



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A WCPFC FAD MANAGEMENT OPTION WORKING GROUP

Background

1. At WCPFC10 in adopting CMM 2013-01 the Secretariat was tasked with preparing a report for consideration by the SC, TCC and Commission in 2014. Paragraph 38 of CMM 2013-01 says:
38. The Commission Secretariat will prepare a report on additional FAD management options for consideration by the Scientific Committee, the Technical & Compliance Committee and the Commission in 2014, including:
 - a. Marking and identification of FADs;
 - b. Electronic monitoring of FADs;
 - c. Registration and reporting of position information from FAD-associated buoys; and
 - d. Limits to the number of FADs deployed or number of FAD sets made.
2. As a response to this tasking, on 23 July 2014 the Secretariat sent out WCPFC Circular 2014/60, which provided a number of relevant papers and draft proposals, and proposed the establishment of a working group on FAD Management Options.
3. These terms of reference define the objectives, scope and responsibilities of the working group. They set out the expectations of the Commission with respect to the outputs of the working group. These TORs may be subject to review or modification by the Commission.

Objective

To review the reference papers listed below, as well as other relevant information and advice from SC and TCC, and to recommend a way forward for the Commission on the following issues:

- a. Collection of additional data on FADs and their use in WCPO fisheries;
- b. FAD marking, and identification, and use of electronic signatures;
- c. FAD monitoring, tracking and control;
- d. FAD Management options; and
- e. Advise on options for FAD marking and monitoring for WCPO wide application.

Working group

1. The working group shall be open to all Commission Members and Participating Territories.
2. All CCMs are encouraged to provide input to the work of the working group.
3. To the highest degree possible, the working group shall conduct its work electronically or, if convenient and cost effective, in targeted face to face meetings.

4. The working group shall report to TCC and SC, as appropriate, where the advice and recommendations shall be considered.
5. The working group shall consult with or seek advice from technical experts and industry as necessary.
6. The working group shall include participation by PNAO, FFA, industry, SPC and NGOs, and will be open to participation by any other interested WCPFC observer.
7. The working group shall consider the fisheries information management systems that are proposed or established in the WCPO and other RFMOs for FAD registration and tracking.

Timeframe

The working group and its progress will be reviewed at WCPFC12

References

1. Papers attached to WCPFC Circular 2014/60
 - Feasibility study – PNA FAD tracking and management (Oct 2013)
 - Conservation and Management Measure for the Collection and Analyses of Data on Fish Aggregating Devices – Proposal by the United States of America (WCPFC10-2013-DP05) 5 November 2013
 - Attachment E of CMM 2013-01 – Preparation of FAD Management Plans
 - FFA Proposal on FAD identification and tracking (WCPFC-TCC5-2009/DP-21) 5 October 2009
 - FAD Management – A study on the impacts of fish aggregating devices (FADs) and the development of effective management strategies for their responsible use by industrial tuna fishing fleets – A report prepared for the WTPO (June 2009)
2. Other papers, studies and information suggested at TCC10 to be reviewed by the Working Group
 - a. Preliminary analysis of the Regional Observer Programme data on FAD design (WCPFC-SC10-ST-IP09)
 - b. SPC study which looked at the comparative value of catches from FAD and free school sets, taking into account the relative prices of fish by size class.
 - c. Review measures adopted by other RFMOs on FAD management.
 - d. Any other papers submitted as well as relevant information from SC and TCC
 - e. [Proposed consultancy study to be commissioned in 2015, to analyse commercial implications of FAD usage in order to inform a sensible debate on FAD limits and controls.]