



CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP

Tuesday 1st October 2013

FSM-China Gymnasium, Palikir,
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

SUMMARY REPORT

1. The first meeting of the Catch Documentation Scheme Intersessional Working Group (CDS-IWG) took place during the afternoon following the close of the 9th Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee meeting. The meeting opened at 3.00pm.
2. The following Members and Participating Territories attended CDS-IWG: Australia, European Union, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Republic of Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Chinese Taipei, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, and Vanuatu. Cooperating Non-Member participants were from Ecuador, El Salvador and Panama.
3. Observers from the following governmental and intergovernmental organisations attended CDS-IWG: Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)
4. Observers from the following non-governmental organisations attended CDS-IWG: Pew Charitable Trusts, and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
5. A list of participants is attached as **Attachment A**.
6. The Executive Director called the meeting to order. The Chair of the CDS-IWG Mr Alois Kinol, thanked the participants for their flexibility to adjust the scheduling of the meeting from Wednesday 2nd October to Tuesday 1st October following TCC9. Participants were welcomed to the first meeting of the CDS-IWG.
7. The WCPFC Executive Director, Professor Glenn Hurry, introduced the documents that were provided: the meeting provisional agenda; the terms of reference for the CDS-IWG, and provided an overview of the Guiding Principles for the work of the CDS-IWG (as contained in the terms of reference for the CDS-IWG).

The Executive Director explained that although the work of the CDS-IWG is to be conducted to the extent possible intersessionally, the Chair had identified that there was a need to have a meeting to discuss a process for the CDS-IWG prior to commencing work, and this was the basis for the meeting being held.

It was also noted that despite best efforts to find suitable date earlier in the year, the current scheduling immediately following TCC9 was the best available dates.

8. The Chair thanked the Executive Director for the overview and noted that he expected that the work of the CDS-IWG will be a gradual process, where regular reports would be provided to the TCC on progress.

9. In response to a request from the Chair for the views of participants on key priorities for the CDS-IWG (paragraph 3 of the Terms of Reference), a number of points were made by participants and these included that:

- A member or multiple members, or the Secretariat, might be asked to provide some information on specific points in paragraph 3 for the information of the working group (items include c, d, e and h);
- There are a number of previous proposals submitted to the WCPFC previous meetings, that the working group can refer to during their work;
- There might be a need to prioritise specific fisheries or focus on a particular species as the focus of the CDS-IWG. Some considerations on choosing fishery or species might include:
 - vulnerability of a fish species, and/or
 - cost-benefit considerations.
- There may be a need to prioritise the objectives contained in the Guiding Principles, paragraph 3;
- There may be a need for information on what systems are in place in the region, be aligned with current MCS capacities, and then do a gap analysis to identify where the MCS capabilities would best be enhanced;
- There may be a need for information on key/core elements that would be needed for a CDS in the WCPFC;
- It is important that CDS developments don't impinge on national developments, but at the same time are developed to support the objective and principles of the WCPFC CDS as agreed;
- A second CDS-IWG workshop might usefully include presentation by members of their existing schemes that are being developed, eg Fiji, PNA,
- A useful priority might be to start with schemes that are pre-existing in the Pacific Islands region
- The WCPFC7-2011-IP03 paper on developing CDS schemes and what is happening in other RFMOs, would be a useful reference, as a starting point for CDS development, as it reviewed other RFMOs schemes and best practices for CDS schemes.

10. In addition, the delegation from Papua New Guinea proposed that the skipjack species and the purse seine fishery might be a suitable priority candidate fishery/species for WCPFC CDS development.

11. Based on the above points a workplan was developed by the CDS-IWG as a guide to the work of the CDS-IWG. (**Attachment B**)

12. Members were asked to provide information to the Secretariat no later than the end of November on their current programmes and capacities. The Secretariat requested that Members advise of their key contact points for the CDS-IWG to ensure that the appropriate persons in a delegation receive pertinent information and advice (other than official contacts).

13. The Chair thanked the participants for sharing their ideas, requested that participants provide their information to contribute to building a CDS for our region.

14. Meeting closed at 4.40pm ---

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**Attachment B: Agreed Plan for CDS-IWG Moving Forward
(as agreed at CDS-IWG1 Tue 1 October 2013)**

1) Get together background documents and information sharing on TOR paragraph 3: c, d, e, h

- a. These might come from members experiences/initiatives
 - i. Interested CCMs to provide intersessionally to the Secretariat update reports on their implementation of current CDS-related initiatives (domestic tracking schemes, as well as certification schemes for product in the WCPFC Convention Area)
 - ii. The reports might also include operational issues and capacity requirements (as per d)
- DEADLINE: as soon as possible and no later than the end of November 2013**
- b. Pre-existing work be reviewed: WCPFC7-2010-IP03 – background information of CDS schemes and CDS development considerations
 - c. Electronic reporting and e-monitoring developments
 - d. Other information that the Secretariat might be asked to collate/provide
 - i. Other background papers from WCPFC meetings on CDS
 - ii. Put information received on CDS-working group webpage

2) How does the information get collated into a form that can be used by the IWG?

Task the Secretariat with

- a. Drafting a discussion paper to identify key/core elements that would be needed in a CDS in the WCPFC;
- b. Investigating options to carry out the work needed to align the information with current MCS capacities, and do a gap analysis to identify where MCS capabilities would be enhanced by a CDS (fisheries management needs would also be important); and
- c. Organizing a second workshop to be held in the margins of another meeting (venue and timing to be confirmed), to consider the above discussion papers and to include presentations by members eg Fiji, PNA, others

3) Next steps

- a. Choice of species?
- b. Choice of fisheries?
- c. Should objectives (Attachment 1 paragraph 3 of TOR) be prioritised?
- d. Cost-benefit considerations
- e. Vulnerability considerations

PNG suggestion: skipjack and purse seine fishery

Consider as a priority the schemes that are already in the WCPFC Convention Area
