



South Pacific Albacore Second Allocation Workshop

Explanatory note on FFA high seas allocation scenarios

At SPAA01, FFA presented an illustrative approach for allocating the high seas component of the South Pacific albacore (SPA) catch limit. The approach demonstrated how historical participation in the fishery could be combined with the allocation considerations set out in Article 10(3) of the WCPF Convention, and allowed CCMs to examine the implications of different allocation assumptions.

Methodology used

The analysis uses the agreed SPA dataset prepared by SPC and tabled at SPAA01 ([SPA data summaries](#)). The dataset is restricted to the Convention Area south of 10°S and uses catch rather than effort. It includes CCMs with a history of participation in the high seas fishery, as well as coastal States; Cooperating Non-Members are not included. Two historical catch reference periods are modelled: catch in 2000, reflecting a reference year raised by a CCM at SPAA01, and average catch over 2000–2004.

Article 10(3) component

For scenario-modelling purposes, Article 10(3) considerations were converted into a simple quantitative framework. Each CCM was assessed individually against the Article 10(3) criteria using a binary score of 0 or 1, as set out in Table 1. A score of 1 indicates that the relevant criterion applies to the CCM and a score of 0 that it does not. Each CCM's scores were summed up and divided by the combined score of all CCMs included in the analysis, producing a proportional Article 10(3) share that can be applied to the high seas allocation.

Historical catch component

A separate proportional share was calculated from each CCM's historical high seas catch south of 10°S. Two reference periods were used:

- 2000 catch; and
- average catch for 2000–2004.

For each reference period, the catch of each CCM or group of CCMs was expressed as a proportion of the total historical high seas catch represented in the scenario. This provides the historical-catch component of the allocation.

Hybrid allocation scenarios

The historical catch and Article 10(3) proportions are combined through a hybrid allocation approach. Three alternative weightings are modelled:

90:10 → 70:30 → 50:50

Historical catch : Article 10(3)

Under the 90:10 scenario, 90% of the high seas allocation is distributed according to each CCM's proportional historical catch and 10% according to its proportional Article 10(3) score. The 70:30 scenario reduces the weighting attributed to historical catch and increases the contribution of the Article 10(3) criteria, while the 50:50 scenario gives equal weight to the two components. For each CCM or group of CCMs, its historical catch proportion and Article 10(3) proportion are multiplied by the applicable weighting and then combined to produce its overall proportional share of the high seas allocation.

The hybrid calculations are undertaken under three alternative EEZ:high seas splits — 75:25, 72:28 and 70:30 — and for both historical catch reference periods (2000 and the 2000–2004 average). This provides a matrix of scenarios through which Members can assess the interaction between: (i) the size of the high seas component; (ii) the historical catch reference period; and (iii) the relative weighting attributed to historical catch and Article 10(3).

Finally, the relevant high seas proportion is applied to the 57,300 mt Management Procedure TAC output to determine the total quantity available for high seas allocation under each EEZ:high seas split. The proportional shares generated through the hybrid methodology are then applied to that quantity to calculate the indicative allocation, in metric tonnes, for each CCM or group of CCMs under each scenario.