Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Northern Committee
Seventh Regular Session

Sapporo, Japan
6–9 September 2011

SUMMARY REPORT

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SUMMARY REPORT

AGENDA ITEM 1 — OPENING OF MEETING

1. The Seventh Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC7) took place in Sapporo, Japan, from 6 to 9 September 2011. The meeting was attended by members from Canada, Cook Islands, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Chinese Taipei, United States of America (USA) and Vanuatu, and observers from Federated State of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific (ISC), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Secretariat, American Fisherman's Research Foundation, Ocean Friends Against Driftnets, and World Wildlife Fund Japan. The list of meeting participants is included as Attachment A.

1.1 Welcome

2. Masanori Miyahara, Chair of the Northern Committee (NC), opened the meeting and welcomed participants to Sapporo, Japan. Participants, members and observers introduced themselves.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

3. Japan proposed that Agenda Items 2.4.1 and 2.4.4 should be combined since the Commission will deal with the three species all together. The revised agenda was adopted (Attachment B). Documents supporting the meeting were made available on WCPFC's website at: http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2011/7th-regular-session-northern-committee

1.3 Meeting arrangements

4. Japan, as host of NC7, briefed the meeting of social arrangements and the meeting schedule.

AGENDA ITEM 2 — CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1 Report from the Eleventh Meeting of the International Scientific Committee

5. G. DiNardo, ISC chair, provided an overview of ISC's results from its 11th meeting, held in San

Francisco, California, USA, from 20 to 25 July 2011. The results are contained in the ISC meeting report, which is posted on ISC's website at: http://isc.ac.affrc.go.jp. This document was also made available to WCPFC in accordance with the requirements of the ISC-WCPFC memorandum of understanding. G. DiNardo noted that progress was made on many projects of ISC's work plan, but because of data availability issues, the striped marlin stock assessment is postponed until 2012. A full stock assessment of North Pacific albacore was completed in 2011 and results indicate that the stock is neither experiencing overfishing nor is overfished. ISC intends to complete stock assessments for Pacific bluefin tuna and striped marlin in 2012, and stock assessments for blue marlin and blue shark stocks by 2013. Progress with administrative matters included: i) development of a framework to complete the peer review of ISC function; ii) substantial improvements with the administration and function of the ISC website and database; and iii) clarifying and updating the ISC operations manual. Issues hindering the efficiency of ISC were presented, in particular the lack of full commitment from certain ISC members. Commitment includes participating in working group workshops, as well as adhering to established data reporting procedures. In addition, certain ISC members have yet to provide data. G. DiNardo completed his presentation by recognizing ISC's new leaders: C-l. Sun, newly elected vice-chair for 2012–2014; R-f. Wu, Statistics Working Group (STATWG) chair; S. Kohin, Shark Working Group (SHARKWG); and J. Brodziak, Billfish Working Group (BILLWG) chair. The 12th meeting of ISC will be hosted by Japan in July 2012 at a venue to be announced.

6. In response to a question, the ISC chair stated that ISC had prioritized two shark species, blue shark and shortfin mako shark, for assessment and that ISC will collaborate with other interested parties, specifically the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). He also noted that SPC has announced that it plans to complete a blue shark assessment, and that it is crucial for the two organizations to coordinate in order to avoid duplication of work.

7. Japan said that at the Seventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC7) it was strongly recommended that ISC complete the North Pacific striped marlin assessment for presentation at SC8. The ISC chair noted his disappointment that the assessment was not completed this year, because the data were not provided in time, but that the data are now available and ISC expects to have a complete assessment before next year's Scientific Committee (SC) meeting.

2.2 Report of the Seventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee

8. SC Chair (N. Miyabe) provided a summary report of SC7, which took placed in the Federated States of Micronesia from 9 to 17 August. Discussion was held by the respective theme sessions (Ecosystem and Bycatch Mitigation, Management Issues, Data and Statistics, Stock Assessment). The following key matters were presented.

- Review of the fisheries in the western and central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) and the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO).
- Review of the most recent assessments for tuna and billfish stocks in the North Pacific.
- A review of the status of stocks of bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, skipjack tuna and South Pacific albacore.
- A review of research on the status and assessment of key pelagic shark stocks in the WCPO.
- Bycatch mitigation issues associated with seabirds, sea turtles, sharks and others.
- West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management (WPEA OFM) project, Japan Trust Fund, and the Pacific tuna tagging projects.
- Limit reference points for the key tuna species of the WCPFC.
- SC work programme, budget, and administrative matters.

2.3 Conservation and management measures for northern stocks

2.3.1 Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM-2010-04)

9. NC7 reviewed CCMs' implementation of CMM 2010-04, which requires members to report on their implementation of this CMM.

10. The Philippines recalled that past research had indicated catches of Pacific bluefin tuna in Philippine waters, but better data collection is needed to confirm whether any catches are currently occurring. It plans to implement measures to prevent catches of juvenile Pacific bluefin tuna.

11. Canada stated that it did not submit a report because it had no recorded catch of Pacific bluefin tuna in 2010.

12. Japan introduced NC7-DP-02, which reviewed Japan's implementation of CMM 2010-04. Japan highlighted that it had introduced: i) a catch limit for juvenile Pacific bluefin tuna and a voluntary catch limit for adult Pacific bluefin by the purse-seine fishery; ii) an administrative guidance not to increase the number of licenses of setnets for Pacific bluefin tuna; iii) a vessel registration system and mandatory reporting for the artisanal fishery operating in the Sea of Japan and the East China Sea; and iv) a registration system and mandatory reporting of all Pacific bluefin tuna aquaculture sites. Japan explained that more than 5,000 artisanal vessels were registered (almost the same number of active vessels in WCPFC vessel registration) and this registration is scheduled to expand to include vessels operating on the Pacific coast next year. Japan also explained the enhanced data collection of Pacific bluefin tuna imported from Korea and Mexico. Further, Japan reported on the cooperation with IATTC members, noting that IATTC failed to agree to a measure at this year's annual meeting.

13. Korea presented NC7-DP-03, which introduced the enacted Ministerial Directive that aims to initiate, as a first step, monitoring and management of Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in Korean waters, including prohibition of commercial catches of juvenile Pacific bluefin that are less than 20 kg. Korea explained that the directive has been established through a series of domestic processes and has been effective since 26 May 2011. Regarding NC7-DP-01, Korea appreciated Japan's effort to provide the statistics and analysis on Korea's Pacific bluefin tuna catch, and expressed its different view on the use of the term "disguised exportation" in NC7-DP-01 in reference to Pacific bluefin tuna exported to Japan labeled as "skipjack." Korea explained that it might be the result of misidentification by fishermen and the fishery cooperative that handled the landed fish.

14. Japan presented NC7-DP-01 (Preliminary analysis of Pacific bluefin tuna imported from Korea in 2011), and concluded that the Pacific bluefin tuna catch by Korea is not substantially lower than last year, although the new Korean directive came into force only in late May. Japan also stated that a different term could be used than "disguised exportation" in response to Korea's concern. However, Japan noted that even if fishermen were unable to identify the fish correctly, the exporter should be able to distinguish between the two species. This leads Japan to wonder whether this was merely a matter of misidentification.

15. In response to a question, Korea confirmed that they considered Pacific bluefin tuna that weigh less than 20 kg as juveniles. The NC7 Chair consulted with the chair of the ISC Pacific bluefin tuna working group who stated that Pacific bluefin tuna weigh 25–30 kg around May or June of the third year (age-3). This indicates that fish weighing less than 30 kg should be considered to be juveniles.

16. Korea further noted that the prohibition on the catch of juvenile Pacific bluefin tuna has the following exemptions: i) catch under scientific research; ii) catch for the purpose of stock enhancement;

iii) catch for fry for aquaculture; and iv) incidental catch by other than large purse-seine vessels. Korea also noted that catches under research can be used commercially after the study has been completed. The study includes the collection of Pacific bluefin tuna catch data reported from licensed vessels by weight and number for fish greater than 20 kg/fish, and by box for fixed weight for fish less than 20 kg/fish.

17. Chinese Taipei asked if Korean vessels also catch Pacific bluefin tuna outside of their exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Korea explained that the Ministerial Directive only applies to fisheries inside the EEZ.

18. The USA presented NC7-DP-04, which states that the USA does not have any vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna. The NC Chair asked about Pacific bluefin tuna caught in Hawaiian waters, which are within the WCPFC Convention Area. The USA reported that small quantities are caught incidentally by the Hawaiian longline fishery.

19. Chinese Taipei reviewed its report (NC7-DP-06), which explained that Chinese Taipei had set the limit for the number of longline vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna and that it introduced a catch documentation scheme for the species.

20. The NC Chair asked what measures had been implemented to control catches of juvenile Pacific bluefin. Chinese Taipei responded that its fisheries do not catch juveniles so they have not yet implemented management measures. The NC Chair then asked how incidental catches are handled under the limited entry system. Chinese Taipei said a longline vessel that catches Pacific bluefin tuna without proper authorization would be sanctioned.

21. The Philippines presented NC7-DP-05. The NC Chair asked about the location of the closed area established on Tubbataha Reef and its effect on tuna conservation. The Philippines explained the reef's location and noted that it is an important spawning and rearing area for a variety of tuna species, although more research is needed to determine whether it is an area important to Pacific bluefin.

Discussion

22. The USA complimented Japan and Korea on their efforts to implement CMM 2010-04 domestically, and suggested that in a future measure, NC should remove exemptions for artisanal fisheries and for Korea.

23. Japan stated that the artisanal fishery exemption should, at some point, be reviewed, but stressed that there are a very large number of artisanal vessels — likely in excess of 10,000 — whose actual catch is very small. This presents logistical difficulties in removing the exemption at this stage.

24. Vanuatu noted that it has not recorded any Pacific bluefin tuna catch but that its fisheries are monitored, and it will report any catches. In this regard, Vanuatu requested other countries to inform it if they record imports of Pacific bluefin from Vanuatu.

25. Korea responded to Japan's question by noting that purse-seine catches of juvenile Pacific bluefin (< 20 kg) are exempted under the research programme, and that even though it is research catch, it may still be exported. Regarding Japan's concern, Korea stated that it is easier to identify Pacific bluefin in the market, especially in the Japanese auction market, than in local market places. Korea also noted that there are various circumstances, including difficulties in species identification of juvenile tunas and quick processes of the trade on fresh fish that may lead to misidentification of Pacific bluefin, and suggested the need for more cooperation between exporting and importing countries.

26. The NC Chair asked for further explanation of Korea's regulations for high seas catches of Pacific bluefin. Korea responded that currently there is no information on purse-seine catches outside of Korea's EEZ.

27. The NC Chair asked Korea about the types of activities that are considered "research" under the Ministerial Directive. Korea responded that before the directive was established there was no regulation of Pacific bluefin tuna fishing. After the directive came into force, anyone wishing to catch Pacific bluefin tuna must have permission, and the permission and reporting of the catch is under the auspices of Korea's research programme, which collects data relevant to Pacific bluefin management. All fishermen, including those from large purse-seine vessels, are allowed to participate in the research programme.

28. The NC Chair sought confirmation that under the research programme, fishermen only have to report catches and are then exempted from any further limits on catches. Korea confirmed this. Japan asked if it is correct that after the introduction of the directive, purse-seine activity had not actually changed but rather had been renamed from a commercial operation to a research activity. Korea said that it is an accurate characterization of their management programme, and further stated that this is a remarkable turning point towards the monitoring and managing Pacific bluefin fisheries in Korea where there has not been any regulations.

29. Korea and Japan expressed their intention to strengthen cooperation on monitoring Pacific bluefin imports and exports. Japan asked Korea to establish more effective methods for regulating Pacific bluefin fisheries by 2012 when CMM 2010-04 will be revised.

30. Korea said that it is their intention to comply with CMM 2010-04 and once the research programme has been completed they will be in full compliance with the measure. Japan noted that Korea described a five-year research programme while the CMM is due to be revised next year. Korea responded that even before completion of the five-year research programme it could accept the obligation at the same level as other members under the current CMM when sufficient data and information are secured, hopefully next year. Korea added that 2011 is the second year of five-year programme.

2.3.2 North Pacific albacore (CCM-2005-03)

31. The NC Chair reviewed progress on compliance with the measure, noting that in 2009 the NC prepared a draft recommendation that was not adopted by the Commission because it covered the area south of 20°N. He noted that despite a relatively optimistic report from ISC, the NC must be careful because a decline in recruitment from the average historical level could be a cause for concern.

32. The USA recognized that although the ISC's report concluded that the stock is in a healthy condition, there remains uncertainty that needs to be addressed to improve the assessment, and that members should contribute to priority research needs identified by ISC. In the near term, the current CMM remains adequate but the USA looked forward to using this meeting to take a look at members' annual submission of Part 2 reports, including identifying which fleets are fishing for albacore and how those fleets are being controlled. This would help NC to understand how many fleets are fishing for the stock, and how much the total catch of North Pacific albacore is subject to effort limits of the CMM, to better assess the effectiveness of CMM 2005-03 and to improve the measure in the future.

33. Vanuatu reported on their catches of North Pacific and South Pacific albacore. They also stressed their desire to improve the CMM given that declines in recruitment could lead to overfishing.

34. Canada reviewed its fishing activities for North Pacific albacore in 2010, which included the number of active vessels as well as fishing effort in the number of vessel days. Canada further noted that

the fishery was restricted to the EPO, and that no North Pacific albacore was caught in the Convention Area in 2010. The NC Chair asked what other species are caught by the Canadian albacore fleet. Canada responded that albacore is a secondary species to salmon in its troll fishery.

35. Japan reviewed its North Pacific albacore fishery. Longline and pole-and-line account for 98% of the total albacore catch. Albacore is bycatch species for most longline vessels, while it is a target species for the pole-and-line fishery and other longline fisheries. These vessels are regulated by a licensing system and the number of vessels has declined substantially in recent years.

36. Korea reviewed catch and effort statistics for 2006–2010. The Koran North Pacific albacore catch, principally made up of about 120 large-scale longline vessels during the period, has been caught as bycatch by the majority of longline vessels, although some of these vessels targeted North Pacific albacore.

37. The Philippines stated that albacore is not a target species in Philippine fisheries and there is no reported catch. However, there may some catch reported under the category "other species".

38. The Chinese Taipei albacore longline fishery targets albacore. These vessels need prior approval from the Fisheries Agency to target albacore. The number of vessels allowed to fish for North Pacific albacore is limited to 25. Vessel monitoring system, registration scheme, and catch reporting are used to manage and control this fishery. Chinese Taipei submitted catch and effort statistics to WCPFC.

39. The USA has one fishery that primarily targets albacore, the west coast troll fleet, which includes pole-and-line vessels. There are other small fisheries but over 90% of the catch comes from the troll fishery. The USA monitors the fishery with permits and logbooks, and is monitoring against the 2002–2004 effort level, although currently there are no regulatory limits. However, fishing effort has fluctuated around the 2002–2004 level and the fleet includes a reasonably consistent number of vessels and vessel days during the recent period. In large part, this fishery operates in the EPO. During this fishing year, some effort moved into the WCPFC Convention Area west of 150°W.

Discussion

40. The USA asked Japan how the incidental catch is controlled in relation to the baseline level. Japan replied that with respect to pole-and-line and longline operations, the total number of licenses is controlled regardless of whether they are targeting albacore or skipjack and is based on a fixed number of licensed vessels.

41. The USA further asked Japan about the causes for the decline in the number of vessels. Japan replied that there is a government vessel scrapping programme, and that sometimes vessels leave the fishery for business reasons.

42. The USA asked Korea about the catch it reported for 2010, because it is larger than what was reported in the ISC catch tables. Korea replied that the statistics reported to ISC are from logbook data based on about 30% coverage. What was reported here were data collected from industry. The USA noted that reporting baseline catch information is helpful but the CMM is an effort-based measure.

43. The USA asked Chinese Taipei whether there are other vessels besides the 25 authorized longline vessels that are allowed to catch albacore. Chinese Taipei replied that the boat owners must seek prior approval from the agency before fishing for albacore. There are around 50 large-scale albacore longline vessels but it has limited the number allowed in the North Pacific area to 25.

44. The NC Chair asked how Chinese Taipei controls albacore bycatch by other vessels. Chinese Taipei noted that the catch reports show that albacore bycatch is low.

45. Upon request by the NC, the WCPFC Secretariat prepared a compilation of reports from members regarding fleets that target North Pacific albacore, and recent fishing effort by those fleets compared with the 2002–2004 baseline.

46. Korea noted that it has submitted catch data every six months since 2005. However, Korea noted some differences between data submitted to WCPFC versus ISC, which will require some correction. The NC Chair emphasized that data must be sent to the WCPFC Secretariat.

47. The USA considered the information provided in the first table of the compilation to be useful for understanding what percent of the total catch occurs in fisheries "fishing for" North Pacific albacore while the second table helps to understand whether the CMM has been effectively implemented. It is clear that further work needs to be done to collect and supplement the data in the tables. The USA also pointed out that effort, not catch, is the appropriate metric and should be represented in the second table.

48. Japan concurred that these tables are helpful, and said that it can report the number of fishing vessels and that it knows that current effort is below the 2002–2004 level.

49. Vanuatu said that in future reporting it will distinguish catches of North Pacific albacore from the total albacore catch. It noted that it currently has 12 vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore.

50. The Chair said that NC is agreeable to the use of these tables to monitor the implementation, and that members should continue to submit information to improve the accuracy of the tables.

51. The USA pointed to several key fields in the tables. It is important to calculate the percent of all fisheries that are considered "fishing for" North Pacific albacore in order to assess whether the measure can be effective. In the second table, annual fishing effort estimates should be provided in order to determine whether the measure is effective.

52. While admitting its usefulness, Japan stated its concern that effort metrics might oversimplify the complex nature of its fisheries, which have a multi-species strategy based on availability and market price. The NC Chair emphasized that these tables are not a "score card" but are useful in guiding NC on the effectiveness of the measure and whether other actions need to be taken.

53. Korea stated that its vessels generally target yellowfin or bigeye tunas, with albacore caught incidentally.

54. FSM understood that the measure applies to all fishing activities by CCMs north of the equator and, therefore, emphasized that FSM does not have a fishery targeting North Pacific albacore although North Pacific albacore are caught incidentally by other fisheries.

55. The table is revised and attached as Annex A to Attachment C.

56. The USA re-emphasized the importance of accurate information in order for the measure to be effective, and reminded members that paragraph 4 of CMM2005-03 requires members to report fishing effort for North Pacific albacore at a minimum by the number of vessel-days fished. The USA also stressed that any member catching North Pacific albacore only as bycatch should also be included in the table in order to manage the stock as a whole.

57. Canada, citing the positive outlook of North Pacific albacore in the 2011 stock assessment,

suggested that it would be an opportune time for the NC to discuss a long-term strategy for the stock that includes the development of a precautionary management framework. Such a framework would include biological reference points and pre-agreed on decision rules that trigger management actions should those reference points be exceeded. Canada further suggested that document NC6-DP-01 could form the basis of this work.

58. In response to the request by the NC Chair, Canada drafted a proposal (NC7-WP-02) that incorporated elements that recognized both concerns expressed by the USA on the need for accurate reporting by members against CMM2005-03 in order to determine its effectiveness, as well as tasks and a timeframe to advance the development of a precautionary management framework for North Pacific albacore.

59. There was a discussion about baseline time period and the NC confirmed that this period 2002–2004 reflects the current effort baseline.

60. The USA also commented that the first task of compiling members' reports should explicitly reference the Secretariat as the body responsible. With regard to the timeline, it would be useful to insert a statement that members will work intersessionally on this task. Second, the USA wanted to make it clear that the most important element is to establish a permanent limit reference point for fishing mortality rate and the associated decision rules, since F is what is controlled by managers. Finally, the USA recommended making the timing of the adoption of reference points and decision rules more flexible with the understanding that all of these elements would be adopted by 2013. Also, the USA proposed that the task of considering changes to the CMM should be moved from 2013 to 2014 and beyond.

61. Japan noted that it does not seem necessary to include tasks in 2011 in the process because the NC is conducting those activities at present. In its view, it might not be possible to compile members' reports and identify shortcomings this year so it would be better to both identify and rectify shortcomings as a single task to be completed in 2012. With respect to Task B, Japan felt that detailed tasks regarding reference points are not necessary at this time. Japan said it was unsure of the effectiveness of the USA's suggestion of intercessional work.

62. FSM said it was unclear as to who is required to report albacore catches under this proposal. The USA pointed out that the reporting of North Pacific albacore catches every six months, per the CMM, is an obligation of all Commission members. But the focus of the proposed reporting by Canada is on fisheries "fishing for" North Pacific albacore, which are confined to NC members. FSM noted that it does not have a fishery targeting North Pacific albacore and reports its bycatch under existing reporting obligations. Because these data are provided to WCPFC, the Secretariat would be able to acquire these data for inclusion in Annex A of Attachment C. It was agreed that FSM did not need to duplicate its reporting of North Pacific albacore catches directly to NC.

63. The NC Chair outlined the recommended revisions to Canada's proposal, which was supported by NC members. He also encouraged intercessional work on the tasks as recommended by the USA. A revised process to develop a management framework for North Pacific albacore is attached as Attachment C.

2.3.3 North Pacific swordfish

64. The NC Chair noted that according to the work plan, NC is supposed to establish interim management objectives and reference points for this species. He asked the ISC chair for advice on this task. The ISC chair noted that in 2010, ISC provided NC with a suite of reference points to choose from.

65. There was further discussion of the framework described in the SC report linking appropriate limit reference points (LRPs) to the type of biological data used in the stock assessment. According to this scheme, swordfish should be considered Level 2 or Level 1. The Chair suggested that as part of the next assessment (2013), ISC will calculate LRPs and at that time, NC can decide on the choice of LRPs.

66. The USA was not in favor of delaying the establishment of LRPs for F until the next assessment. It noted that ISC is already producing estimates of F relative to F_{MSY} and B relative to B_{MSY}, which is consistent with Level 1. The USA recommended adopting F_{MSY} as the LRP, and asked for other members' view on this proposal.

67. The ISC chair pointed out that the current assessment uses a dynamic production model to produce estimates of F_{MSY} and B_{MSY} that does not rely on estimates of steepness. If we were to move to an age-structured assessment approach it would be possible to incorporate estimates of steepness into the analysis.

68. Upon the NC's request, the ISC chair agreed to explore the possibility of providing a suite of LRPs for North Pacific swordfish at the next session of NC, although it was not originally in ISC's work programme. Japan requested to include possible LRPs based on empirical data in the suite, which was confirmed by the ISC chair.

2.4 Conservation and management measures for other species

2.4.1 Bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas

69. The SC Chair made a presentation on the impact of fishing by region and fishery, for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas. Depletion has generally been greatest in Regions 3 and 4 for bigeye and yellowfin, and Region 2 for skipjack.

70. Japan pointed out that Region 3 — the western part of the tropical region — had the greatest impact on yellowfin and bigeye, and that purse-seine fisheries accounted for most of the impact. A plot of the change in annual estimates of bigeye MSY shows a decrease in MSY corresponding to the initiation of the purse-seine fishery in tropical waters.

71. Korea said that the biggest impact on bigeye is from the purse-seine, FAD-associated fishery and asked if there were any recommendations to reduce this impact. The SC Chair said that SC has recommended a 32% reduction in F for all fisheries. Korea sought clarification that the SC did not make any fishery-specific recommendations. The SC Chair pointed out that most of the catch is taken by purse-seine and longline fisheries.

72. Japan asked for an explanation of the difference in trends shown in the Kobe plots for bigeye and yellowfin tunas. The SC Chair explained that an important factor in the different trends is that bigeye recruitment is increasing while yellowfin recruitment is decreasing. Many members questioned the phenomenon that bigeye recruitment has increased while spawning biomass has declined.

73. The Philippines raised a concern that CMM 2008-01 prevents its fishing vessels from fishing on the high seas. As a result, they are now fishing in domestic waters where spawning occurs and catching much smaller fish.

74. Japan pointed out that Japanese pole-and-line catch per unit of effort (CPUE) data were used in the skipjack assessment, although that fishery only accounts for 4% of the total catch. Japan questioned if

this can fully represent the stock trend. The SC Chair shared Japan's concern and suggested a need for more and better data to assess this stock.

75. Japan pointed out the range contraction of skipjack tuna due to purse-seine catches in the tropical region. The SC Chair pointed out that coastal fishermen in Japan are suffering from the lack of availability of skipjack in adjacent waters. Japan further noted that the SC Summary Report indicates that the range contraction has become more severe in recent years.

76. Korea asked if there were any data to suggest stock separation of skipjack between different regions. The SC Chair said that movement data are consistent with a single stock hypothesis.

77. NC reiterated its concern about the expansion of purse-seine fisheries in the area between 20°N and 20°S, which could be causing declines in abundance of these species in the Northern Area. NC7 noted the need for the Commission to take measures to reduce F for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas by purse-seine vessels in the tropical region.

2.4.2 Sharks (CMM-2010-07)

78. No discussion was held (see paragraph 6 under Agenda Item 2.1).

2.4.3 Seabirds (CMM- 2007-04)

79. No discussion was held.

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

80. In response to a question, the ISC Chair confirmed that ISC will complete the assessment of this species next year.

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

81. The Chair noted that last year the Commission did not adopt an implementation schedule of the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) in the Northern Area as proposed by the NC. He argued the main reason the Commission did not accept the NC proposal was the exemption for certain vessels, and emphasized that NC has to prepare a proposal that can be adopted by the Commission this year.

82. Chinese Taipei described the difficulties such as safety of observers, insufficient working space and shortage of observers that have had placing observers on small longliners. Furthermore, there is currently a shortage of trained observers for purse seiners fishing in the WCPO and a requirement to place them on other vessels and small vessels would exacerbate this problem.

83. Chinese Taipei outlined its proposal for achieving full compliance with the 5% coverage level. For 70–100 gross tonnage (GT) vessels, the objective is to reach 5% coverage by the end of 2014; for vessels >60 GT, the objective is to reach 5% coverage by the end of 2015; by the end of 2016 the objective is to reach 5% coverage for all tuna longline vessels in the Northern Area. In response to a question, Chinese Taipei said they have 90–100 vessels in the <70 GT category, and that the length of 70 GT vessel is from 22 to 25 meters.

84. Vanuatu and Cook Islands voiced support for removing the exemption for small vessels, noting that they have put observers on small vessels in their EEZs.

85. Chinese Taipei argued that the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC) should revisit the issue of the minimum size of small vessel following the ROP audit. However, the Commission Chair (former IWG-ROP Chair) said the issue of defining small vessels was not the matter that was deferred until after the completion of the audit. He concurred that the Commission would be unhappy if a recommendation was delayed further. The Chair said waiting to address this issue until the end of 2016 is too late, and subsequently proposed a tiered implementation schedule that would have all vessels meet the coverage requirement by the end of 2014.

86. Chinese Taipei asked whether other fisheries (pole-and-line, troll) must reach the 5% observer coverage level by the end of 2012, per CMM 2007-01. The USA replied that paragraph 10 of Annex C of CMM 2007-01 references the deferral of implementation for small vessels and troll and pole-and-line vessels fishing for skipjack or albacore, and remains unaddressed by the WCPFC, which Canada concurred.

87. FSM noted that its national observer programme is an authorized ROP, and offered to assist NC members with observers under special arrangements.

88. After consulting with members, Chinese Taipei proposed a revision of the Chair's suggestion, which calls on full implementation of 5% coverage for vessels used exclusively to fish for fresh fish in the area north of 20°N. NC adopted a recommendation on implementation of ROP by fishing vessels fishing for fresh fish in the Northern Area, attached as Attachment D.

89. NC7 requested that the Commission address the implementation schedule for those vessels indicated in paragraph 10 of Annex C of CMM 2007-01, noting that this might affect the implementation of the WCPFC ROP.

AGENDA ITEM 4 — VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM

4.1 Implementation of the WCPFC vessel monitoring system in the Northern Area

90. The USA pointed out that the northwest quadrant of the Convention Area still is exempt from a vessel monitoring system (VMS) for vessels that exclusively fish in that area. The USA feels that VMS should be implemented throughout the Convention Area as soon as possible, and asked if other members are ready to support that and forward a recommendation to the full Commission later this year.

91. Japan said it was happy to start considering how to extend VMS into this area; however, it saw it as somewhat premature to forward a proposal this year given there is an ongoing review of the Commission VMS programme. The USA said it is interested in the review, but that it has become an issue of fairness because VMS has been implemented in all other quadrants.

92. Chinese Taipei expressed that it is also interested in the VMS review, and would like to know the rationale of those members who accept to carry observers on small vessels but request to have an exemption on the Commission VMS programme for these vessels.

93. Vanuatu suggested that there could be an exemption for small vessels operating inside or just outside its EEZ but complying with domestic law. The Philippines supported an alternative, non-satellite type VMS for use on small vessels.

94. The Chair said that this matter will be discussed next year when more information is available, including alternate methods for implementation on small vessels. This issue should be included in the work plan.

AGENDA ITEM 5 — DATA

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

95. NC members expressed their concern that China does not submit required information, particularly on North Pacific albacore, and has not participated in NC meetings in recent years although China appears to have significant catches in the North Pacific. NC members requested the Chair to write a letter, requesting China to submit its data and cooperate fully with NC activities. Cook Islands was requested to provide information to be included in Annex A of Attachment C.

96. NC7 noted the improvement of data collection on Pacific bluefin tuna by Korea through its research programme, and by Japan through its mandatory reporting by artisanal fishery and aquaculture.

AGENDA ITEM 6 — FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

6.1 Work programme for 2012–2015

97. NC7 adopted its work programme, attached as Attachment E.

AGENDA ITEM 7 — COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

7.1 ISC

98. The Chair noted that ISC solicited financial contributions for the review, which has been met, and encouraged further voluntary contribution to ISC.

7.2 IATTC

99. The Chair said that NC will consider working cooperatively with IATTC on measures for Pacific bluefin tuna and North Pacific albacore. The USA thanked the Chair for his work and expressed its willingness to assist with future contact with IATTC for better cooperation.

AGENDA ITEM 8 — OTHER MATTERS

8.1 Administrative arrangements for the Northern Committee

8.1.1 Secretariat functions and costs

100. The Chair asked about the status of the voluntary fund. The Secretariat replied that no funds have been contributed.

8.1.2 Rules of procedure

101. NC7 deferred further consideration of this item to a future meeting of the NC.

8.2 Next meeting

102. Japan said that it would host NC8 in 2012, taking into account the views of other members. The USA said the first week of September (2–8 September) is preferable to the following week for the meeting.

8.3 Other business

103. Korea noted the steering committee of the Kobe process to be held in the margins of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Committee on Fisheries.

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

104. NC7 adopted the Summary Report of its Seventh Regular Session.

AGENDA ITEM 10 — CLOSE OF MEETING

10.1 Close of meeting

105. The meeting was closed on 9 September 2011.

Attachment A

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Northern Committee
Seventh Regular Session

Sapporo, Japan
6–9 September 2011

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Attachment B

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Northern Committee
Seventh Regular Session

Sapporo, Japan
6–9 September 2011

AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING
- 1.1 Welcome
- 1.2 Adoption of agenda
- 1.3 Meeting arrangements

AGENDA ITEM 2. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES
- 2.1 Report from the 11th ISC
- 2.2 Report of the Seventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC7)
- 2.3 Conservation and management measures for the northern stocks
  - 2.3.1 Northern Pacific Bluefin (CMM-2010-04)
  - 2.3.2 North Pacific Albacore (CMM-2005-03)
  - 2.3.3 North Pacific Swordfish
- 2.4 Conservation and management measures for other species
  - 2.4.1 Bigeye, yellowfin tuna and skipjack tuna (CMM-2008-01)
  - 2.4.2 Sharks (CMM-2010-07)
  - 2.4.3 Seabirds (CMM-2007-04)
  - 2.4.4 Striped marlin (CMM-2010-01)

AGENDA ITEM 3. REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME
- 3.1 Implementation of the ROP by fishing vessels fishing for fresh fish in the Northern Area

AGENDA ITEM 4. VMS
- 4.1 Implementation of the WCPFC Vessel Monitoring System in the Northern Area

AGENDA ITEM 5. DATA
- 5.1 Review of the status of data and data gaps for northern stocks

AGENDA ITEM 6. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME
- 6.1 Work Programme for 2012-2015

AGENDA ITEM 7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS
- 7.1 ISC
- 7.2 IATTC

AGENDA ITEM 8. OTHER MATTERS

8.1 Administrative arrangements for the Committee

8.1.1 Secretariat functions and costs

8.1.2 Rules of Procedure

8.2 Next meeting

8.3 Other business

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

AGENDA ITEM 10. CLOSE OF MEETING

10.1 Closing of the meeting

Attachment C

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Northern Committee
Seventh Regular Session

Sapporo, Japan
6–9 September 2011

PROCESS TO DEVELOP A PRECAUTIONARY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE TUNA

Context

The work plan agreed to at NC6 called for NC7 to: "Review the effectiveness of CMM 2005-03, including members' reports on their interpretation and implementation of fishing effort controls." An important outcome of this exercise is to determine the degree to which total F on the stock is subject to the limits on fishing effort mandated by the management measure. Regular and standardized reporting against CMM 2005-03 by CCMs that fish for NP albacore will allow for NC to assess the extent to which CCMs are adhering to the measure.

Furthermore, Article 6, paragraph 1 (a) of the Convention calls on "the Members of the Commission in applying the precautionary approach to determine, on the basis of the best scientific information available, stock-specific reference points and the action needed to be taken if they are exceeded."

Article 6, paragraph 3 also states that "Members of the Commission shall take measures to ensure that, when reference points are approached, they will not be exceeded. In the event they are exceeded, members of the Commission shall, without delay, take the action determined under paragraph 1(a) to restore the stocks."

Considering that the International Scientific Committee has determined in its 2011 stock assessment for North Pacific Albacore that the stock is not being overfished, or in an overfished state, now is an opportune time for the NC to agree to a process to develop a Precautionary Management Framework for the stock based on biological reference points, that would include management actions should agreed-upon reference points be exceeded.

Taking into consideration the results of the 2011 stock assessment and the review of the effectiveness of CMM 2005-03, the NC should continue its efforts to develop a precautionary approach based management framework, reference points, and associated decision rules. The paper tabled at NC6 (NC6-DP-01 "Developing a precautionary Management Framework for Stocks managed by Northern Committee") should be a basis for this work.

Process

With respect to determining the extent that CCMs are implementing CMM 2005-003, Members will report annually to NC on their implementation of the measure, and their efforts to restrict F to levels

observed in 2002-2004. Members will use the template provided in Annex A for this purpose.

Building on the principles outlined in paper NC6-DP-01, a work plan with associated timelines is proposed in Annex B for the NC to develop and recommend a precautionary approach based management framework for North Pacific albacore, including agreed upon biological limit and target reference points and decision rules should those reference points be exceeded. In addition to initiating these actions, it is proposed that NC7 incorporate this work into its Work Program for 2012-2015.

Table 1. Average annual catch of North Pacific albacore

CCM	Data pertain to WCPFC Area only or entire North Pacific?	Fisheries with ANY catch of NP albacore	"Fishing for" NP albacore? (Y/N)	2006–2010 average annual catch
Canada	NP total catches	Albacore troll	y	5,899
			Total catches for Canada:	5,899
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	5,899
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	100
China	CA only	Longline	NK	(2007-8) 10272.5
			Total catches for China:	
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
Cook Islands	N Pacific total catches	Albacore troll	Y	31
	N Pacific total catches	Longline	Y	8
			Total catches for Cook Islands:	193
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	100
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	100
Japan	CA only	LL Coast	Y/N	17,098
		LL DW	Y/N	4,207
		PL Coast	N	80
		PL DW	Y	24,970
		PS Coast	N	11
		PS DW	N	1,840
		GN	N	455
		Troll	N	470
		Set Net	N	50
		Others	N	37
			Total catches for Japan:	49,218
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	46,275
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	94
NOTE: 1) "2006-2010 average annual catch" is preliminary. 2) "Y/N": this category vessels includes two types; "fishes for NP albacore" and "non targeting".				
Korea	N Pacific	LL DW	Y/N	176
			Total catches for Korea:	176
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	176
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	100
NOTE: 1) "2006-2010 average annual catch" is preliminary. 2) "Y/N": this category vessels includes two types; "fishes for NP albacore" and "non targeting".				

Philippines				
			Total catches for Philippines:	
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
Chinese Taipei	N Pacific	albacore LL	Y	2,548
	N Pacific	LL others	N	552
			Total catches for Chinese Taipei:	3,100
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	2,548
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	82
United States	N Pacific	Albacore troll	Y	12,099
		Longline	N	297
		Gillnet	N	3
		Pole and line	N	9
		Purse seine	N	34
		Other	N	505
			Total catches for United States:	12,946
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	12,099
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	93
NOTE: 1) These USA (2006–2010) data may not be confirmed from figures available to the Secretariat. 2) US response: See all our annual reports under CMM 2005-03, the latest of which is dated 8 July 2011.				
Vanuatu	CA only	LL	Y	7,591
			Total catches for Vanuatu:	10,178
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	2,587
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	25
Belize	CA only	LL	Y	95
			Total catches for Belize:	95
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	95
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	100
NOTE: catch unsegregated by area				
Federated States of Micronesia	CA only	LL	N	N/A
			Total catches for FSM:	
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
NOTE: Commenced fishery in 2009				
Marshall Islands	CA only	LL	N	N/A
			Total catches for RMI:	
			Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	
			% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:	

NOTE: Commenced fishery in 2008	

Table 2. Fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore (ALB)

CCM	Area[1]	Fishery[2]	2002–2004 Average		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
			No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days
Canada[3]	N Pacific	ALB troll		8,898	213	8,565	174	6,243	198	7,113	134	5,907	135	6,589	157	7,532
	CA[4] only	ALB troll		266	1	57	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China																
Cook Islands	N Pacific	ALB troll	4	183	2	240	2	171	1	57	1	0	0	0	0	0
	N Pacific	LL	1	2	1	4	0	0	1	37	1	17	0	0	0	0
Japan[5]	CA only	LL Coast	296		289		287		273		276		280		286	
		LL DW	633		591		538		494		480		361		342	
		PL DW	141		134		125		106		104		104		101	
Korea[6]	N Pacific	LL			191	2,896	67	4,312	67	8.073	81	8,474	72	3,189	98	9,208
Chinese Taipei[7]	N Pacific	ALB LL	25		23	2,363	24	4,156	21	3,360	18	2,603	13	2,082	20	2,093
USA	N Pacific	ALB troll		24,994		24,731		22,006		24,000		20,631		24,358		25,224
Vanuatu	N		32	9,728	28	5,096	29	5,278	33	9,999	15	3,195	14	2,548	12	2,184

[1] Data pertain to WCPFC Convention Area only or entire North Pacific?
[2] Fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore
[3] NOTE: For Canada no fishing inside the CA since 2005
[4] Convention Area
[5] Japanese albacore data are not segregated by North or South Pacific with respect to effort or number of vessels
[6] Korean albacore data are not segregated by North or South Pacific with respect to effort (number of vessels)
[7] This data just indicates the fishery fishing for NP albacore only

	Pacific															
Belize[8]													40		49	

[8] Vessel number and effort was given for all species

Attachment D

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Northern Committee
Seventh Regular Session

Sapporo, Japan
6–9 September 2011

RECOMMENDATION ON IMPLEMENTING THE REGIONAL OBSERVERS PROGRAMME BY VESSELS FISHING FOR FRESH FISH NORTH OF 20°N

Conservation and Management Measure 2011-XX

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;

Recalling Article 28(1) of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPF Convention), which requires the Commission to develop a Regional Observer Programme to, among other things, collect verified catch data, and to monitor the implementation of the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission;

Further recalling Article 28(7) of the WCPF Convention, which requires the Commission to develop procedures and guidelines for the operation of the Regional Observer Programme (ROP);

Cognizant of Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) 2007-01 , which established the procedures to develop the ROP, in particular paragraph 9 of Annex C of CMM2007-01, which gives considerations on special circumstances for fishing vessels used exclusively to fish for fresh fish in the area north of 20 degrees north;

Adopts, in accordance with Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention, the following Conservation and Management Measure for the Establishment of the Implementation of the ROP by vessels fishing for fresh fish in the area north of 20 degrees north.

The ROP for fishing vessels used exclusively to fish for fresh fish in the area north of 20 degrees north shall be implemented in the following manner:

1. No later than 31 December 2014, CCMs shall commence implementation of observer programmes for fishing vessels used to fish for fresh fish beyond the national jurisdictions in the area north of 20 degrees north.

2. For such fishing vessels, CCMs shall achieve 5% coverage of the effort of each fishery fishing for fresh fish by the end of December 2014.

3. Observers shall be sourced from the WCPFC Regional Observer Programme, including authorized national programs of flag states.

4. Unless expressly set forth in this CMM, procedures in CMM 2007-01 will be applied *mutatus mutandis* to the implementation of this CMM.

Attachment E

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Northern Committee
Seventh Regular Session

Sapporo, Japan
6–9 September 2011

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE (AS REVISED BY THE SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION)

Work areas	objectives	1-year tasks			
	2012–2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
1. Northern stocks			Consider management options other than the existing management measures, if appropriate.		
a. Monitor status; consider management action	Review status and take action as needed for:[9] **<u>North Pacific albacore</u>** Tasks (A) Review members' reports on their implementation of CMM 2005-03 (1) Estimate the proportion of the total catch of albacore in the North Pacific Ocean (in the Convention Area, and/or across the entire North Pacific Ocean, as	Review the compiled members' reports and identify and rectify shortcomings	Review the compiled members' reports and identify and rectify shortcomings	Review the compiled members' reports and	Review the compiled members' reports and

[9] In the event that the Commission, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Annex I of the Commission Rules of Procedure, adds additional stocks, such as the northern stock of striped marlin, to the list of stocks understood to be "northern stocks", this work programme will be revised to include periodic status reviews and consideration of management action for such stocks.

Work areas	objectives	1-year tasks			
	2012–2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
	appropriate) that is effectively subject to the effort limits mandated in the CMM. (2) Determine how total effort across those fisheries has changed from 2002 through 2010 through a review of members' reports of annual fishing effort by their vessels "fishing for" NP albacore fisheries.			identify and rectify shortcomings	identify and rectify short-comings
	(B) Establish a precautionary approach based management framework, including: (1) recommend appropriate reference points; (2) agreeing in advance to actions that will be taken in the event each of the particular limit reference points is breached (decision rules); (3) recommend any changes to CMM 2005-03.	Discuss Task (B)(1) and (2)	Finalize Task (B) (1) and (2)	Recommended any changes to CMM 2005-03 Task(B)(3)	
	<u>Pacific bluefin tuna</u>	Review reports from CCMs on their domestic management measures. Obtain and review a full assessment and consider appropriate management action.	.		
	<u>Swordfish</u>	Consider interim management objective and reference points in light of ISC	Obtain and review a full assessment and consider appropriate management action		
	<u>Striped marlin</u> (if agreed by the Scientific Committee and Commission).	Obtain and review a full assessment and consider appropriate management action.			
b. Data	Achieve timely submission of complete	CCMs participating in the NC	CCMs participating in the NC		

Work areas	objectives	1-year tasks			
	2012–2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
	data needed for assessments, formulation of measures, and review of Commission decisions	submit complete data on fisheries for northern stocks to the Commission	submit complete data on fisheries for northern stocks to the Commission		
		Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, NP albacore and NP striped marlin data from all CCMs and make available to ISC	Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, NP albacore and NP striped marlin data from all CCMs and make available to ISC		
	Consider systems to validate catch data				
c. Scientific support	Provide support for scientific studies	Encourage voluntary contribution for NC's list of priority scientific projects			
2. Non-target, associated, dependent species					
a. Seabirds	Consider appropriate implementation of methods to minimize catch and mortality.	Review implementation of CMM-2007-04 in the northern area			
b. Sea turtles	Consider appropriate implementation of methods to minimize catch and mortality.	Review mitigation research results and consider management action			
c. Sharks	Consider appropriate implementation for CMM-2010-07 in the northern area.	Review scientific advice from ISC, if any, and consider management options on two shark species (blue shark and mako shark).			
3. Review effectiveness of decisions	Annually review effectiveness of conservation and management measures and resolutions applicable to fisheries for northern stocks	Review effectiveness of NP albacore measure (CMM 2005-03), including member's reports on their interpretation and implementation of fishing effort			

Work areas	objectives	1-year tasks			
	2012–2015	2012	2013	2014	2015
		control. Review effectiveness of Pacific bluefin tuna measure. (CMM2010-04)			
4. ROP(paragraph 9, Attachment C of CMM2007-01)		Review implementation of ROP for fishing vessels operating in north of 20°N.			
5. Vessel monitoring system (VMS)		Consider implementation of VMS in the area north of 20°N and west of 175°E.			
6. Cooperation with other organizations					
a. ISC		Consider action to support ISC.			
b. IATTC	Following Article 22.4, consult to facilitate consistent management measures throughout the respective ranges of the northern stocks	Have consultation to maintain consistent measures for NP albacore and northern Pacific bluefin tuna			