



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**
6-9 September 2011
Sapporo, Japan

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

**WCPFC-2011-NC7-03
08 June 2011**

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

1.1 Welcome

The Chair (Mr. Masanori Miyahara, Japan) will open the Seventh Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC7) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), 6-9 September 2011. He will welcome delegations of WCPFC members, cooperating non-members and participating territories (CCMs), the WCPFC Secretariat and observers.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

The Chair will introduce the Provisional Agenda, WCPFC-2011-NC7-02. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission will apply *mutatus mutandis* until such time as the Northern Committee adopts its own Rules of Procedure (Rule 31).

According to the Rules of Procedure, the Committee will be asked how it wishes to deal with any supplementary items that were circulated by any member of the Commission, the Chairman, or the Executive Director at least thirty days before the opening of the meeting.

1.3 Meeting arrangements

The Chair will invite NC7 to review the Indicative Schedule (WCPFC-2011-NC7-04) noting logistical arrangements in place to support the meeting, proposed meeting times and any social engagements.

AGENDA ITEM 2. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1 Report from the Eleventh Meeting of the International Scientific Committee

NC7 will review the meeting report of the 11th Meeting of the International Scientific Committee (ISC11), especially the status of stocks of highly migratory species in the North Pacific Ocean. NC7 will consider relevant issues arising from ISC11 and make recommendations, under Agenda Item 2.3, as appropriate to the Commission on conservation and management measures with respect to the following northern stocks:

- Pacific bluefin tuna
- North Pacific albacore
- North Pacific swordfish

2.2 Report of the Seventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee

NC7 will review the meeting report and issues arising from the Seventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC7), Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, 9-17 August 2011 as they relate to the Northern Committee.

2.3 Conservation and management measures for the northern stocks

2.3.1 Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM-2010-04)

WCPFC7 adopted CMM for Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM 2010-04). By 31 July 2011, NC members are tasked to submit reports they used to implement paragraph 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the CMM. NC will review those reports from CCMs on their domestic management measures.

2.3.2 North Pacific albacore (CMM-2005-03)

NC6 confirmed that the interim reference point (IRP) is the fishing mortality rate that would likely cause SSB to fall below the average level of its 10 historically lowest points, and the agreed IRP will be subject to the review in every three years to develop more permanent objectives and reference points

NC7 will review reports from members based on CMM 2005-03 and on paragraph 36 of NC6 Summary Report.

As agreed at WCPFC7, NC7 will consider a new CMM for North Pacific albacore, based on the full stock assessment conducted by ISC11 in 2011.

2.3.3 North Pacific swordfish

At WCPFC6, the Commission adopted a revised measure for swordfish (CMM 2009-03) which retains provisions of CMM 2008-05 relating to no transfer of fishing effort for swordfish from the South Pacific to the areas north of 20°N in the Convention Area. ISC11 conclusion relating to the assessment of the North Pacific swordfish stock will be available to support NC7 discussion of the status of the fishery and conservation and management considerations.

2.4 Conservation and management measures for other species

2.4.1 Bigeye and yellowfin tuna (CMM-2008-01)

WCPFC5 adopted Conservation and Management Measure (CMM-2008-01) for bigeye and yellowfin tuna. ‘Other commercial fisheries’ referred to in the Measure are identified as fisheries other than longline and tropical (20°N-20°S) purse seine and which include: hand-line, pole and line, purse seine fisheries north of 20°N or south of 20°S, ring net, troll and unclassified fisheries, but excluding artisanal fisheries and those fisheries taking less than 2,000 tons of bigeye and yellowfin. NC7 is invited to review the

implementation of the provisions of paragraph 39 of CMM-2008-01 in the area north of 20°N and make further recommendations to the Commission, if necessary, on conservation and management matters for yellowfin and bigeye stocks in the Pacific Ocean north of 20°N. This CMM is subject to full review under paragraph 308 of the WCPFC7 Summary Report, and NC7 will seek and, as appropriate, provide its assistance to the review process.

2.4.2 Sharks (CMM-2010-07)

WCPFC7 revised CMM-2009-04 to add porbeagle shark and hammerhead sharks to the key shark species.

NC7 will review scientific advice from the ISC, if any, and consider management options on blue shark and mako sharks.

2.4.3 Seabirds (CMM- 2007-04)

NC7 will receive reports from NC CCMs on the implementation of CMM 2007-04, as well as the status of introducing the mitigation measures to their fleets as required at paragraph 10 of the Measure for the area north of 23°N.

2.4.4. Skipjack tuna

NC7 will review the full stock assessment of skipjack by SC7 that accommodated in changes in the stock distribution in the Northwest Pacific and availability of the stocks to fishing fleet.

2.4.5. North Pacific striped marlin (CMM-2010-01)

WCPFC7 adopted Conservation and Management Measure for North Pacific striped marlin (CMM-2010-01). The NC7 will receive report from ISC11 on the assessment of the North Pacific striped marlin stock and consider appropriate management action.

AGENDA ITEM 3. REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME (CMM-2007-01)

3.1 Implementation of the ROP by fishing vessels fishing for fresh fish in the Northern Area

As agreed at WCPFC7, NC7 are tasked to submit a revised recommendation on the implementation of the ROP for fishing vessels fishing fresh fish in the area north of 20°N (Annex C, paragraph 9.ii) for consideration at TCC7.

AGENDA ITEM 4. VMS

4.1 Implementation of the WCPFC Vessel Monitoring System in the Northern Area

As agreed at NC6, NC7 will discuss the implementation of the WCPFC Vessel Monitoring System in the area north of 20°N and west of 175°E.

AGENDA ITEM 5. DATA

5.1 Review of the status of data and data gaps for northern stocks

NC6 reviewed the status of fishery data for Northern stocks. NC7 will review the developments in data coverage and quality for each stock, and discuss future steps to address data gaps that have been identified.

AGENDA ITEM 6. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

6.1 Work Programme for 2012-2015

The Committee will review its Work Programme adopted at NC6. The Work Programme will be revised to describe activities and funding requirements for the period 2012-2015 so that it aligns with the Work Programme of the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM 7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

7.1 ISC

NC7 will exchange views on further efforts to strengthen the cooperation with ISC.

7.2 IATTC

NC7 will exchange views on cooperation with IATTC in 2011, especially in relation to Pacific bluefin tuna and North Pacific albacore.

AGENDA ITEM 8. OTHER MATTERS

8.1 Administrative arrangements for the Committee

8.1.1 Secretariat functions and costs

NC1 agreed to use the catch of the northern stocks for the calculation of Northern Committee members' contributions to the work of the Northern Committee. NC2, while generally welcoming continued efforts for effective functioning of NC, could not reach consensus on a revised proposal by Japan's on Secretariat functions for the Northern Committee. NC6 agreed that NC should request members to make a contribution to the NC voluntary fund. NC7 is invited to review and further consider the development on this matter.

8.1.2 Rules of Procedure

Rule 31 of the Rules of Procedure provide that, subject to the provisions of the Convention, each subsidiary body of the Commission may formulate and submit to the Commission for approval such rules as may be necessary for the efficient conduct of its functions. NC2 considered two papers relating to this item (WCPFC/NC2/14 and WCPFC/NC2/15). It was agreed that Appendix A of the WCPFC/NC2/15 would serve as a basis for further discussion. Each Committee member was requested to submit its comments on this item to the Secretariat by 31 October 2006. It was not possible to complete work in respect of this item at WCPFC3. As NC6 deferred discussion to a

future session, NC7 is invited to further consider this matter.

8.2 Next meeting

The date and place for the Eighth Regular Session of the NC will be agreed.

8.3 Other business

The NC7 will discuss any other business, including the outcomes of the t-RFMO meeting (KOBÉ III).

AGENDA ITEM 9. REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

9.1 Adoption of the Summary Report of the Seventh Regular Session of the Northern Committee and recommendations to the Commission

The Northern Committee will adopt a Summary Report of its Seventh Regular Session. It will make every effort to adopt its Summary Report by consensus. If every effort to achieve consensus has failed, the Summary Report will indicate the majority and minority views and may include the differing views of the representatives of the members on all or any part of the Summary Report.

AGENDA ITEM 10. CLOSE OF MEETING

10.1 Closing of meeting

The meeting is scheduled to close on 9 September 2011.