

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

12 – 20 August 2019

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| **HEADS OF DELEGATION MEETING****PROVISIONAL AGENDA** **Meeting Venue: WCPFC Secretariat – PNG Room, 1st floor****16:00, Sunday, 11 August 2019** |

**WCPFC-SC15-2018/06**

1. **General Announcements**
	* 1. SC15 registration will start at 08:00 on Monday, 12 August.
		2. Meeting starts at 08:30 every day. Tea breaks are scheduled for 10:00-10:30 and 15:00-15:30, and lunch at 12:00-13:30
* Monday (12th) AM break: early tea break around 09:15-09:45, after opening session.
	+ 1. Meeting schedule and functions
* Provisional agenda in Attachment 1
* Indicative meeting schedule in Attachment 2
* Welcome/Opening Dinner Reception: 6 – 9pm, Friday, 16 August at WCPFC Commission
	+ 1. Opening Ceremony

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| 08:00-08:30 | Registration (outside the main entrance) |
| 08:30-09:00 | SC Chair Ueta Jr. Faasili will welcome delegates, and introduce speakers:1. Eugene Pangelinan: NORMA, FSM
2. Riley Kim, Commission Chair
3. SC Chair will declare SC15 opening.
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| 09:00-09:15 | Group Photo |
| 09:15-09:45 | Morning Refreshment Break |

* + 1. IT arrangement – refer to *Information for Participants booklet* at the registration desk
		2. Other issues?
1. **Review of Provisional Agenda**
	1. Provisional (Annotated) Agenda – No supplementary agenda item was requested by 30 days before the start of the meeting, assuming the provisional agenda can be adopted.
	2. Agenda Item 12 – Other Matters
		* Any minor issues can be discussed under *Agenda Item 12 Other Matters?*
2. **SC Officers and Theme Conveners**
3. Current SC officers and theme conveners are listed below.
* Selection of SC Vice-Chair
* Theme Conveners for 2020?
* Any new conveners?

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| Chair | Ueta Jr. Faasili (2); ueta.faasili@maf.gov.ws  |
| Vice Chair | *Vacant* |
| ST Theme | Ueta Jr. Faasili; ueta.faasili@maf.gov.ws (Temporary for SC15) (The current convener Valerie Post will be back to SC16) |
| SA Theme | Keith Bigelow: keith.bigelow@noaa.gov Hiroshi Minami(2); hminami@affrc.go.jp |
| MI Theme | Robert Campbell (10); robert.campbell@csiro.au  |
| EB Theme | John Annala (5); john.annala@mpi.govt.nzYonat Swimmer (1); yonat.swimmer@noaa.gov  |

(*x*): *number of* *years of convenership*

1. **Reporting arrangements**
2. Lead rapporteurs: Mr Mark Smaalders marksmaalders@gmail.com (SC6, SC14)
* Conveners may select support rapporteurs to provide meeting minutes, especially for technical sessions, to the lead rapporteur.
1. Document control
2. Submit all new/revised meeting documents, ISG reports, agreed recommendations and decision points to the Science Manager (sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int) by email or data stick.
3. All presenters upload their presentation files on the presentation laptop or submit them to the Science Manager by email or data stick.
4. For lengthy interventions, send the text to the Lead Rapporteur by email or data stick.
5. Presentation laptop: Folders will be organized by Theme and by Date, which will be controlled by the Science Manager
6. SC15 Summary Report
7. Lead rapporteur will produce a draft summary report;
8. Theme conveners will ensure at the start of the meeting that all presenters should submit 1-2 paragraph summary of their presentations to the lead rapporteur.
9. Theme conveners will review the draft summary report;

iii) All recommendations and decision points will be adopted at the meeting;

1. Secretariat will prepare Executive Summary; and
2. The Summary Report and Executive Summary will be adopted intersessionally.
3. SC recommendations
4. Theme conveners draft recommendations, and clear them and produce agreed text at the end of each theme session (Any designated person or Lead rapporteur assist the clearing process at head table); and
5. SC Chair formally adopts all recommendations under Agenda Item 13.
6. Indicative time schedule for the finalization of SC15 Summary Report

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| **Tentative Schedule** | **Actions to be taken** |
| 20 August | Close of SC15 By 29 August, SC15 decisions will be distributed to all CCMs and observers (within 7 working days, Rules of Procedure). |
| 27 August | Secretariat will receive Draft Summary Report from the rapporteur. |
| 10 September | Secretariat will clear the Draft report, and distribute the cleaned report to all Theme Convenors for review. |
| 17 September | Theme conveners will review the report and return it back to the Secretariat |
| 24 September | The Secretariat will distribute/post the draft Summary Report for all CCMs’ and Observers’ review |
| 4 November  | Deadline for the submission of comments from CCMs and Observers |

1. **Side meetings**
	1. There will be three Steering Committee meetings:
		* + - Pacific Tuna Tagging Project at 5:30-7:00pm on Thursday, 13 August
				- Japan Trust Fund at 5:30-6:30pm on Wednesday, 14 August
				- Tuna Tissue Bank at 5:30-6:30pm on Thursday, 15 August
	2. WWF Presentation: at PM break (3-3:30pm) on Friday, 16 August
2. **Informal Small Group (ISG) meetings**

PROPOSED Informal Small Groups (ISGs) are listed below for the HOD’s review and finalization. Facilitators will lead their relevant ISG according to their schedules and approaches.

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| **ISG-ID** | **Title/TOR** | **Agenda** | **Proposed Facilitator** |
| **ISG-01** | **Project 90 (Better data on fish weights and lengths for scientific analyses)*** discuss and enhance the priorities and activities proposed in the Project 90 future activities
 | 3.1.3 |  |
| **ISG-02** | **Project 93 (Commission’s data needs)*** Seek CCM’s scientific feedback on the Project 93 tables (SC15-ST-WP-04)
 | 3.1.4 |  |
| **ISG-03** | **Guidelines for economic data provision** * SC15- ST-WP-05
 | 3.4 |  |
| **ISG-04** | **Review of SC14 BET Research Recommendations*** Paragraphs 183 and 184, SC14 Summary Report
* Accomplishments prior to next stock assessment (SC16)
* Discussion on planning and funding
 | 4.1.1 |  |
| **ISG-05** | **Skipjack (SKJ) Assessment – Uncertainty axes and weighting*** Meeting time: PM Break on Wednesday, 14 August
 | 4.1.3 |  |
| **ISG-06** | **Oceanic Whitetip Shark (OCS) Assessment – Uncertainty axes and weighting*** Meeting time: after presentation of OCS stock assessment
 | 4.3.1 |  |
| **ISG-07** | **SW Pacific striped marlin (MLS) assessment – Uncertainty axes and weighting*** Meeting time: after presentation of MLS stock assessment
 | 4.4.2 |  |
| **ISG-08** | **Shark Research Plan and future work plan*** SC15-EB-WP-02
 | 6.2.3 |  |
| **ISG-09** | **SC Budget for 2020– 2022** | 10.1 | Chair |

1. **Next meeting venue**
* SC16 in 2020: Samoa – to be confirmed
* SC17 in 2021:
1. **Other Matters**

**Attachment 1**



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**FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

12 – 20 August 2019

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**WCPFC-SC15-2019/02**

1. **OPENING OF THE MEETING**
	1. **Welcome address**
	2. **Meeting arrangements**
	3. **Issues arising from the Commission**
	4. **Adoption of agenda**
	5. **Reporting arrangements**
	6. **Intersessional activities of the Scientific Committee**
2. **REVIEW OF FISHERIES**
	1. **Overview of Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) fisheries**
	2. **Overview of Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) fisheries**
	3. **Annual Report – Part 1 from Members, Cooperating Non-Members, and Participating Territories**
	4. **Reports from regional fisheries bodies and other organizations**
3. **DATA AND STATISTICS THEME**
	1. **Data gaps**
		1. Data gaps of the Commission
		2. Species composition of purse-seine catches (Project 60)
		3. Project 90 (Better size data (length and weight) for scientific analyses)
		4. Project 93 (Review of the Commission’s data needs and collection programmes).
	2. **Regional Observer Programme**
	3. **Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring**
	4. **Economic data**
	5. **Comprehensive review of Commission reporting requirements**
4. **STOCK ASSESSMENT THEME**
5. **Improvement of MULTIFAN-CL software**
	1. **WCPO tunas**
		1. **WCPO bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*)**
			1. Research and information
		2. Project 94 (Workshop on yellowfin and bigeye tuna age and growth)
		3. Update of bigeye tuna stock assessment information
			1. Provision of scientific information
6. Stock status and trends
7. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **WCPO yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*)**
			1. Research and information
		2. Project 82 (Yellowfin tuna age and growth)
		3. Update of yellowfin tuna stock assessment information
			1. Provision of scientific information
8. Status and trends
9. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **WCPO skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)**
			1. Research and information
10. Review of 2019 skipjack tuna stock assessment
	* + 1. Provision of scientific information
11. Status and trends
12. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **South Pacific albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*)**
			1. Research and information
	1. Update of South Pacific albacore tuna stock assessment information
	2. Trends in the South Pacific albacore longline and troll fisheries
		* 1. Provision of scientific information
13. Status and trends
14. Management advice and implications
	1. **Northern stocks**
		1. **North Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*)**
		2. **Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*)**
		3. **North Pacific swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*)**
	2. **WCPO sharks**
		1. **Oceanic whitetip shark (*Carcharhinus longimanus*)**
			1. Research and information
	3. Oceanic whitetip shark stock assessment
	4. Project 92 (Testing the performance of alternative stock assessments approaches for oceanic whitetip shark)
		* 1. Provision of scientific information
15. Status and trends
16. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **Silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*)**
		2. **South Pacific blue shark (*Prionace glauca*)**
		3. **North Pacific blue shark (*Prionace glauca*)**
		4. **North Pacific shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*)**
		5. **Pacific bigeye thresher shark (*Alopias superciliosus*)**
		6. **Porbeagle shark (*Lamna nasus*)**
		7. **whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*)**
	1. **WCPO billfishes**
		1. **South Pacific swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*)**
			1. Research and information
			2. Provision of scientific information
17. Status and trends
18. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **Southwest Pacific striped marlin (*Kajikia audax*)**
			1. Research and information
			2. Provision of scientific information
19. Status and trends
20. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **North Pacific striped marlin (*Kajikia audax*)**
			1. Research and information
			2. Provision of scientific information
21. Status and trends
22. Management advice and implications
	* 1. **Pacific blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*)**
23. **MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME**
	1. **Development of harvest strategy framework**
24. Progress of the harvest strategy workplan
25. Target reference points
	* 1. Yellowfin and bigeye tuna
		2. South Pacific albacore tuna
		3. Skipjack tuna
26. Progress on the development of Harvest Control Rules and Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)
27. Review of harvest control rules for skipjack tuna
28. Review of harvest control rules for South Pacific albacore
29. MSE for North Pacific albacore
30. Multi-species modeling framework
31. Other matters
	1. **Limit reference points for WCPFC sharks**
	2. **Implementation of CMM 2018-01**
		1. Effectiveness of CMM 2018-01
		2. Management issues related to FADs
		3. FAD tracking
		4. Acoustic FAD analysis
		5. Review of Project 77
32. **ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME**
	1. **Ecosystem effects of fishing**
		1. FAD impacts
			1. Research on non-entangling FADs
			2. Joint Tuna RFMO FAD Working Group Meeting
	2. **Sharks**
		1. Review of conservation and management measures for sharks
		2. Safe release guidelines
		3. Progress of Shark Research Plan
		4. Project 91 – A study on Operational Planning for Shark Biological Data Improvement;
		5. Shark post-release mortality tagging study (assigned as Project 95)
		6. Update of Shark Research Plan
	3. **Seabirds**
		1. Review of seabird researches
		2. Review of CMM 2018-03 ([CMM to mitigate the impact of fishing for highly migratory fish stocks on seabirds](https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/cmm-2018-03/conservation-and-management-measure-mitigate-impact-fishing-highly-migratory-fish))
	4. **Sea turtles**
		1. Review of sea turtle researches
		2. Review of CMM 2008-03
	5. **Bycatch management**
	6. **Other issues**

6.6.1 Review of relevant reports from other tRFMOs

1. **OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS**
	1. **West Pacific East Asia Project**
	2. **Pacific Tuna Tagging Project**
	3. **ABNJ (Common Oceans) Tuna Project-Shark and Bycatch Components**
	4. **WCPFC Tissue Bank (Project 35b)**
	5. **Other Projects**
2. **COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS**
3. **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES AND PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES**
4. **FUTURE WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET**
	1. **Development of the 2020 work programme and budget, and projection of 2021-2022 provisional work programme and indicative budget**
5. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
	1. **Future operation of the Scientific Committee**
	2. **Election of Officers of the Scientific Committee**
	3. **Next meeting**
6. **OTHER MATTERS**
7. **ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
8. **CLOSE OF MEETING**

**Attachment 2**



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

12-20 August 2019

**INDICATIVE SCHEDULE (Matrix)**

**WCPFC-SC15-2019/04**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| **Time** | **Sun, 11** | **Mon, 12** | **Tue, 13** | **Wed, 14** | **Thu, 15** | **Fri, 16** | **Sat, 17** |
| **0830-1000** |   | **Agenda 1 and A2** | **A4. Stock Status (1)** | **A4. Stock Status (3)** | **A4. Stock Status (5)** | **A4. Stock Status (7)** | **A4. Stock Status (9)** |
| **1000-1030** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1030-1200** |  | **A1 and A2** | **A4. Stock Status (2)** | **A4. Stock Status (4)** | **A4. Stock Status (6)** | **A4. Stock Status (8)** | **A3. Data (4)**  |
| **1200-1330** | **14:00- 15:30**Chair and Conveners **16:00 –** HOD Meeting |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **1330-1500** | **A3. Data (1)** | **A6. EB theme (1)** | **A5. MI theme (1)** | **A5. MI theme (3)** | **A3. Data (3)** | **A5. MI theme (5)** |
| **1500-1530** |  |  | ISG05 (SKJ SA) |  | WWF  |  |
| **1530-1730** | **A3. Data (2)** | **A6. EB theme (2)** | **A5. MI theme (2)** | **A5. MI theme (4)** | **A6. EB theme (3)**  | **A6. EB theme (4)** |
| **1730-1830** | Steering Committee Meeting | **PTTP****(1730-1900)** | **JTF****(1730-1830)** | **Tissue Bank (1730-1830)** |  |  |
| **1900-2100** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Time** | **Sun, 18** | **Mon, 19** | **Tue, 20** |  |  |  |  |
| **0830-1000** |  | **A4. Stock Status (10)** | **A4. Stock Status (11)**  |  |  |       |      |
| **1000-1030** | Morning Break |
| **1030-1200** | **A5. MI theme (6)** | **A6. EB theme (6)** |
| **1200-1330** | Lunch Break |
| **1330-1500** | **Agenda 7-12** | **A5. MI theme (7)** |
| **1500-1530** | Afternoon Break |
| **1530-1730**  | **A6. EB theme (5)** | **Agenda 7-14** |
| **1800-2100** |  |  |