



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
FOUTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

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**Proposal for a review of the Commission's data needs and collection programs**

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**WCPFC-SC13-2017/ST-WP-07**

**Forum Fisheries Agency Members**

## Executive Summary

FFA Members endorse the report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ERandEM working group and thank the chair for the excellent leadership and efforts supporting progress on e-reporting and e-monitoring. In order to move this issue forward, PNA and FFA members have called for an holistic review of the data needs of the Commission against the data collection and verification programs that we have.

FFA members do not see this as being a large or difficult body of work and we firmly believe that this will contribute to, rather than delay the development of a WCPFC EM program. In fact, it is essentially an extension of the good work that SPC and Australia presented to the working group (IP02 and IP04).

The project description outlines how this review could be undertaken without the provision of WCPFC funding. Alternatives such as a consultancy or a CCM-led consultative process were also considered but are not proposed for reasons of cost and burden.

## Proposal

Project	
Project	Review of the Commission's data needs and collection programs
Objectives	To compare the Commission's data needs against the programs and tools available to the Commission (including the potential for a WCPFC EM program).
Rationale	<p>There are several reasons for this review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>) In the context of EM specifically, it is about answering the fundamental question "what data does EM need to collect and what will that data be used for?". The EM/ER working group was not able to answer this question, and as a result did not make too much progress on specific objectives for a WCPFC EM program.</p> </li> <li> <p>) The review will also create efficiency in the Commission's data programs by ensuring that there is no unnecessary duplication between data collection programs and that data is collected through the most appropriate program.</p> </li> <li> <p>) Improving the collection and verification of data will enhance the work of both the SC and the TCC.</p> </li> <li> <p>) Lastly it will promote synergy between the different programs by linking them so that there is a common understanding of the collection of primary data through one program and verification through another.</p> </li> </ul>
Assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>) WCPFC is committed to continue development of a WCPFC EM program</p> </li> <li> <p>) This review is essentially an extension of the work described in the following two documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>) Emery et al. (2018) <i>The use of Electronic Monitoring within tuna longline fisheries in the WCPO – implications for international data collection, analysis and reporting</i>. WCPFC-2018-ERandEMWG3-IP04.</p> </li> <li> <p>) SPC-OFP (2018). <i>Outcomes from the Second Regional EM Process Standards Workshop (REMPS-2)</i>. WCPFC-2018-ERandEMWG3-IP02.</p> </li> </ul> </p></li> </ul>
Scope	<p>The scope and activities included in the review are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p>) Summarise existing data and information needs of the commission including scientific data and information to support compliance functions.</p> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>) Describe how current monitoring programs required by the Commission (e.g. logsheets, observers, VMS, transshipment and other vessel generated reports) are used to collect and/or verify the data and information needed by the Commission.</li> <li>) Specify data and monitoring gaps and identify priority areas where fishery monitoring requires improvement.</li> <li>) Define areas and roles where e-monitoring can be used to collect scientific data and verify data and information needed by the Commission, including whether there could/should be different areas of application.</li> </ul> <p>The focus of the mapping exercise will <b>not</b> be to undertake a detailed review of the adequacy or otherwise of specific data fields that have been developed for various WCPFC programs.</p>
Links to other work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>) This is an essential contribution to the consideration of a WCPFC EM program as it will assist to define the objective and data needs.</li> <li>) Outputs from this work will help the Commission to identify where electronic reporting could be implemented to support timely access to and use of data. May help to identify areas where Commission policies and procedures relating to monitoring programs and data may need refinement</li> <li>) It also has relevance to other WCPFC processes such as considering issues of transshipment management, CDS development and evolution of ER standards.</li> </ul>
Timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>) Draft distributed intersessionally</li> <li>) Presented to SC15 and TCC15</li> <li>) Final version and recommendations to WCPFC16</li> </ul>
Budget	NIL. Work to be undertaken by SPC, FFA Secretariat and PNA Office and presented to SC and TCC by FFA members.
Additional considerations	Assistance from the WCPFC Secretariat would also be welcome and very useful, but will obviously be subject to existing workloads and availability.