REC1

WCPFC13 recognises with concern that it is not possible for SC to assess the validity of shark fins to carcass ratio and for TCC to assess compliance related to the application of the 5% ratio prescribed in para. 7 of CMM 2010-07;

In order for SC13 and TCC13 to identify means to strengthen CMM 2010-07 with respect to ensuring CCMs compliance with the obligation contained in paragraph 6, WCPCF13 requests those CCMs that apply fins to carcass to satisfy the obligation under paragraph 7 of CMM 2010- 07 to provide, in addition to other reporting requirements related to the implementation of CMM2010-07, the following information in their AR-Part 2:

i.      A description of and rationale for any required quantitative standards such as ratios with a clear statement of the application of standards to live or dressed carcasses, full or partial fin sets, any species-specific considerations, wet or dry weights, any conversion factors, etc.

ii.      A description of any required operational practices such as cutting, tying, tagging, bagging, etc.

iii.      A description of record-keeping requirements at sea and upon landing, including species-specific reporting for the WCPFC key shark species.

iv.      A description of the monitoring system used by the CCM to compile and check these records for the incidence of finning, including the number of landing events by location, total numbers and weight of sharks and fins by species, etc. for the previous year.

v.      A description of the inspection system used by the CCM to verify (e.g. through random, periodic audits) that the monitoring system is functioning appropriately, and the number of audits conducted in the previous year.

vi.      A list of the incidences of shark finning detected and a description of the remedial actions taken by the CCM and the vessel(s) and crew(s) involved.

vii. to the extent possible, detailed information on why it would be impracticable to implement fins naturally attached, as a means to ensure full utilization of sharks.

REC2

WCPFC13 request that SC13 and TCC14, with support from the Secretariat, work towards the development of a comprehensive approach to shark and ray conservation and management with a view to adopting a new CMM at the Commission’s annual meeting in 2018. The new CMM should seek to i) unify the WCPFC’s existing shark CMMs; ii) take account of relevant national and international policies and measures; and iii) provide a framework for adopting new components as needs and datasets evolve.

Elements to be considered for the new CMM include:

·       policies on full utilization/prohibition on finning;

·       no retention policies;

·       safe release and handling practices;

·       gear mitigation, size limits or closures;

·       management plans/catch limits;

·       key species and their assessment schedules;

·       species-specific limit reference points; and

·       any data reporting requirements beyond those contained in “Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission.”