



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Portland, Oregon, United States of America
3 – 6 September 2019

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

WCPFC-NC15-2019/03

AGENDA ITEM 1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Northern Committee will adjourn the plenary session after AGENDA ITEM 1 and open the Fourth Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna.

1.1 Welcome

The Chair Masanori Miyahara (Japan) will open the Fifteenth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC15) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), held in Portland, Oregon, USA, during 3 – 6 September 2019.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

The Chair will introduce the Provisional Agenda, WCPFC-NC15-2019/02. Any other matters raised here can be discussed under Agenda Item 7.3 (Other business).

1.3 Meeting arrangements

The Chair will introduce the Indicative Schedule (WCPFC-NC15-2019/04), logistical arrangements in place to support the meeting, and any social engagements.

1.4 Report from ISC and SC

1.4.1 Report from ISC

NC15 will review the meeting report of the 19th Meeting of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC19).

1.4.2 Report from SC

NC15 will review key outcomes from the 15th Regular Session of the Scientific Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 2 CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1 Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM 2018-02)

According to the work programme, NC tasks for 2019 include:

- (1) Review the compiled members' reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.
- (2) Obtain the results of requested scientific work from ISC and recommend any necessary changes to CMM on PBF.
- (3) Based on information provided from ISC, consider candidate LRPs, TRPs, and HCRs and establish a mechanism to provide funding to ISC for MSE development.
- (4) Develop CDS based on the inputs from members.

NC15 will review the outcomes of the 4th Joint WG meeting and adopt results as needed.

2.2 North Pacific albacore (CMM 2005-03)

According to the work programme, NC tasks for 2019 include:

- (1) Review the compiled members' reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.
- (2) Continue to support ISC MSE work to complete Task (B)(2)., where (B)(2) is "continue to work to establish TRP and other elements of harvest strategies, if appropriate based on MSE" .
- (3) Recommend any necessary changes to CMM 2005-03.

2.2.1 Reports from CCMs and Observers

NC15 will review the compiled members' reports on catch and effort data based on CMM 2005-03 (CMM for NP albacore), and identify any remaining queries and rectify potential shortcomings.

2.2.2 Interim harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore fishery (HS 2017-01)

NC15 will review the progress of ISC's management strategy evaluation (MSE) process, including the results and recommendations of the 4th North Pacific Albacore MSE Workshop held in Yokohama, 5-7 March 2019, in line with the adopted HS 2017-01. NC15 may provide recommendations to ISC for further development of the MSE process.

2.2.3 Review of the CMM 2005-03

The last North Pacific albacore stock assessment was conducted in 2017. IATTC updated a revised Resolution C-18-03 (Amendment to Resolution C-13-03 supplementing Resolution C-05-02 on North Pacific Albacore). NC15 will consider any proposal to update CMM 2005-03.

2.3 North Pacific swordfish

According to the work programme, NC's task for 2019 is to "Recommend reference points, decision rules, and HCR and develop a draft CMM".

2.3.1 Development of a management framework

NC15 will continue to discuss the harvest strategy for the NP swordfish stocks and/or fisheries, including interim management objectives, reference points, decision rules, and HCRs to establish a new CMM as required.

2.4 Conservation and management measures for other stocks

2.4.1 Bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas (CMM 2018-01)

WCPFC15 adopted CMM 2018-01 (*CMM for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean*). NC15 may consider any issues related to, or any impacts of, CMM 2018-01 on tuna fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean north of 20°N.

2.4.2 North Pacific striped marlin (CMM 2010-01)

NC15 will review the ISC's 2019 North Pacific striped marlin stock assessment. The NP striped marlin stock status has been known overfished and overfishing is occurring.

NC15 may also review any proposals related to a rebuilding plan to provide an update of the existing CMM for NP striped marlin.

2.4.3 Sharks (CMM 2010-07, CMM 2011-04, CMM 2012-04, CMM 2013-08 and CMM 2014-05)

The Commission has been developing a comprehensive CMM for Sharks through Shark-IWG. NC15 will note the current progress of the Shark-IWG and other shark-related issues, and provide recommendations if any to Shark-IWG.

2.4.4 Seabirds (CMM 2018-03)

WCPFC15 in 2018 adopted a revised CMM to Mitigate the Impact of Fishing for Highly Migratory Fish Stocks on Seabirds. NC15 may review any reports and/or mitigation research results relate to implementation of the mitigation measures in the North Pacific region.

2.4.5 Sea turtles (CMM 2008-03)

NC15 may review any mitigation research results and any proposals to improve the CMM if available.

AGENDA ITEM 3 REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME

NC15 may review any information regarding implementation of the regional observer program for fishing vessels operating in the area north of 20°N (CMM 2012-03).

AGENDA ITEM 4 DATA

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

The NC Work Programme calls for CCMs participating in the NC to submit complete data on fisheries for northern stocks to the Commission. All CCMs are encouraged to submit to the Commission Pacific bluefin tuna, North Pacific albacore, North Pacific striped marlin, and swordfish data and to make them available to the ISC.

NC15 will review the progress of data submission and identify any additional data gaps.

AGENDA ITEM 5 COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

5.1 ISC

NC15 will exchange views on further efforts to strengthen the cooperation with ISC.

5.2 IATTC

NC15 will continue to exchange views on cooperation with IATTC, especially in relation to Pacific bluefin tuna and North Pacific albacore management.

AGENDA ITEM 6 FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

6.1 Work Programme for 2020-2022

NC15 will review, and revise as needed, the 2020-2022 Work Programme for the Northern Committee .

AGENDA ITEM 7 OTHER MATTERS

7.1 Administrative arrangements for the Committee

7.1.1 Secretariat functions and costs

NC15 is invited to review and further consider the operation of the NC Secretariat, and costs related with NC activities.

7.1.2 Rules of Procedure

Subject to any proposals tabled by CCMs, NC15 will consider Rules of Procedure for NC

7.2 Next meeting

The date and place for the Sixteenth Regular Session of the NC will be agreed.

7.3 Other business

NC15 will discuss any other business raised under Agenda Item 1.2.

AGENDA ITEM 8 ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE 15TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE

NC15 will adopt the Summary Report of its 15th Regular Session. It will make every effort to adopt its Summary Report by consensus. If consensus is not reached, the Summary Report will indicate the majority and minority views and may include the differing views of the representatives of the members on all or any part of the Summary Report.

AGENDA ITEM 9 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting is scheduled to close on 6 September 2019.