



EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION

Guam

26-30 March 2012

NOTICE OF MEETING

Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) are invited to attend the Eighth Regular Session of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC8).

With logistical and administrative support from the US and Guam officials, WCPFC8 meeting will take place in Guam from Monday 26th March to Friday 30th March 2012, with Sunday 25th of March reserved to start the Fifth Session of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC5). The meeting venue will be the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Guam.

Preliminary Meeting Documents

The preliminary documents for the meeting have been prepared and circulated and will be updated during the next 3 months.

Submission of proposals

The attention of CCMs is also drawn to the recommendation of WCPFC2 that draft proposals for the consideration of the Commission be tabled 30 days in advance of the regular session (paragraph 30 WCPFC2 Summary Report):

30. Concern was expressed over the short time frames available for consideration of draft resolutions. The Commission agreed in good faith that, despite Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure that requires 24 hours notice, Members would try to submit draft proposals 30 days prior to the Annual Session of the Commission in order to allow all Members adequate time for consideration and consultation.

WCPFC8 Meeting Documents

All meeting documents are now on the website. Please advise Ms Lucille Martinez (meetings.wcpfc@wcpfc.int) of any difficulties with downloading meeting papers.

Delegations and participants

In accordance with Rules 6 and 36 of the Rules of Procedure for the Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members, Participating Territories, Observers and others desiring to participate in WCPFC8 are respectfully requested to advise the Secretariat of contact details for official contacts, designated representatives, alternate representatives and advisers at the earliest opportunity.

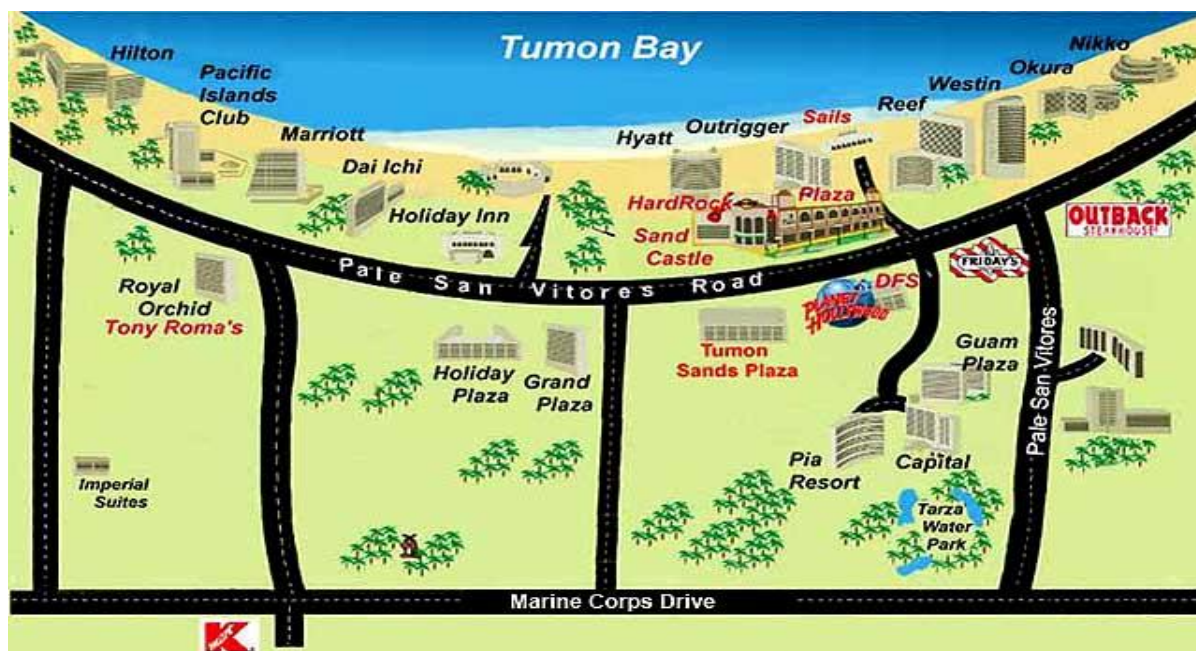
All related enquiries about the WCPFC8 meeting should be addressed to the Secretariat's Finance and Administration Manager, Mr Aaron Nighswander, (aaron.nighswander@wcpfc.int).

Registration

All participants are requested to register electronically on the WCPFC website. If that is not possible please print and return the completed registration form to Lucille Martinez, preferably by email to Lucille.Martinez@wcpfc.int or meetings.wcpfc@wcpfc.int or by facsimile (+691 320 1108) as soon as possible. For those delegations with more than one participant it would be preferred if registrations could be submitted in one batch by a key contact for that delegation.

Tumon, Guam

Background information about Guam, including city maps and weather details is available at www.visitguam.org



Meeting Venue

The meeting venue will be at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1155 Pale San Vitores Road, Tumon, Guam 96913, Telephone: +1 671-647-1234; Fax: +1 671-647-1235.

<http://guam.regency.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp>

Accommodation

Guam has many excellent hotels from 5 star resorts to very good medium range hotels at reasonable rates. Most of these can be found on the internet. Participants are asked to make their own accommodation arrangements.

Airport Transfers

The Guam International Airport is located just out of town and there are taxi transfers available along with hotel pick-ups and hire cars. Where needed an airport transfer service may be reserved when making hotel reservations.

Visa for Guam

For information on visa requirements for Guam, please visit www.visitguam.org or the Guam Government website http://www.travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1990.html.

Communication

The WCPFC will arrange for several generally available computers with printers and internet access to be available close to the main meeting room. Wireless Internet will also be available in the main conference room. Most mobile phones will work in Guam. Individual hotels differ in wireless and computer access with some having room availability and others only in the lobby area and it would pay to check with the hotel when booking.

Banking

The official currency is the US dollar. Visa, JCB, Master Card, and American Express are widely accepted at stores and visitor facilities. Foreign currency can be exchanged at the airport, banks and other financial centers. There are FDIC insured banks and Automated Teller Machines (ATM) available.

Dining & Shopping Options

There are a number of very good restaurants in Guam and shopping is available in the main street of Tumon.

Breakout Rooms

A limited number of breakout rooms is available at the hotel, one of which will be reserved for the FFA to use and one for the Finance and Administration Committee. However these and others in the complex will be available for small groups as required.

Delegation Rooms

If delegations require delegation rooms you will need to book these at your hotel when booking accommodation as none will be available through the secretariat.

Finance and Administration Committee

The Finance and Administration Committee will start its meeting at 9am on Sunday 25th March 2012. The provisional agenda has been posted on the website and a meeting room for this event will be advised.

Heads of Delegation meeting

It is proposed that Heads of Delegation meet for a short meeting at 3:30pm on Sunday 25th March (venue to be advised) to review arrangements for the meeting and exchange views on making the best use of the time available for WCPFC8. This meeting will be followed by a short meeting to consider CNM applications as occurred last year in Honolulu.

Funding for Developing Countries and Participating Territories

As usual, the Commission will provide support to assist the participation of one formally nominated representative from each developing country and participating territory that is a member of the Commission in the form of a daily subsistence allowance and best economy airfare utilizing the most direct economical route available. Please submit nominations no later than 2nd of February. Could we ask that countries make every effort to advise the WCPFC Secretariat as soon as it is known who will be attending as the earlier we can book airfares we can achieve better rates. Late changes to booking are unlikely to be accommodated as they add significantly to the cost of bookings.

With prior approval, late nominations may, of logistical necessity, be funded on a reimbursable basis after the annual session rather than prepayment, subject to the principle of utilization of the most direct economical route.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Glenn Hurry
Executive Director
WCPFC