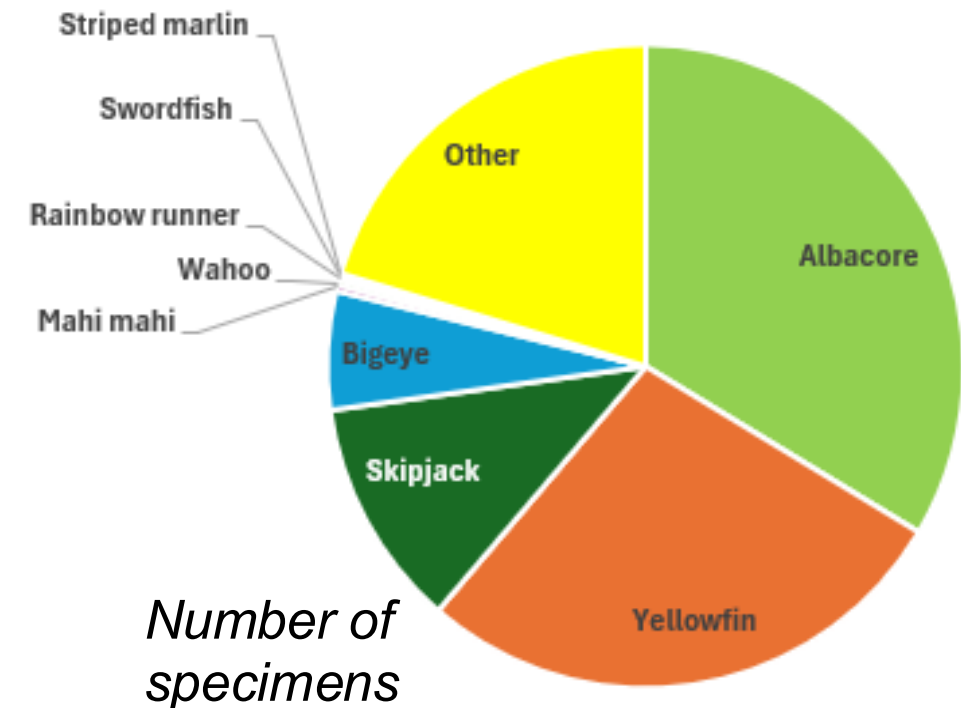
Comments?

2- PMSB SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

2.1-Acquisition of samples

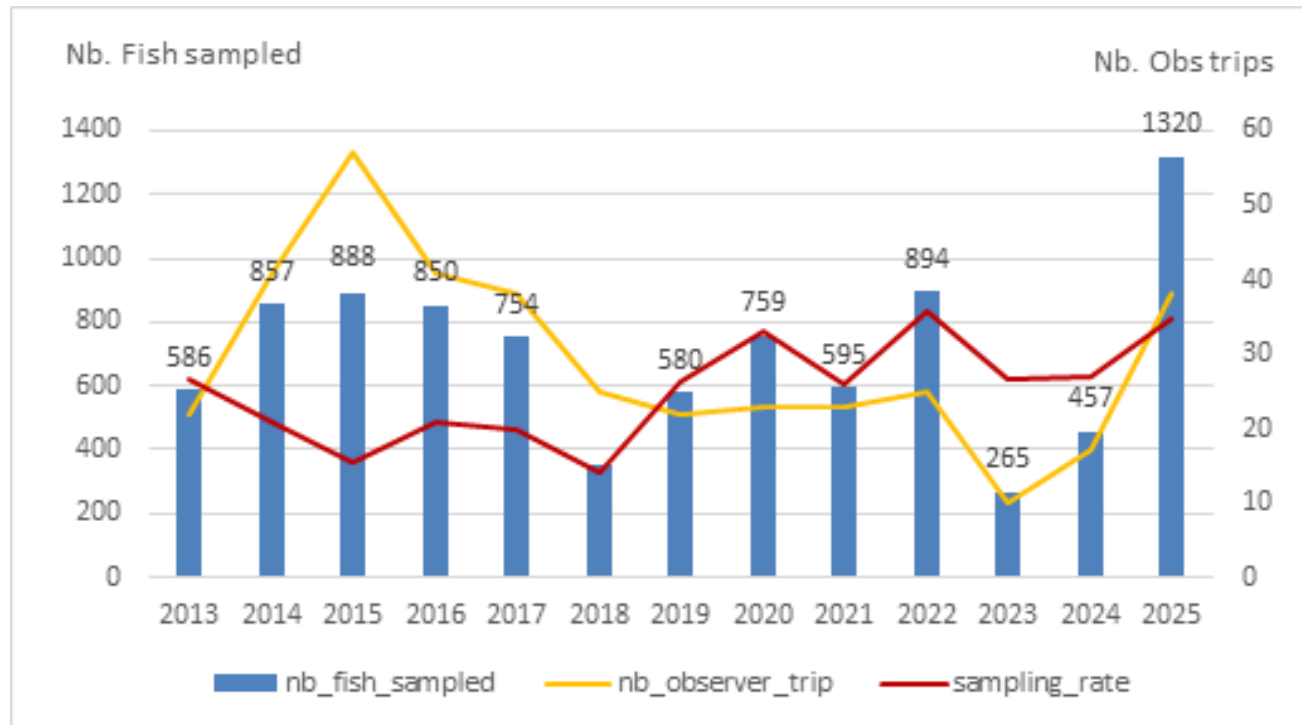
2025 ❖ 79,821 biological samples collected from 57,081 fish ($\approx 15\%$ increase compared to 2024).

❖ 367,680 biological samples (in total) in the repository, taken from 238,722 individual animal specimens.



2- PMSB SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

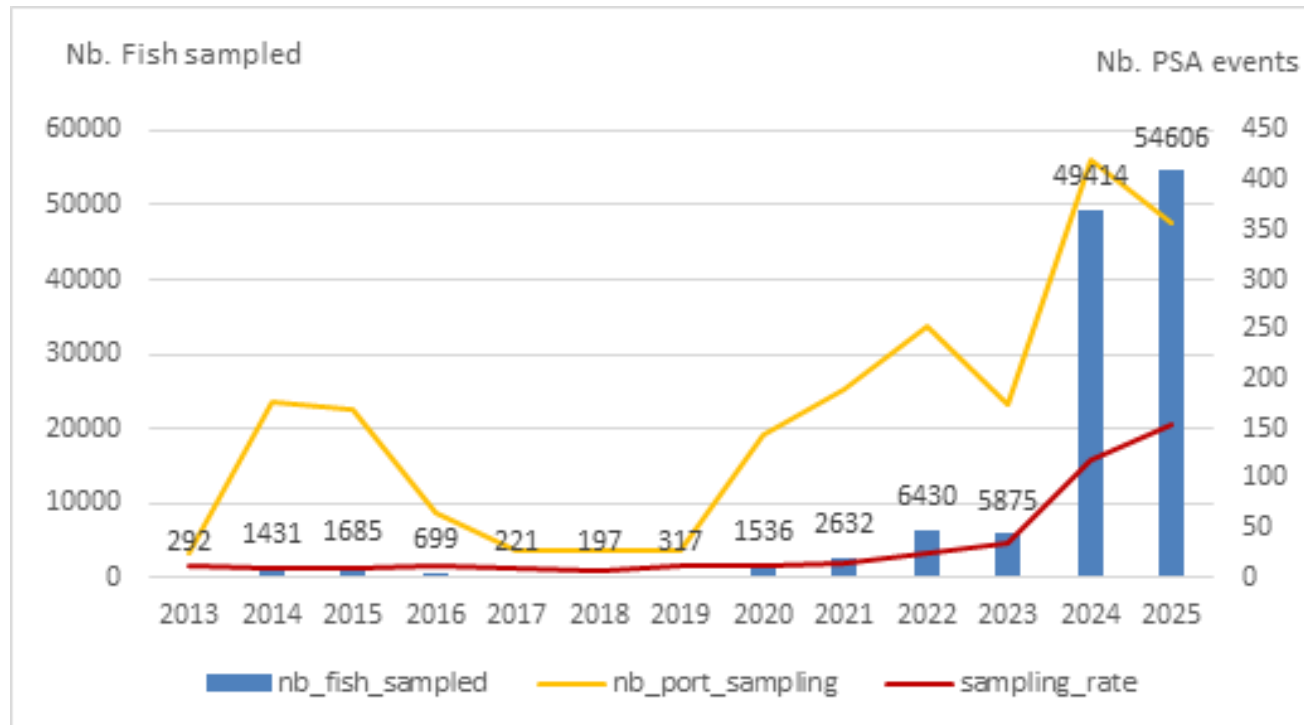
2.2-Observer-based sampling



- ❖ Number of fish sampled during observer trips tripled.
- ❖ Increase of sampling rate.

2- PMSB SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

2.3-Port sampling



- ❖ Collection growth maintained
- ❖ Impact of CKMR project

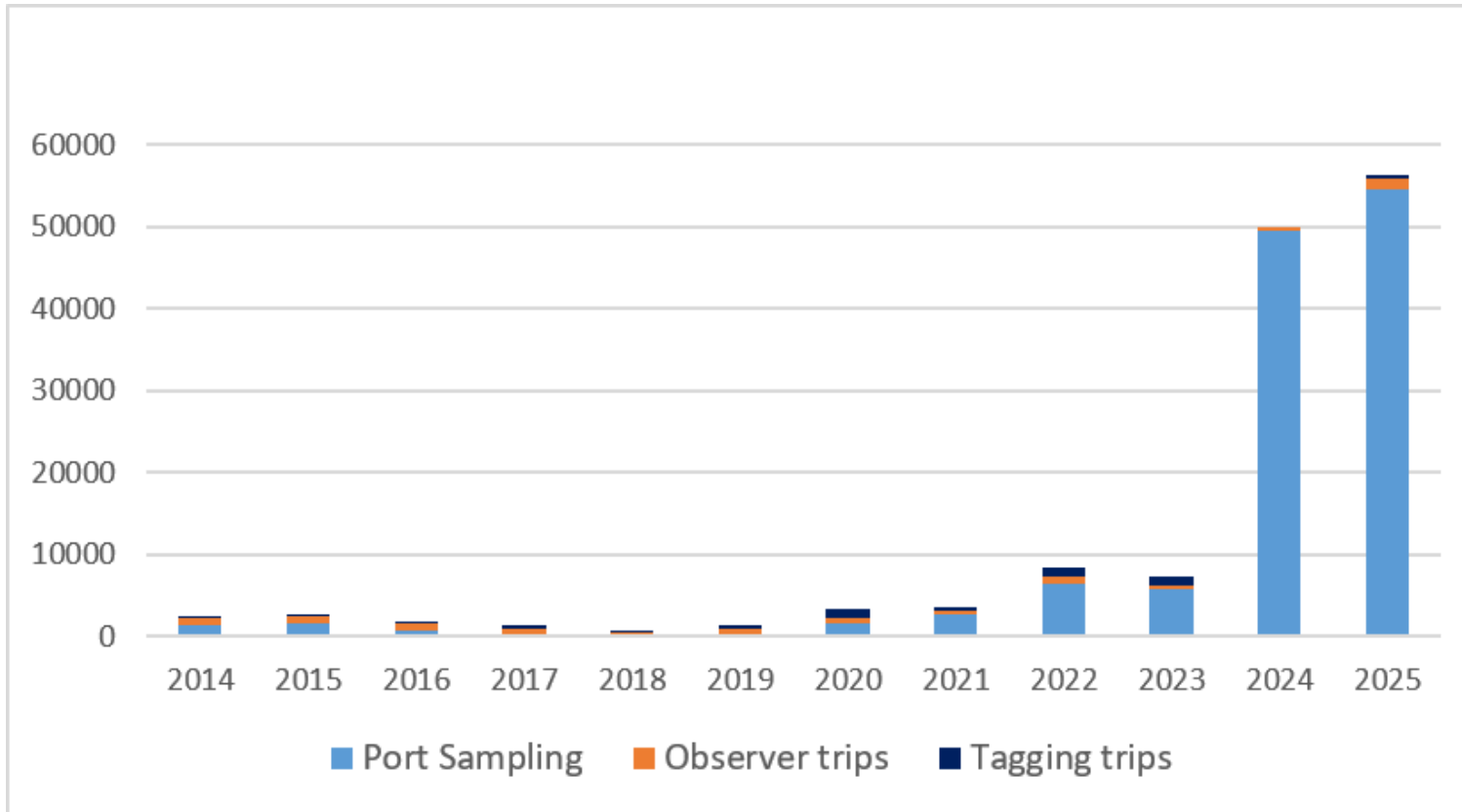
2- PMSB SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

2.4-Tagging cruise sampling

- 2025** ❖ 2,442 biological samples collected from 301 fish
- ❖ Special projects: reproductive biology, epigenetic calibration, mercury and selenium...
- ❖ 49,854 biological samples (in total) in the repository, taken from 14,599 individual animal specimens.



All combined



❖ 2025: best year
in terms of fish
sampled

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Questions?

Comments?

3- PMSB PROCESSES acquisition & management



3.1-Training

- ❖ Training in biological sampling continues... In summary:
 - Training courses conducted in five countries.
 - 144 people were trained/mentored (biological sampling, debriefing) .
 - *OnShore* and *OLLO* trainings.
 - Moodle platform administered by each country

3- PMSB PROCESSES acquisition & management

3.2-Storage facilities

❖ Freezer capacities:

- 103 m³ of -20°C storage in Nouméa
- 2 m³ of -20°C storage in Hobart
- Numerous chest freezers in key ports in the region
- 1 m³ of ultra-cold -80°C storage in Nouméa

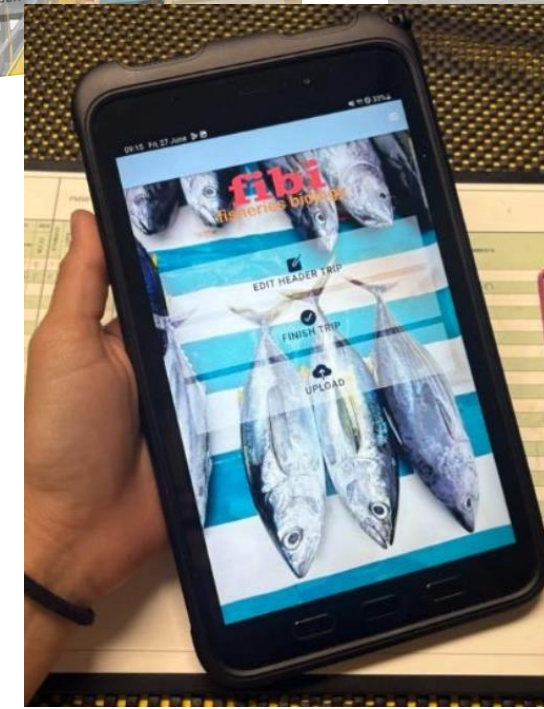
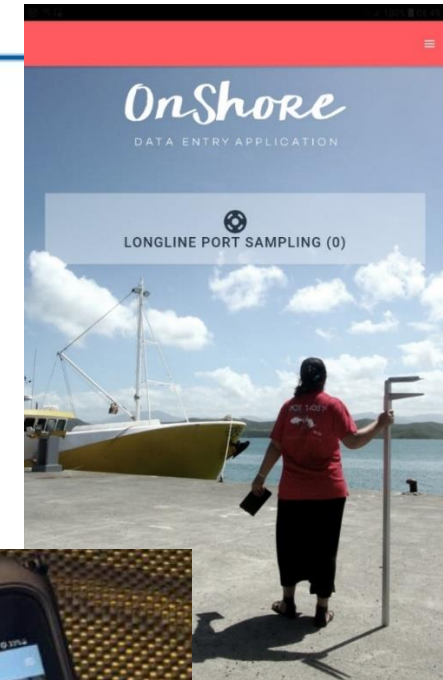
❖ Compactus storage for specimens in ethanol and otoliths



3- PMSB PROCESSES acquisition & management

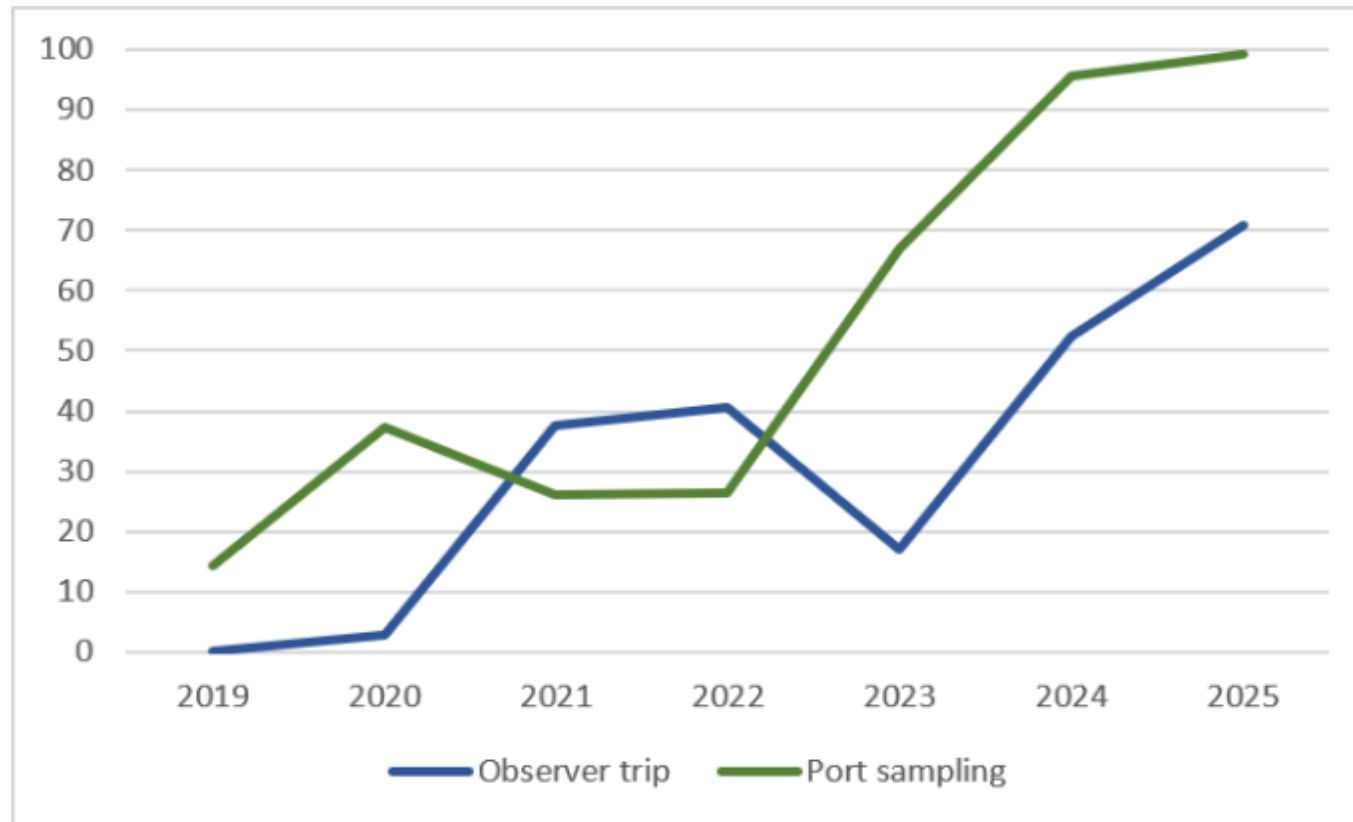
3.3-Electronic reporting (ER)

- ❖ SPC has been encouraging the collection of biological sampling data through ER since 2019-20.
- ❖ *OnShore* and *Ollo* are currently in use in 16 and 8 PICTs respectively.
- ❖ The new ER application *fibi* was used during CP17 tagging cruise.



3- PMSB PROCESSES acquisition & management

3.3-Electronic reporting (ER)



❖ Increase on the use of Onshore and OLLO (99% and 70% respectively)

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Questions?

Comments?

4- PMSB PROCESSES usage

4.1-Access and projects

- ❖ Ten new PMSB-related projects initiated in 2025.
- ❖ Altogether, 92 projects utilising PMSB samples are either ‘completed’ or ‘pending’
- ❖ Two projects presented in the report (YFT reproductive biology P120, ALB CKMR P100d)



4- PMSB PROCESSES usage

4.2-Outputs

- ❖ Eight SC papers linked to the PMSB were submitted in 2025
- ❖ Nine PMSB-related articles were published in 2025.



Full length article

Species-specific mercury speciation in billfishes and its implications for food safety monitoring and dietary advice

Anaïs Médieu^{a,*}, David Point^b, Valérie Allain^c, Nathalie Bodin^{d,e}, Mélanie Lemire^{f,g,h}, Pierre Ayotte^{e,f,i}, Zahirah Dhurmeea^a, Matthieu Waeles^a, Laure Laffont^b, Antoine Le Gohalen^a, François Roupsard^c, Anne Lorrain^a

4.3-Nagoya Protocol

❖ Nagoya Protocol - Access and Benefits Sharing

In 2025, due diligence approach was completed.

- All PICTs National Focal Points identified under the Nagoya Protocol, as well as relevant authorities in non-Party jurisdictions, were contacted
- Introduce the PMSB activities
- Show our good-faith, guarantee that our work aligns with ABS spirit
- Ensure that competent authorities are informed

PMSB steering committee 2026

Questions?

Comments?

5- Work plan 2026-27

- Continue to update and improve training materials for biological sampling.
- Continue the development and enhancement of electronic reporting ER apps and associated trainings.
- Continue the development of a WCPO-wide sampler network for the collection of tuna genetics samples.
- Continue the development of our Quality Management System to meet international standards.

5- Work plan 2026-27

- Noting the increasing and evolving role of the PMSB within the Commission's work, start the development of a PMSB business case to review challenges and opportunities, and to analyse costs, benefits and risks for presentation to the PMSB steering committee and SC23 in 2027.
- Investigate methods to modernise/digitalise the PMSB (e.g. usage of QR codes to identify samples)
- Investigate and implement options to increase storage capacity in Nouméa.
- Development of the PMSB website to better highlight the use of the PMSB samples and associated outputs.

PMSB steering committee 2026

Questions?

Comments?

6- Administrative matters

6.1-Budget

- ❖ Annual cost of supporting the PMSB is USD 97,200 baselined in 2018, with an annual 2% inflation adjustment agreed by the Commission, but no increase otherwise.

	Budget approved	Budget proposed	Indicative budgets	
Year	2026	2027	2028	2029
Amount (USD)	111,711	113,945	116,224	118,549

- ❖ Other funding sources: Pacific Community, New Zealand, Australia, France, GEF, GCF and the European Union

6- Administrative matters

6.2-Recommendations for SC22

The following recommendations arise from this report on the activities of the PMSB. We invite SC22 to:

- Continue to support initiatives to increase rates of biological sampling, especially by fisheries observers at sea, noting that this contribution is essential to the ongoing success of the WCPFC's work.
- Incorporate the identified budget into the WCPFC 2027 budget and the 2028-29 indicative budgets, as development of the WCPFC PMSB is intended to be ongoing and is considered essential.
- Endorse that the work plan in Section 5 of this report should be pursued by the Scientific Services Provider, in addition to standard duties associated with maintenance and operation of the WCPFC PMSB.

Reminder of the work plan 2026-27



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

- Start the development of a PMSB business case.
- Investigate methods to modernise/digitalise the PMSB.
- Investigate options to increase storage capacity in Nouméa.
- Development of the PMSB website .
- Continue to improve training material.
- Continue the enhancement of electronic reporting ER apps.
- Continue the development of a WCPO-wide sampler network.
- Continue the development of our Quality Management System.

PMSB steering committee 2026

Questions?

Comments?

7- Adoption of the report

- ❖ Steering committee report posted on WCPFC website before 31/07/2026 by SPC
- ❖ Comments/corrections from members before 06/08/2026
- ❖ Final agreed version posted on WCPFC website before 10/08/2026 by SPC