



SIXTH REGULAR SESSION
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RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

WCPFC6-2009/22
7th November 2009

Paper prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. Article 22 of the Convention requires the Commission to collaborate with other relevant intergovernmental organizations particularly those which may contribute to the attainment of the objective of the Convention. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCALMR), the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) are identified as organizations, among others, that the Commission may enter into relationship agreements with for the purposes of collaboration, cooperation, consultation and avoiding duplication.

2. A summary of the status of relations with other organizations has been presented at each meeting of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies to date. The reports have included an overview of relations between WCPFC and the following organisations:

- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
- Commission for the Conservation for Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT),
- International Scientific Committee for Tunas and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC).
- Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC),
- Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA),
- UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO),
- Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR),
- Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC),
- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP),
- Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); and
- Agreement for the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP).

3. On the direction of the Commission, agreements on cooperation, coordination and consultation have been formalized with SPC, FFA, CCSBT, IATTC, IOTC, ISC, SPREP and ACAP. Copies of the arrangements that have been agreed with these organizations are available on the Commission's website (<http://www.wcpfc.int/relations-with-other-organisations>).

Issues arising in 2009

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community

4. The SPC continued to provide a high standard of professional support to the Commission under the MoU and annually negotiated Program of Work during 2009.
5. Consistent with the provisions of paragraph 29 of the Commission's 2007 *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission*, an agreement for the exchange of data with the SPC was adopted at WCPFC5 (posted on the Commission's website).
6. On the basis of recommendations from the *Independent Review of Interim Arrangements for Science Structure and Function* adopted at the Fifth Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC5), 6-10 December 2008, the Secretariat drafted 3-year umbrella arrangement for the provision of data administration and science services with the SPC-OFP. The draft, approved by the Fifth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC5) when it met 10-21 August 2009, Port Vila, Vanuatu is available to WCPFC6 for its consideration, refinement as necessary and adoption (Attachment A).
7. The Fifth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC5) which met at Nagasaki, Japan 7-10 September 2009 noted that the proposed changes to the MoU with SPC, to provide for a 3-year arrangement, had been adopted by SC5. Japan proposed an amendment to the proposed MoU (Attachment B) to avoid duplication of work between ISC and SPC. Korea and Chinese Taipei supported the proposal while the USA did not agree with this proposal.

International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC)

8. On the basis of recommendations from the *Independent Review of Interim Arrangements for Science Structure and Function* adopted at the Fifth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee, 6-10 December 2008, the Secretariat prepared a draft revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ISC. The draft, as refined by the by the ISC Plenary at Kaoshiung, Chinese Taipei, 6-10 July 2009, was available to SC5 for refinement, as necessary, then forwarding to the Commission for adoption (Attachment C¹). The draft provided to the ISC Plenary was based on the original MoU between WCPFC and ISC, signed following the endorsement of the Third Regular Session of the Commission, 11-15 December 2006 at Apia, Samoa.
2. The Draft revised MoU between the Commission and the ISC was also considered by NC5. The Committee agreed that the scientific structure involving ISC should be unchanged although transparency of ISC work should be enhanced through data exchange, inviting SC representatives to its meetings and strengthening the website and data administration. The NC5 recommended that the existing MoU between ISC and WCPFC remain unchanged at this stage.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

¹ The ISC did not prepare a recommendation in relation to the draft prepared by the Secretariat.

9. The 80th IATTC Meeting at La Jolla, USA, June 2009 considered a draft data exchange agreement to support the exchange of data between the two Commissions. The initial draft, prepared by the WCPFC Secretariat, was based on Appendix 4 of the 2007 *Rules and Procedures*. IATTC80 proposed some refinements to that draft which is now being presented to WCPFC members for consideration (Attachment D). The Fifth Annual Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC5) which met at Palikir, FSM 1-6 October 2009, considered that the changes proposed to paragraph 1(c) in the Draft during IATTC80 were unacceptable.

The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency

10. The Service Level Agreement for the FFA to provide technical and infrastructural support to the implementation of the Commission's Vessel Monitoring System operated well during the year.

The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources

11. WCPFC5 adopted an Arrangement with CCAMLR (see website). The Arrangement was signed by the Chair of CCAMLR on 12th January 2009.

North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission

12. WCPFC5 recommended that efforts commence to establish a formal relationship with the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC). A draft MoU has been developed by the two Secretariats (Appendix E). This draft has been reviewed by SC5, NC5 and TCC5 with all three bodies recommending the adoption of the MoU as drafted.

Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs)

13. The Secretariat is actively engaged in an initiative of the Secretariats of the regional fisheries management organizations with a principle interest in tuna to promote collaboration, information exchange and consultation (www.tuna-org.org).

14. The Secretariat and the majority of WCPFC members, cooperating non-members and participating territories were represented at the second meeting of the tuna-RFMOs which was held at San Sebastian, Spain, 28 July to 3 July 2009 (see WCPFC6-2009/23).

Advice and recommendations for WCPFC6

15. The Sixth Regular Session of the Commission is invited to:
- i) review, amend as considered appropriate, and adopt a 3-year umbrella arrangement with the SPC-OFP;
 - ii) review, amend as considered appropriate, and adopt a MoU between the Commission and ISC;
 - iii) review, amend as necessary, and consider for adoption, or otherwise, the proposed data exchange arrangement with IATCC; and
 - iv) review, amend as necessary, and consider for adoption by the Commission, the proposed MoU with the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission.

**REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN
AND
THE SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY**

[Fifth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee, Port Vila, Vanuatu, 10-21 August 2009]

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereinafter referred to as “the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission” or “the Commission”) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (hereinafter referred to as “the SPC”):

Recognising that the Commission is required to, *inter alia*:

- adopt measures to ensure long-term sustainability of highly migratory fish stocks in its Convention Area and promote the objective of their optimum utilisation;
- ensure that such measures are based on the best scientific evidence available and are designed to maintain or restore stocks at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors, including the special requirements of developing States in the Convention Area, particularly small island developing States, and taking into account fishing patterns, the interdependence of stocks and any generally recommended international minimum standards, whether subregional, regional, or global;
- assess the impacts of fishing, other human activities and environmental factors on target stocks, non-target species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with the target stocks;
- adopt measures to minimise waste, discards, catch by lost or abandoned gear, pollution originating from fishing vessels, catch of non-target species, both fish and non-fish species (hereinafter referred to as non-target species) and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species and promote the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques;
- protect biodiversity in the marine environment;
- take measures to prevent or eliminate over-fishing and excess fishing capacity and to ensure that levels of fishing effort do not exceed those commensurate with the sustainable use of fishery resources;
- collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, *inter alia*, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, as well as information from national and international research programs;
- establish a committee (the Scientific Committee) to ensure that the Commission obtains for its consideration the best scientific information available through review of research results, encouraging and promoting cooperation in scientific research and assessing status of target or non-target stocks of interest;

- establish a committee (the Technical and Compliance Committee), that is required to collaborate with the Scientific Committee in providing advice and making recommendations to the Commission on conservation and management measures; and
- establish a committee (the Northern Committee) to make recommendations on the implementation of such conservation and management measures as may be adopted by the Commission for the area north of the 20° parallel of north latitude and on the formulation of such measures in respect of stocks which occur mostly in this area;

Noting also that the Commission:

- may engage the services of scientific experts to provide information and advice on the fishery resources covered by its Convention and related matters that may be relevant to the conservation and management of those resources;
- may enter into administrative and financial arrangements to utilise scientific services for this purpose; and
- in order to carry out its functions in a cost-effective manner, shall, to the greatest extent possible, utilise the services of existing regional organisations and shall consult, as appropriate, with any other fisheries management, technical or scientific organisation with expertise in matters related to the work of the Commission;

Recognising that the SPC, through the work of its Oceanic Fisheries Programme (hereinafter referred to as “the OFP”), seeks to:

- ensure that regional and national fisheries management authorities in its region of competence have access to high-quality scientific information and advice on the status of, and fishery impacts on, stocks targeted or otherwise impacted by regional oceanic fisheries;
- ensure that regional and national fisheries management authorities within its region of competence have access to accurate and comprehensive scientific data on fisheries targeting the region’s resources of tuna, billfish and other oceanic species including non-target species; and
- improve the understanding of pelagic ecosystems in the western and central Pacific Ocean, with a focus on the western tropical Pacific;

Noting also that the OFP, in pursuing these objectives, has, over a long period of time:

- developed and maintained a comprehensive database of catch, effort, size composition and other biological data from the oceanic fisheries of the western and central Pacific Ocean;
- conducted biological and ecological research on the target and non-target species impacted by the fisheries and their ecosystem;
- conducted regular stock assessments and associated analyses for highly migratory stocks of interest;
- provided a forum for the exchange of knowledge of oceanic fisheries in the western and central Pacific Ocean through the precursor to the Scientific Committee, the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, and thus has an established international and regional network of scientific collaborators; and

- assisted SPC member countries that are also Members of the Commission in the management of oceanic fisheries through the implementation of fishery monitoring and data management systems, the provision of scientific advice and the provision of national capacity building;

Have agreed as follows:

General Co-operation

The Commission and the SPC agree to establish and maintain co-operation in respect of matters of common interest to the two organisations. In particular, the Commission and the SPC will:

- encourage reciprocal participation in relevant meetings of each organisation;
- encourage the collaboration of national scientists in the scientific work undertaken by, or on behalf of, the Commission;
- actively and regularly exchange relevant meeting reports, information, project plans, documents, and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, up to the limits allowed by the information-sharing policies agreed by each organisation's members; and
- consult on a regular basis to enhance co-operation and minimise duplication.

Provision of Scientific Services to the Commission by the SPC OFP

The SPC OFP will provide scientific services, in cooperation with other scientists, as appropriate, including those from Members of the Commission, as agreed in triennial Service Agreements, specific services of which shall be reviewed on an annual basis.

Services may include, *inter alia*, the following:

- data management services, including, as appropriate, the collection, compilation and dissemination of fisheries data according to agreed principles and procedures established by the Commission, data processing, and database development and maintenance, taking full account of the procedures and policies of both organisations relating to the confidentiality, disclosure and publication of data;
- data summaries and analyses that the Commission may routinely require to carry out its functions;
- other data summaries and analyses that the Commission may require from time to time;
- regional stock assessments of key target and non-target species;
- ecosystem analyses, including developing ecosystem modelling and application to management, ecological risk assessment and related work;
- scientific evaluation of potential management options, agreed conservation and management measures and related work;
- scientific advice in relation to the implementation of the Commission's vessel monitoring system, regional observer programme or other initiatives relating to fishing gear and technology, as appropriate; and

- viii. design and implementation of biological, ecological or stock assessment research programmes requested by the Commission, including collaborative research programmes with other regional fishery management organisations.

Provision of Assistance to Commission Members

In support of Article 30 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, the SPC will provide assistance to its Pacific Island Members to enhance their participation in the work of the Commission. Assistance may include, *inter alia*:

- i. assistance in monitoring the fishing activities of national fleets and foreign fleets fishing within Pacific Island exclusive economic zones;
- ii. assistance in data management, and in particular in satisfying the data reporting obligations to the Commission;
- iii. auditing of national fishery monitoring and data management systems;
- iv. assistance in the interpretation of scientific information being provided to the Commission;
- v. scientific advice for the management of national fisheries consistent with the objectives of the Commission; and
- vi. assistance in the implementation of management measures adopted by the Commission.

Financial Support

The Commission will provide financial support for the provision of scientific services and for the provision of assistance to Commission members as agreed in this Service Agreement.

In respect of assistance to Pacific Island Commission Members, such assistance will normally be provided by SPC funding sources, or from the Commission's Special Requirements Fund, subject to procedures agreed by the Commission governing the use of that Fund and to the Commission's strategy for capacity building and operationalizing Article 30 of the Convention. Where assistance is to be funded from the Commission's Special Requirements Fund, this shall be included in the Service Agreement. In special circumstances, assistance may also be requested for non-Pacific Island Commission Members. Such assistance will be funded by the Commission (in which case it will be detailed in the Service Agreement) or directly by the countries concerned.

General Administrative Arrangements

- i. This MOU becomes effective upon the date of signature of the responsible representatives of both Parties.
- ii. This MOU may be modified by written consent of the responsible representatives of both Parties. The modified MOU becomes effective upon the date of signature of such consent.
- iii. If any dispute should arise between the Parties on the operation of this MOU, the Parties will make every effort to resolve the dispute themselves, or if necessary, by utilising a mutually-acceptable arbiter.

- iv. Either Party may terminate this MOU by providing written notice to the other of its intention to withdraw from the MOU. Termination shall be effective on 31 December of the year in which such notice is given, or 90 days following such notice, whichever is later. Upon termination of the MOU, any uncommitted funds provided for scientific services and assistance shall be refunded to the Commission.
- v. A full review of the terms and operation of this MOU and its Annexes will be conducted in concert with any review of the scientific structure and functions of the Commission.

Signature

Signed on behalf of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community:

Andrew Wright
Executive Director, WCPFC
Date:

Dr Jimmy Rogers
Director General, SPC
Date:

ANNEX I

Agreement for the Provision of Scientific Services to the Commission and Assistance to Members by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community

I. Period Covered by this Agreement

The initial 3-year period covered by this Agreement is 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2012. However, Sections IV and below in this Agreement will be reviewed annually to be extended by one calendar year.

II. Areas for Triennial Scientific Services to be Provided

The scientific services to be provided to the Commission by the SPC OFP during 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2012 are as follows:

1. Data management, statistical analyses and related services
 - a) Data management
 - b) Compilation of catch and effort estimates
 - c) Statistical analyses for catch estimates
 - d) Rules and procedures of the Commission's data
 - e) Data gaps
 - f) Assistance to WPEA OFM Project
 - g) Dissemination of data
2. Stock assessment and related analytical services
 - a) Stock assessment
 - b) CPUE standardization
 - c) Sensitivity analysis
 - d) Model refinement
3. Management analyses and CMM performance monitoring
 - a) Assistance to management related matters
 - b) Management options
 - c) Appraisal and monitoring of the conservation benefit of proposed and implemented CMMs
4. Ecosystem analyses
 - a) Ecosystem, fishery interactions and non-target species assessments
 - b) Development of ecosystem modeling and application to management
5. Capacity building of small island developing States
6. Research services
7. Other advisory and technical services

III. Assistance to Commission Members

The SPC OFP will provide services to its membership to assist them to fulfill their responsibilities as Commission members. These services include assistance in the implementation of fishery monitoring programmes, data management systems and the provision of scientific advice for EEZ-based management. The majority of these services will be provided from existing SPC OFP funding sources.

IV. Specific Services and Terms of Reference for the Provision of Scientific Services by one Calendar Year

This section will be reviewed and revised as needed according to the requests from the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The specific services and terms of reference for the provision of scientific services to be provided to the Commission by the SPC OFP in 2010 are as follows:

(This table contains 2009 service agreement as an example only)

Description of Service	Specific Outputs	Timing
<i>Data management, statistical analyses and related services</i>		
Data management		
Incorporate data provided by Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) under the Commission's data provision policy into existing databases and facilitate access of Commission secretariat staff to those data as appropriate.	Databases updated with all data provided by CCMs, including IUU fisheries data and by-catch data. Updated Catch and Effort Query System (CES) software installed at WCPFC headquarters and additional staff trained in its use.	January – December by mutual agreement
Compilation of catch and effort estimates		
ii. Compile estimates of catch and effort in support of the functions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, such as		
(a) estimates of annual catches by species, gear type and flag, as specified in the procedures for Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission;	SC5 Working Paper.	11 July
(b) estimates of annual catches by vessel flag, EEZ, and archipelagic waters, for use in determining the catch component (for 2006-2008) of the Commission's assessed contributions;	Report of the annual catches to the Secretariat for calculation of 2010 assessed contributions.	November
(c) estimates of catch and effort in support of the Commission's conservation and management measures;	To assist with discussion at SC5, TCC5 and WCPFC6, summary data will be presented in both table and figure as undertaken during WCPFC3, 4 and 5.	September
<i>Data management, statistical analyses and related services</i>		
(d) Estimate vessel days to be applied for the implementation of high seas Vessel Day Scheme (HS VDS) (see item xvi <i>CMM-2008-01</i> (c)); and	SC5 Working Paper	11 July
(e) Verification review of South Pacific swordfish catch data submitted by the European Community.	Draft a work plan, in consultation with WCPFC Secretariat, to conduct verification review in 2009	January-December

	(WCPFC5 Draft Summary Report, paragraph 237) Conduct the review and prepare a report to SC5, TCC5 and WCPFC6.	
<i>Statistical analyses for catch estimates</i> iii. For catches for which estimates are not otherwise available, conduct statistical analyses to estimate catches, particularly in regard to: (a) species composition of purse seine catches; (b) discards of target tuna species; and (c) catches of non-target species.	SC5 Working Papers on (1) analysis of spill and grab samples and application to revision of estimates of purse-seine catches, (2) estimation of shark catches determined from observer data, and (3) estimates of shark catches determined from fin trade data. Discards will be covered in the paper referred to under ii(a) above.	11 July
<i>Rules and procedures</i> iv. On request, advise the Executive Director regarding the further development of Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to and Dissemination of Non-Public Domain Data and Information Compiled by the Commission.	Advice provided to the Executive Director on request.	January – December
v. On request, advise or document any information for SC's revisit to the scientific needs for VMS data	Advice provided to the Executive Director on request	January – December
<i>Data gaps</i> vi. Determine the status of the provision of scientific data to the Commission	Updates on the status of the provision of scientific data on the WCPFC website and a summary report provided to the Secretariat for consideration at TCC5 and WCPFC6; Continued refinement of the web-based utility to identify data gaps; Review comments on the final project report of 'Causes of Data Gaps' for consideration at SC5.	January-December
<i>Data management, statistical analyses and related services</i>		
<i>IPDCP</i> vii. Participate in the Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Project and the related GEF-West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management (WPEA OFM) Project.	Technical support provided and documented in reports of relevant duty travels, meetings of the Steering Committee, IPDCP workshops and WPEA OFM-related workshops or meetings. (Costs will be funded from the IPDCP/WPEA budget); Advice provided to the Secretariat on request. All reports provided to the Secretariat.	January – December
<i>Dissemination of data</i> viii. Produce and publish on the Commission's website the Tuna Fishery Yearbook 2008, containing annual catch estimates by gear type, flag and species.	Posting on WCPFC website.	January – December
ix. Disseminate public domain catch, effort	Posting on WCPFC website as data	January –

	and size data on the Commission's website at agreed level of resolution.	become available and pending resolution of issues related to the three-vessel minimum.	December
x.	Release the datasets used in annual assessments, upon request, after 30 June of each year, subject to the Commission's Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission	As requested by CCMs through the Executive Director	January – December
xi.	Review of public domain catch and effort data in relation to the three vessel rule	SC5 Information Paper for update of this issue	11 July
<i>Stock assessment and related analytical services</i>			
<i>Stock assessment</i>			
xii.	Undertake full stock assessment for target and non-target species as requested by the Commission (full yellowfin tuna stock assessment and a streamlined bigeye tuna and South Pacific albacore assessment in 2009), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Further refinement of data and data structure used for stock assessment; (ii) Quantification of changes in longline selectivity due to changes in gears and patterns of deployment – Medium Priority. (Used to model changes in selectivity over time required in MFCL assessment models. SPC-OFP services as time allows and this will take the form of a sensitivity analysis in the assessment, rather than a stand-alone analysis); and (iii) Review data gaps on the necessary biological and fisheries data and the general feasibility of single species stock assessment, with a special attention on silky sharks, and oceanic whitetip sharks 	SC5 Working Papers.	11 July
<i>CPUE standardization</i>			
xiii.	Undertake analyses of longline catch and effort data, including where appropriate operational-level data, to improve the standardisation of effort and the construction of indices of stock abundance for bigeye, yellowfin and South Pacific albacore tuna.	SC5 Working Papers or incorporation into assessment documents.	11 July
<i>Sensitivity analysis</i>			
xiv.	Continued exploration of sensitivity of stock assessment outcomes to structural assumptions in models and data issues, including the comparison of various stock assessment models	SC5 Working Paper or incorporation into assessment documents.	11 July
<i>Model refinement</i>			
xv.	Further refinement of the stock assessment software, MULTIFAN-CL, including simulation testing of new developments as	Updated stock assessment modeling software and documentation posted on the MULTIFAN-CL website (also	11 July

<p>appropriate. The following developments are envisaged in 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation of length-based selectivity as an option • Further development of stock projection capabilities 	<p>linked from WCPFC). SC5 Working Paper, including any future research plans for the refinement of assessment models.</p>	
Description of Service	Specific Outputs	Timing
<i>Management analyses and CMM performance monitoring</i>		
<p><i>Management</i></p> <p>xvi. Review WCPFC conservation and management measures and provide all relevant data and information needed for annual review of those measures by the SC, TCC and the Commission, and, on request, to the WCPFC Secretariat. Detailed service in relation to CMM-2008 includes:</p> <p><i>CMM-2008-01 [Bigeye and yellowfin]</i></p> <p>(a) For the annual review of CMM-2008-01, provide available data (NOTE: no data on fishing activities undertaken under the measure will be available by SC5 in 2009), information and advice for evaluating the impact and compliance with the measures for the purse seine and longline fisheries, adjustments of the measures to achieve its objectives, and any adjustments on the Commission's management objectives and reference points (CMM-2008-01 paragraphs 1 and 46). In particular,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculate total days fished of the purse seine fishery in each CCM's EEZ and on high seas by flag to assess the compliance of CMM-2008-01 paragraphs 11-13 (The information pertaining to fishing activities in 2009 may be provided for review at SC6). • Compile bigeye tuna catch for 2001-2004 of a CCM that implements CMM-2008-01 paragraph 15 and 35, and provide an appraisal of the effectiveness of the CCM's catch limit programme for purse seine fisheries submitted in writing to the Commission. • Compile bigeye and yellowfin catch estimates from longline fisheries by flag, taking into account paragraphs 2 and 36, and the footnotes to the tables in Attachment F of the CMM2008-01, and, subject to the availability of adequate data, provide assessments on the effectiveness of CMM-2008-01 measures in reducing bigeye overfishing in longline fishery. • Subject to the availability of adequate data, provide assessments on the 	<p>Provide advice to the Secretariat intersessionally; Working Papers on relevant issues for SC5, TCC5 and WCPFC6</p>	<p>January-December</p>

<p>verification of CCM's bigeye and yellowfin tuna catch and effort reported from other commercial tuna fisheries, and advice on CCM's proposals, if needed, for the provision of effort data for these fisheries for consideration at SC5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide data and information to identify the level of compliance of CCMs in relation to data reporting requirements (CMM-2008-01 paragraph 41) <p>(b) Subject to the availability of adequate data, compile data and information to provide estimates on the level of CCM's purse seine fishing effort in days fished in areas of the high seas (CMM-2008-01 paragraph 10)</p> <p>(c) Provide compiled data, information and advice to develop HS VDS for a 2010-2011 purse seine effort management measure (CMM-2008-01 paragraph 21) compatible with the PNA VDS (See item ii(d))</p> <p>(d) Provide advice, as requested, on additional FAD management options for consideration by SC, TCC and the Commission in 2009 (CMM-2008-01 paragraph 24)</p> <p>(e) Provide data and other information, as requested, to support the development and implementation of a 3 year program to explore methods to reduce catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tuna caught in association with FADs (CMM-2008-01 paragraph 25)</p> <p><i>CMM-2008-03 [Sea turtle]</i></p> <p>(a) Contribute to the development of WCPFC guidelines for the handling of sea turtles for distribution by June 30 2009 (CMM-2008-03 paragraphs 4 and 13)</p> <p>(b) Provide advice, on request, to the Secretariat or CCMs in relation to the implementation of the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality properly to developing State Members and Territories in relation to training and encouraging their fishers to adopt appropriate methods and technologies to reduce interactions with sea turtles and to mitigate their adverse effects (CMM-2008-03 paragraph 10)</p> <p>(c) Provide details of any additional or new mitigation measures, if available, for longline and purse seine fisheries</p> <p><i>CMM-2008-05 [Swordfish]</i></p> <p>(a) Provide verification, if available, of CCM's nominated maximum total catch of swordfish that was caught in the area south of 20°S during the period 2000-2006 (CMM-2008-05</p>		
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<p>paragraph 3)</p> <p>(b) Verification review by SPC as listed in item ii(e) above(CMM-2008-05 paragraph 5)</p> <p>(c) Subject to the availability of adequate data, compile and estimate the total catch of swordfish by flag caught in the area south of 20°S to verify the compliance with the adopted CMM-2008-05 paragraph 10</p> <p>(d) Subject to the availability of adequate information, provide comments on the implications, in relation to CMM-2008-05, for a swordfish stock assessment following investigation of data uncertainties</p> <p>CMM-2008-06 [Sharks]</p> <p>(a) Subject to the availability of adequate data, assess the effectiveness of CMM-2008-06 and any alternative measures for the management of shark stocks in the Convention Area, as appropriate (CMM-2008-06 paragraph 13)</p> <p>(b) Support, the Commission’s planning, as requested, to assist the implementation of this measure to developing State Members and participating Territories</p>		
Description of Service	Specific Outputs	Timing
<i>Ecological Risk Assessment</i>		
<p>xvii. In association with other qualified organizations or CCM research agencies with a view to securing a broad-based consultation, continue implementation of the multi-year ERA, including PSA, for WCPO tuna fisheries. Provide additional detailed analysis of high risk spp. from PSA analysis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of revised “Introductory ERA” booklet, including the role of ERA, information on documents available for the identification and handling guides for by-catch species such as sharks, turtles and seabirds, and directions on the translation and printing of existing guides; • National-scale analyses and training in ERA (Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia and French Polynesia); • Sub-regional analysis of western tropical Pacific; • Assistance to other WCPFC members in developing national ERAs (New Zealand and Korea in 2009); • Convening of ERA Training Workshop (no separate cost for this workshop); • Implementation report submitted to the Secretariat and Working Paper for EB-SWG and SC5. This includes an update with reference to the 1008-2010 ERA 	<p>11 July</p>

	research plan, determination of catches and catch rates of non-target species, seabird ERA work into high seas areas, identification of key shark species at high apparent risk from fishing, and consideration of sea turtle by-catch mitigation.	
xviii. Provide information on any other ERA related issues as requested in the SC4 and WCPFC5 Summary Report, including the determination of a definition on “minimal” observed interaction rates of sea turtles in the adopted sea turtle measure	Working Paper for SC5 and WCPFC6	
xix. Provide scientific advice (i.e. on fisheries monitoring, catch estimation, feasibility of stock assessment, and use of interim indicators for fishing impacts) to the consultant drafting the Pacific Islands Regional Plan of Action (PI-RPOA) on Sharks	Include summary of support given and/or anticipated in ERA implementation report for SC5.	
xx. Developing bycatch mitigation website, completing by-catch mitigation_database system, and populating bycatch mitigation database	Functioning of by-catch mitigation website with its populated database for the dissemination of by-catch related data and information	
Description of Service	Specific Outputs	Timing
<i>Research services</i>		
xxi. Participate in the study with the IATTC and CCMs on ‘Refinement of bigeye parameters Pacific-wide: A comprehensive review and study of bigeye tuna reproductive biology (Project 35)’.	Progress report for consideration at SC5	11 July
<i>Other advisory and technical services</i>		
xxii. Provide advice, as requested, on scientific aspects of the design and implementation of the Commission’s vessel monitoring system and regional observer programme.		January – December
xxiii. On request, provide advice to the Secretariat on the MRAG report of the ‘Independent Review of the Commission’s Science Structure and Functions’ scheduled for completion in the second quarter of 2009.		January – December
xxiv. Assist with the maintenance of the WCPFC web site, in particular the posting of documents for meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.		January – December
xxv. Draft a strategic procedure, working with the ISC and relevant CCMs, for the incorporation of ISC data into the Commission’s data holdings	SC5 Information Paper (Draft strategic procedure for review by ISC9, SC5 and TCC5))	January – December
xxvi. Provide advice and input to a proposal by WCPFC Secretariat that would support the periodic peer review of ISC and SC stock assessments for consideration of the 2009		January – December

session of the ISC, NC and Commission		
xxvii. Provide assistance for a seminar on reference points during SC5/ME-SWG to improve the understanding of the reference points and MSE approaches among all CCMs, particularly small island developing states (SIDS). Topics include: Introductory section (a) Introduction to the determination of limit and target reference points and decision rules that would be used to guide management in the short term; (b) Discussion of the MSE approach including the use of different or the same operating and assessment models in MSE, and the practical application of MSE to the WCPO; (c) any draft strategic plan to increase CCM capacity to participate in the work plan on reference points and MSE for 2009 and beyond; Technical issues (d) Suitability of MSY-based reference points as default limit reference points and how they may be operationalized, as described in SC4 Summary Report paragraph 202; (e) Evaluate stock status for key stocks against a variety of reference points; (f) Consider alternative methods for assessing stock status against reference points; (g) Evaluate the sensitivity of reference points to alternative model structures and stability over time with respect to the incorporation of new data.	Review and summary paper (Working Paper or Information Paper) for SC5	January - August
xxviii. Assist the Mid-term Review of Tagging Project, as suggested by NZAID, to be organized by WCPFC (Project 42)	Assist convening the Pacific Tuna Tagging Programme Steering Committee meeting which includes the Mid-term Review of Tagging Project, provide a Status Report to SC5, and provide a Summary Report of the PTTP Steering Committee meeting	January – December

V. Annual Schedule for Payments

The annual schedule of payments shall be as follows:

31 March 2010 (or before)	USD _____
30 June 2010 (or before)	USD _____
30 September 2010 (or before)	USD _____
31 December 2010 (or before)	USD _____

VI. Bank Details for Payments

Name of Bank: Banque de Nouvelle-Caledonie

Address: 25 av Henri Lafleur Victoire, Noumea, New Caledonia
Account name: Secretariat General de la Communaute du Pacifique
Account Number : 14889 00081 01461716025 31

Andrew Wright
Executive Director, WCPFC
Date:

Dr Jimmy Rogers
Director General, SPC
Date:

DRAFT

**REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN
AND
THE SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY**

[Fifth Regular Session of the Northern Committee, Nagasaki, Japan, 7-10 September 2009]

(Draft)

**Japan's Comments on the proposed MOU between WCPFC and SPC
(Attachment C of WCPFC-NC5-2009/IP-04)**

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereinafter referred to as “the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission” or “the Commission”) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (hereinafter referred to as “the SPC”):

Recognising that the Commission is required to, *inter alia*:

- adopt measures to ensure long-term sustainability of highly migratory fish stocks in its Convention Area and promote the objective of their optimum utilisation;
- ensure that such measures are based on the best scientific evidence available and are designed to maintain or restore stocks at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors, including the special requirements of developing States in the Convention Area, particularly small island developing States, and taking into account fishing patterns, the interdependence of stocks and any generally recommended international minimum standards, whether subregional, regional, or global;
- assess the impacts of fishing, other human activities and environmental factors on target stocks, non-target species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with the target stocks;
- adopt measures to minimise waste, discards, catch by lost or abandoned gear, pollution originating from fishing vessels, catch of non-target species, both fish and non-fish species (hereinafter referred to as non-target species) and impacts on associated or dependent species, in particular endangered species and promote the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques;
- protect biodiversity in the marine environment;
- take measures to prevent or eliminate over-fishing and excess fishing capacity and to ensure that levels of fishing effort do not exceed those commensurate with the sustainable use of fishery resources;
- collect and share, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, *inter alia*, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, as well as information from national and international research programs;
- establish a committee (the Scientific Committee) to ensure that the Commission obtains for its consideration the best scientific information available through review of research results, encouraging and promoting cooperation in scientific research and assessing status of target or non-target stocks of interest;

- establish a committee (the Technical and Compliance Committee), that is required to collaborate with the Scientific Committee in providing advice and making recommendations to the Commission on conservation and management measures; and
- establish a committee (the Northern Committee) to make recommendations on the implementation of such conservation and management measures as may be adopted by the Commission for the area north of the 20° parallel of north latitude and on the formulation of such measures in respect of stocks which occur mostly in this area;

Noting also that the Commission:

- may engage the services of scientific experts to provide information and advice on the fishery resources covered by its Convention and related matters that may be relevant to the conservation and management of those resources;
- may enter into administrative and financial arrangements to utilise scientific services for this purpose; and
- in order to carry out its functions in a cost-effective manner, shall, to the greatest extent possible, utilise the services of existing regional organisations and shall consult, as appropriate, with any other fisheries management, technical or scientific organisation with expertise in matters related to the work of the Commission;

Recognising that the SPC, through the work of its Oceanic Fisheries Programme (hereinafter referred to as “the OFP”), seeks to:

- ensure that regional and national fisheries management authorities in its region of competence have access to high-quality scientific information and advice on the status of, and fishery impacts on, stocks targeted or otherwise impacted by regional oceanic fisheries;
- ensure that regional and national fisheries management authorities within its region of competence have access to accurate and comprehensive scientific data on fisheries targeting the region’s resources of tuna, billfish and other oceanic species including non-target species; and
- improve the understanding of pelagic ecosystems in the western and central Pacific Ocean, with a focus on the western tropical Pacific;

Noting also that the OFP, in pursuing these objectives, has, over a long period of time:

- developed and maintained a comprehensive database of catch, effort, size composition and other biological data from the oceanic fisheries of the western and central Pacific Ocean;
- conducted biological and ecological research on the target and non-target species impacted by the fisheries and their ecosystem;
- conducted regular stock assessments and associated analyses for highly migratory stocks of interest;
- provided a forum for the exchange of knowledge of oceanic fisheries in the western and central Pacific Ocean through the precursor to the Scientific Committee, the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, and thus has an established international and regional network of scientific collaborators; and
- assisted SPC member countries that are also Members of the Commission in the management of oceanic fisheries through the implementation of fishery monitoring and data management systems, the provision of scientific advice and the provision of national capacity building;

Have agreed as follows:

General Co-operation

The Commission and the SPC agree to establish and maintain co-operation in respect of matters of common interest to the two organisations. In particular, the Commission and the SPC will:

- v. encourage reciprocal participation in relevant meetings of each organisation;
- vi. encourage the collaboration of national scientists in the scientific work undertaken by, or on behalf of, the Commission;
- vii. actively and regularly exchange relevant meeting reports, information, project plans, documents, and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, up to the limits allowed by the information-sharing policies agreed by each organisation's members; and
- viii. consult on a regular basis to enhance co-operation and minimise duplication.

Provision of Scientific Services to the Commission by the SPC OFP

The SPC OFP will provide scientific services, in cooperation with other scientists, as appropriate, including those from Members of the Commission, as agreed in triennial Service Agreements, specific services of which shall be reviewed on an annual basis. Services may include, *inter alia*, the following, [but shall exclude the services for northern stocks as well as by catch covered by ISC:](#)

- ix. data management services, including, as appropriate, the collection, compilation and dissemination of fisheries data according to agreed principles and procedures established by the Commission, data processing, and database development and maintenance, taking full account of the procedures and policies of both organisations relating to the confidentiality, disclosure and publication of data;
- x. data summaries and analyses that the Commission may routinely require to carry out its functions;
- xi. other data summaries and analyses that the Commission may require from time to time;
- xii. regional stock assessments of key target and non-target species;
- xiii. ecosystem analyses, including developing ecosystem modelling and application to management, ecological risk assessment and related work;
- xiv. scientific evaluation of potential management options, agreed conservation and management measures and related work;
- xv. scientific advice in relation to the implementation of the Commission's vessel monitoring system, regional observer programme or other initiatives relating to fishing gear and technology, as appropriate; and
- xvi. design and implementation of biological, ecological or stock assessment research programmes requested by the Commission, including collaborative research programmes with other regional fishery management organisations.

Provision of Assistance to Commission Members

In support of Article 30 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, the SPC will provide assistance to its Pacific Island Members to enhance their participation in the work of the Commission. Assistance may include, *inter alia*:

- vii. assistance in monitoring the fishing activities of national fleets and foreign fleets fishing within Pacific Island exclusive economic zones;
- viii. assistance in data management, and in particular in satisfying the data reporting obligations to the Commission;
- ix. auditing of national fishery monitoring and data management systems;
- x. assistance in the interpretation of scientific information being provided to the Commission;

- xi. scientific advice for the management of national fisheries consistent with the objectives of the Commission; and
- xii. assistance in the implementation of management measures adopted by the Commission.

Financial Support

The Commission will provide financial support for the provision of scientific services and for the provision of assistance to Commission members as agreed in this Service Agreement.

In respect of assistance to Pacific Island Commission Members, such assistance will normally be provided by SPC funding sources, or from the Commission's Special Requirements Fund, subject to procedures agreed by the Commission governing the use of that Fund and to the Commission's strategy for capacity building and operationalizing Article 30 of the Convention. Where assistance is to be funded from the Commission's Special Requirements Fund, this shall be included in the Service Agreement. In special circumstances, assistance may also be requested for non-Pacific Island Commission Members. Such assistance will be funded by the Commission (in which case it will be detailed in the Service Agreement) or directly by the countries concerned.

General Administrative Arrangements

- vi. This MOU becomes effective upon the date of signature of the responsible representatives of both Parties.
- vii. This MOU may be modified by written consent of the responsible representatives of both Parties. The modified MOU becomes effective upon the date of signature of such consent.
- viii. If any dispute should arise between the Parties on the operation of this MOU, the Parties will make every effort to resolve the dispute themselves, or if necessary, by utilising a mutually-acceptable arbiter.
- ix. Either Party may terminate this MOU by providing written notice to the other of its intention to withdraw from the MOU. Termination shall be effective on 31 December of the year in which such notice is given, or 90 days following such notice, whichever is later. Upon termination of the MOU, any uncommitted funds provided for scientific services and assistance shall be refunded to the Commission.
- x. A full review of the terms and operation of this MOU and its Annexes will be conducted in concert with any review of the scientific structure and functions of the Commission.

Signature

Signed on behalf of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community:

Andrew Wright
Executive Director, WCPFC
Date:

Dr Jimmy Rogers
Director General, SPC
Date:

DRAFT

Draft revision of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between WCPFC and ISC
[Fifth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee, Port Vila, Vanuatu, 10-21 August 2009]

**Memorandum of Understanding between
The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly
Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean
and
The International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species
in the North Pacific Ocean
(Adopted December 2005)**

Recognizing that, *inter alia*, the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereinafter referred to as “the WCPFC Commission”):

- Adopts measures to ensure long-term sustainability of highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area and promote the objective of their optimum utilization;
- Ensures that such measures are based on the best scientific evidence available and are designed to maintain or restore stocks at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors, including the special requirements of developing States in the Convention Area, particularly small island developing States, and taking into account fishing patterns, the interdependence of stocks and any generally recommended international minimum standards, whether subregional, regional, or global;
- Assesses the impacts of fishing, other human activities and environmental factors on target stocks, non-target species, and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with the target stocks;
- Collects and shares, in a timely manner, complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities on, *inter alia*, vessel position, catch of target and non-target species and fishing effort, as well as information from national and international research programs;
- Establishes a committee, ~~which shall be called~~ the Northern Committee, to make recommendations on the implementation of such conservation and management measures as may be adopted by the Commission for the area north of the 20 parallel of north latitude and on the formulation of such measures in respect of stocks which occur mostly in this area;
- Enters into administrative and financial arrangements as required to utilize scientific services for the purpose of providing information and advice on the fishery resources covered by its Convention and related matters that may be relevant to the conservation and management of those resources and, in order to carry out its functions in a cost-effective manner, shall, to the greatest extent possible, utilize the services of existing regional organizations and shall consult, as appropriate, with any other fisheries management, technical or scientific organization with expertise in matters related to the work of the Commission; and

- Establishes a committee, ~~(the Scientific Committee~~ as a leading subsidiary body in science), to ensure that the Commission obtains for its consideration the best scientific information available through review of research results, encouraging and promoting cooperation in scientific research and assessing status of target or non-target stocks of interest.

Recognizing that the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific (hereinafter referred to as “the ISC”):

- Enhances scientific research and cooperation for conservation and rational utilization of the species of tuna and tuna-like fishes which inhabit the North Pacific Ocean during a part or all of their life cycle;
- Creates the scientific groundwork, if at some point in the future, it is decided to create a multilateral regime for the conservation and rational utilization of these species in this region;
- Establishes a central database to support the scientific research of the ISC and continues to consider establishing a permanent Secretariat;
- Establishes subsidiary Working Groups to perform the significant scientific work of the ISC.

The Commission of the WCPFC and the ISC, the participants to this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”), have therefore reached the following understanding.

Part I: Provision of Scientific Advice

- The Scientific Committee and the Northern Committee may request from the ISC scientific information and advice regarding fish stocks (generally those stocks occurring mostly north of the 20° parallel of north latitude; see Annex 1) for response prior to each meeting of the Northern Committee. This formal request will be transmitted expeditiously to the ISC. The Commission will, if requested, provide data necessary for the scientific analysis to be conducted by the ISC.
- The ISC will provide requested scientific information and advice in accordance with this MOU at least two (2) weeks before the annual meetings of the Scientific Committee and one (1) month before the annual meetings of the Northern Committee. ISC will also provide the requested scientific information and advice to the Commission ~~and the Scientific Committee~~. This scientific information and advice will follow the standard presented in Annex 2 for standard (recurring) requests or as mutually agreed upon for special requests (see also Part III below).
- The ISC will provide its normal Committees and Working Group reports, prepared under the Rules and Procedures for the Conduct of the ISC Committee and Subsidiary Bodies, including relevant background reports, directly to the Northern Committee, the Commission, and the Scientific Committee.
- ISC scientific information and advice will be presented at the annual meeting of the Northern Committee and the Scientific Committee, and may be presented to the Commission by the Chair of the ISC, or a designate, and advisors from the ISC Working Groups, as appropriate. The participation costs of the ISC Chair, or designate, and

advisers from the ISC Working Groups will be borne by the Member Governments of the ISC Chair and Working Group advisors.

Part II: Framework for Mutual Cooperation

Participants to this MOU will:

- Encourage reciprocal consultations and regular contacts on matters of common interest regarding scientific research on highly migratory tuna and tuna-like resources;
- Regularly exchange relevant meeting reports, information, project plans, documents, and publications regarding matters of mutual interest; and
- Routinely exchange fishery data, in accordance with the rules and procedures for data confidentiality adopted by each organization, to minimize duplicative data collection efforts and enhance fishery monitoring and stock assessment through the use of common data sources.

The Executive Director of the Commission, or designate, including the Chair of the Northern Committee and Chair of the Scientific Committee, will be invited to observe the plenary meetings of the ISC and its Working Groups. The Chair of the ISC, or designate, will be invited to observe the annual meetings of the Commission and meetings of the Northern Committee and Scientific Committee, as well as other subsidiary bodies, as appropriate. The costs of participation will be borne by each Organization respectively.

Part III: Finance

- ISC will provide its normal reports and the reports of its Working Groups, as well as standard (recurring) scientific information and advice, without cost to the Commission.
- The Commission will pay, as mutually decided, costs for special scientific advice requested by the Commission.

Part IV: General Administrative Arrangements

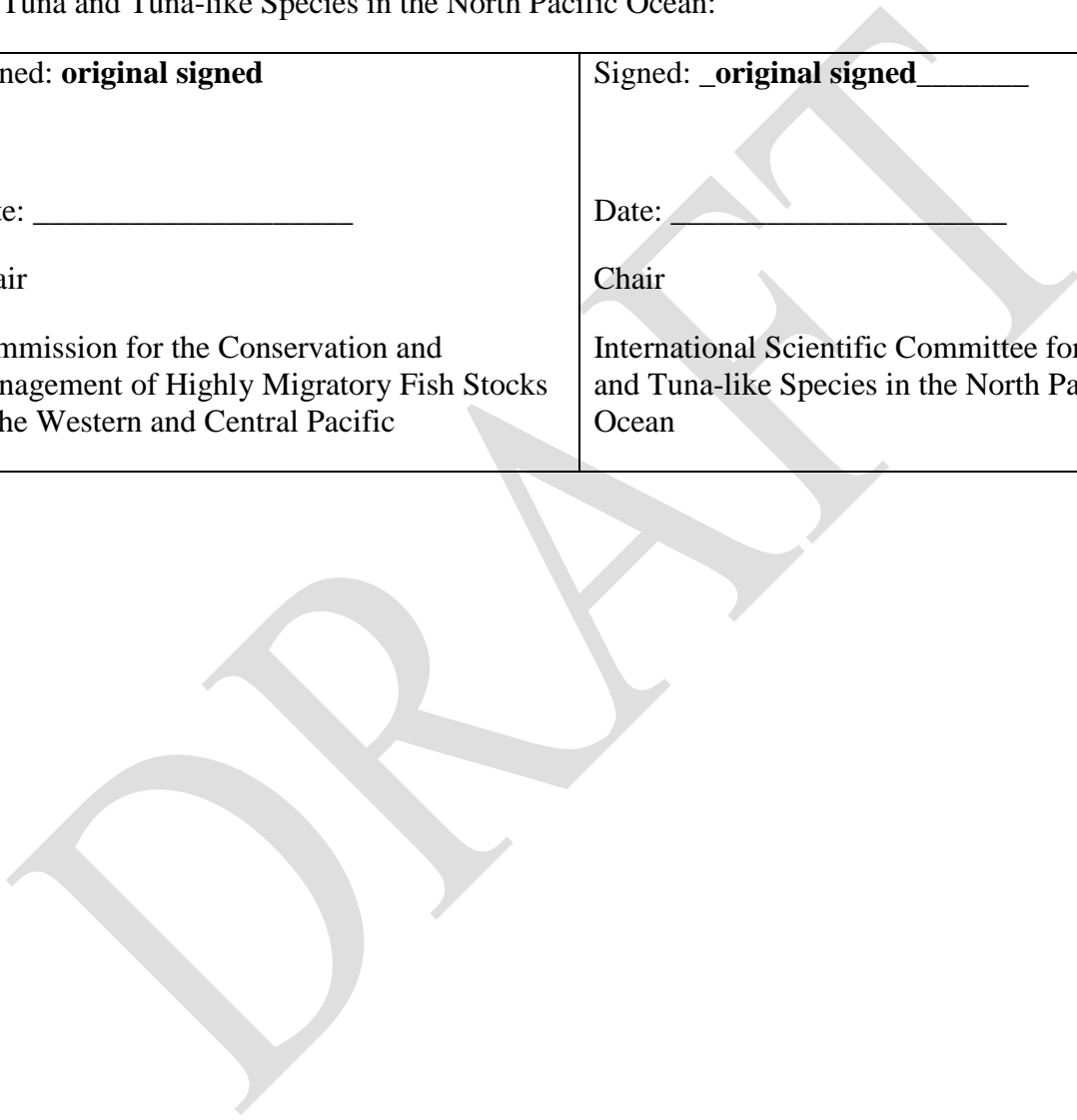
- This MOU becomes effective upon the date of signature of the responsible representatives in both the Commission and ISC.
- This MOU may be modified by written consent of both Commission and ISC and signed by the responsible representative in each organization. The modified MOU becomes effective upon the date of signature of both the responsible representatives of the Commission and ISC.
- If any dispute should arise between the Commission and ISC on the operation of this MOU, both will make every effort to resolve the dispute themselves, or if necessary, by utilizing a mutually decided arbiter.
- Either Commission or ISC may terminate this MOU by providing 30 days written notice to the other of its intention to withdraw from this MOU. Upon termination of the MOU, any funds provided for special, typically non-recurring, scientific advice shall be refunded to the Commission (see Part III above).

- A full review of the terms and operation of the MOU and its Annexes will be conducted as soon as practicable after the first full 12 months of operation following its signature by the Commission and the ISC and subsequently every three years.

Part V: Signature

Signed on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean:

<p>Signed: original signed</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific</p>	<p>Signed: original signed_____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>Chair</p> <p>International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean</p>
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Annex 1

Provisional list of species and/or stocks in the North Pacific for which the Scientific Committee and the Northern Committee may request standard (recurring) advice from the ISC:

- North Pacific Albacore
- Pacific bluefin tuna
- Swordfish and other billfishes
- By-catch (fish and non-fish) species

Other species may be added to the list with the mutual written concurrence of the Participants to this MOU.

Annex 2

Standard (recurring) advice required from ISC by the Scientific Committee and the Northern Committee:

For tuna and tuna-like species that occur primarily in the North Pacific, the ISC will report annually to the Scientific Committee and the Northern Committee of the WCPFC on:

1. Performance of the monitored fisheries
2. Progress in stock assessment research and future needs
3. Status of stocks
4. Advice on conservation measures
 - a. Management measures needed
 - b. Evaluation of the effectiveness of exiting measures

Any additional ISC tasks needed to support WCPFC will be delineated in annual service agreements established at the outset of each year and in accordance with Part III

**DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION ON THE EXCHANGE AND RELEASE OF
DATA**

between

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

and

THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (hereafter WCPFC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (hereafter IATTC):

[Colombia] ~~FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Memorandum of Understanding of June 2006 [Japan] between the WCPFC and the IATTC agreed to establish and maintain consultation, cooperation and collaboration in respect of exchange of data and information, in a manner consistent with the information-sharing policies of each Commission; and~~

NOW THEREFORE the WCPFC and IATTC ~~agree~~ confirm [Japan] the following conditions for the exchange and release of data from fisheries which capture highly migratory fish species:

1. CONDITIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF DATA

- (a) Subject to fulfilling internal requirements of each Commission regarding data confidentiality and information security, both Commissions exchange equivalent data on a reciprocal basis, and maintain the data in a manner consistent with the security standards established by each Commission.
- (b) The conditions in paragraph (a) above shall apply to all data as specified below to be disseminated to other Commission.
- (c) No exchanged data will be used, disclosed or confirmed to initiate or carry on any legal action or for any other purposes inconsistent with the cooperative objective of this memorandum. [Ecuador]

2. OPERATIONAL LEVEL DATA

Operational-level tuna fisheries data includes catch and effort (including by-catch of mammals, turtles, sharks and billfish), observer, unloading, transshipment and port inspection data.

3. AGGREGATED DATA

Aggregated catch and effort data includes:

- (a) Data for long line gear aggregated by flag State by 5° latitude and by 5° longitude by month;

- (b) Data for surface gear (including purse seine) aggregated by flag State by 1° latitude and by 1° degree longitude by month; and
- (c) Aggregated observer data (made up of observations from a minimum of three vessels).

4. OTHER DATA

Monitoring, control, surveillance, inspection and enforcement data includes:

- (a) The names and other markings of 'Vessels Of Interest' to each organization [subject to this memorandum \[Colombia\]](#); and
- (b) Transhipment verification reports for vessels transshipping in the Convention Area of one RFMO but which have fished within the Convention Area of the other.

5. ~~MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENT~~ [OTHERS \[Japan\]](#)

This ~~Agreement on the Exchange of Data~~ cooperation on the exchange and release of data may be modified by mutual consent.

~~6. TERMINATION~~

Either Commission may ~~terminate this Agreement~~ [end this cooperation](#) on the exchange of data by giving six months' notice of intention to terminate to the other Commission.

~~7.6. SIGNATURE~~

Signed on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission:

.....
Chairman, WCPFC

Date:

.....
Chairman, IATTC

Date:

[DRAFT]
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between
THE NORTH PACIFIC ANADROMOUS FISH COMMISSION
and
THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

The North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC);

RECALLING that objective of the Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean is to promote the conservation of anadromous stocks in the Convention Area and that the Commission established by this Convention may consider matters related to the conservation of ecologically related species in the Convention Area.

AWARE that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean is to ensure, through effective management, the long term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean;

NOTING Article IX of the Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Fish Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean which requires the NPAFC to cooperate, as appropriate, with relevant international organizations, *inter alia*, to obtain the best available information, including scientific advice, to further the attainment of the objectives of this Convention;

FURTHER NOTING Article 22 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean which requires the WCPFC to cooperate with other organizations;

DESIRING to put in place an arrangement to implement Article IX of the Convention for the Conservation of Anadromous Fish Stocks in the North Pacific Ocean and Article 22 of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean,

The NPAFC and the WCPFC record the following understandings:

1. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The WCPFC and the NPAFC agree to establish and maintain consultation, co-operation and collaboration in respect to matters of common interest to the two organizations, including, but not limited to, the following areas:

- i. exchange of data and information consistent with the information-sharing policies of each Commission;
- ii. collaboration on research efforts relating to stocks and species of mutual interest, including stock assessments; and
- iii. conservation and management measures for stocks and species of mutual interest.

2. MANNER OF COOPERATION

2.1 Cooperation between the WCPFC and the NPAFC shall include;

- i. reciprocal participation as observers in relevant meetings of each organization, including those of each organization's subsidiary bodies;
- ii. information sharing about stocks and species of mutual interest;
- iii. development of process to promote harmonization and compatibility of conservation and management measures as relevant, including measures relating to monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement; and
- iv. active and regular exchange of relevant meeting reports, information, research data and results, project plans, documents, and publications regarding matters of mutual interest.

2.2 Consultative Meeting of Secretariats

To facilitate the effective development and implementation of cooperative measures, the WCPFC and the NPAFC agree to establish a regular consultative meeting of the Secretariats to be known as the WCPFC-NPAFC Consultative Meeting.

The WCPFC-NPAFC Consultative Meeting will attempt to meet in the margins of meetings at which both Secretariats are represented by appropriate staff as determined by the Executive Directors.

A report of the each WCPFC-NPAFC Consultative Meeting will be circulated to members of both Commissions.

3. MODIFICATIONS, AMENDMENT

This Memorandum of Understanding is subject to modification and amendment by the mutual consent of both Commissions.

4. TERMINATION

Either organization may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving six months notice of intentions to terminate to the other organization.

5. SIGNATURE

Signed on behalf of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission:

Ambassador Satya Nandan
Chairman, WCPFC
Date:

Mr Suam Kim
President, NPAFC
Date: