



**COMMISSION
SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
5 – 11 December 2019

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

**WCPFC16-2019-02
11 October 2019**

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Commission Chair, Ms Jung-re Riley Kim (Korea) will call the session to order at 9am on Thursday 5th December 2019 and will preside over the opening of the meeting.

1.1 Adoption of agenda

The Chair will present the Provisional Agenda for consideration and adoption by the Commission.

1.2 Statements from Members and Participating Territories

Members and Participating Territories who wish to deliver opening statements will be invited to do so. Those with written statements can provide copies to the Secretariat for distribution.

1.3 Meeting arrangements

The Chair will explain the meeting arrangements and the indicative meeting schedule, including any social function and proposed side events. Decisions reached at the meeting of Heads of Delegation on the previous day will be presented for formal consideration and confirmation by the Commission.

1.3.1 Establishment of small working groups (CNMs, CMR, others)

The Commission will consider the need for small working groups to be established and their working arrangements and schedule.

AGENDA ITEM 2. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director will present his annual report in accordance with Rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure.

AGENDA ITEM 3. MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

3.1 Status of the Convention

New Zealand as the Depositary will provide an update on the status of the WCPFC Convention.

3.2 Update on Observer status

The Commission will be informed of any application for Observer status and those Observers that may have been invited out of session to participate in this session of the Commission.

3.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status

The Commission will consider and decide on applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status for 2020, including the recommendations from TCC15 on those applications. A small working group is expected, as in the past, to review the applications and report back to the Commission.

3.3.1 Participatory rights of CNMs

In accordance with paragraphs 12 and 13 of CMM 2009-11, the Commission may review the limits of participatory rights of CNMs under various CMMs.

AGENDA ITEM 4. NEW PROPOSALS

CCMs with new proposals will be invited to introduce them to the Commission. Proposals that address matters relevant to other agenda items will be presented under those agenda items. In considering new proposals, the Commission will be invited to consider how to progress discussion of those proposals throughout the meeting and whether additional small working groups are required.

AGENDA ITEM 5. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES

5.1 Implementation of Article 30 of WCPFC Convention and CMM 2013-07 (SIDS special requirements)

The Commission will be invited to consider reports by CCMs on initiatives or programmes undertaken and designed to support the special requirements of developing States as envisaged by Article 30 of the WCPFC Convention and CMM 2013-07.

5.2 Updated Strategic Investment Plan

The Secretariat will report on the implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan and update it with newly identified capacity and capability requirements of developing States and Territories.

AGENDA ITEM 6: HARVEST STRATEGY

Discussion will focus on progressing implementation of the Agreed Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06 covering South Pacific albacore, skipjack, bigeye and yellowfin. The species-specific elements of the Work Plan are considered in agenda item 7. The Northern Committee will also provide updates on harvest strategies relating to northern stocks when those stocks are considered in agenda item 7.

6.1 Overview of Harvest Strategy

The Commission needs to take stock of its work in progressing the implementation of the Commission work plan for the adoption of harvest strategies to manage the fisheries under its purview. To this end, the Scientific Service Provider SPC-OFP will make a presentation that provides an overview of the work involved in developing harvest strategies so that Members and Participating Territories share the same understanding of the extent and scope of the work involved.

6.2 Harvest Strategy Display Software

The SPC-OFP will be invited to explain the use of the Harvest Strategy Display Software considered by SC15 to explore and compare the relative performance of alternative candidate harvest control rules and management procedures to develop individual harvest strategies for fisheries or stocks in the WCPO.

6.3 Management Objectives

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss and record in this session management objectives for all stocks or fisheries.

6.4 Performance indicators and Monitoring Strategy

A range of performance indicators can be used to evaluate the relative performance of candidate management procedures. The Scientific Committee reviewed various performance indicators for both skipjack (SC14-MI-WP-03) and South Pacific albacore (SC15-MI-WP-03). The Commission will be invited to continue to discuss performance indicators and monitoring strategy for all stocks or fisheries

6.5 Management Strategy Evaluation

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is invited to review the progress of developing management strategy evaluation for the selected stocks or fisheries.

6.6 Terms of Reference for a Science-Management Dialogue

The Commission will be asked to continue the discussion from WCPFC15 on the proposed Terms of Reference for the Science-Management Dialogue as recognized by WCPFC14 as essential to expedite the development of the WCPFC Harvest Strategy Framework.

6.7 Review of Work Plan

The Commission will consider and as appropriate revise the work plan for 2020 and future years.

AGENDA ITEM 7: WCPO TUNA AND BILLFISH STOCKS

Relevant outcomes from meetings of subsidiary bodies, intersessional working groups and other relevant sources will be presented to facilitate discussions under this agenda item. Some elements of the Harvest Strategy Work Plan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-06 are integrated into the discussions under this agenda item.

7.1 General overview of stock status (bigeye, skipjack, SP albacore, yellowfin, Pacific bluefin, NP albacore and NP swordfish)

The Commission will receive updates on the status of WCPO tuna and billfish stocks to help inform discussions on management measures.

7.2 Bigeye, Skipjack and Yellowfin

7.2.1 Harvest strategies issues

This sub-agenda item will consider the related harvest strategy issues for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin.

7.2.1.1 Review of target reference point for skipjack

WCPFC12 agreed to CMM 2015-06 which establishes an interim target reference point for the WCPO skipjack tuna stock, initially be 50% of spawning biomass in the absence of fishing. The Commission is invited to review the results of SC15 and SC15-requested work of the Scientific Services Provider related to the review of the interim TRP for skipjack

7.2.1.2 Target reference point for bigeye and yellowfin

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to consider and agree target reference points for bigeye and yellowfin. The Commission is invited to review the results and requests of SC15 related to this subject.

7.2.1.3 Harvest control rules and management strategy evaluation for skipjack

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission will be invited to review SC15's work on the development of the management strategy evaluation to evaluate the performance of candidate harvest control rules for skipjack.

7.2.2 Review of CMM 2018-01 (bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin)

This sub-agenda item will facilitate the review of CMM 2018-01 (bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin).

7.2.2.1 Purse seine limits for high seas

Paragraph 28 of CMM 2018-01 requires that the Commission shall by 2020 agree on hard effort or catch limit for purse seine in the high seas and a framework to allocate those limits to all Members and Participating Territories. The Commission will be invited to consider a process to facilitate discussions of those limits and the development of an allocation framework.

7.2.2.2 Purse seine EEZ limits for concerned CCMs yet to notify their limits

Paragraph 25 of CMM 2018-01 requires that CCMs yet to notify their zone-based purse seine effort limit shall do so by 31 December 2018.

7.2.2.3 Long line limits for bigeye

Paragraph 44 of CMM 2018-01 requires that the Commission shall by 2020 agree on hard limits for bigeye for the long line fishery and a framework to allocate those limits amongst all members and participating territories. The Commission will be invited to consider a process to facilitate discussions of those limits and the development of an allocation framework.

7.2.2.4 FAD management

SC15 considered some FAD related projects such as researches on FAD tracking, FAD acoustics and non-entangling FADs to provide comprehensive advice on the FAD set management provisions of CMM 2018-01, paragraphs 16 to 24. The Commission will be invited to consider the outputs of FAD researches and recommendations.

7.2.2.5 Other commercial fisheries for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin

The TCC15 acknowledged difficulties in assessing compliance with paragraphs 50 and 51 of CMM 2018-01 and had asked WCPFC16 to clarify the interpretation and assessment of those provisions.

7.2.2.6 New CMM for tropical tunas

The CMM 2018-01 will expire at end of 2020 and a successor measure is required. The Commission will be asked to discuss a process to facilitate the development of the new measure for tropical tunas to operate from 2021 onward.

7.3 South Pacific Albacore

7.3.1 Roadmap for effective conservation and management of SP albacore

The Commission will receive an update from the virtual intersessional working group on the Roadmap for Effective Conservation and Management of SP albacore. The Commission will also receive the results of the requested rebuilding approaches to achieve the adopted South Pacific albacore TRP in 20 years or less.

7.3.2 Performance indicators

SC15 reviewed a demonstration of a set of southern longline fishery performance indicators (identified at WCPFC14) for evaluating the relative performance of candidate management procedures for South Pacific albacore. The Commission will be invited to consider and provide feedback to the Scientific Services Provider on how to improve the calculation of performance indicators for SP albacore.

7.3.3 Harvest control rules and management strategy evaluation

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission will be invited to consider the current status of the MSE framework for South Pacific albacore and provide feedback to the Scientific Services Provider as they relate to candidate harvest control rules.

7.3.4 Review of CMM 2015-02 (SP albacore)

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2015-02 and consider any proposal to revise it.

7.4 Pacific bluefin

7.4.1 Harvest strategy for Pacific bluefin

The Northern Committee will provide an update on the progress of developing a harvest strategy framework for the Pacific bluefin.

7.4.2 Review of CMM 2018-02 and consideration of any proposed amendments

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2018-02 and consider any proposal to revise it.

7.5 North Pacific albacore

7.5.1 Harvest strategy for NP albacore

The Northern Committee will provide an update on the progress of developing a harvest strategy framework for the NP albacore

7.5.2 Review of CMM-2005-03 and consideration of any proposed amendments

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2005-03 and consider any proposal to revise it.

7.6 North Pacific swordfish

7.6.1 Harvest strategy for NP swordfish fisheries

The Northern Committee will provide an update on the progress of developing a harvest strategy framework for NP swordfish fisheries.

7.7 North Pacific striped marlin

7.7.1 Limit reference point for NP striped marlin

The Northern Committee will provide an update on identifying appropriate limit reference points for the NP striped marlin.

7.7.2 Review CMM 2010-01 and consideration of any proposal for a rebuilding plan

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2010-01 and consider any proposal for a rebuilding plan for the NP striped marlin.

7.8 South Pacific striped marlin

7.7.1 Limit reference point for SP striped marlin

The SC15 acknowledged the absence of agreed limit reference point for the SP striped marlin and recommended that the Commission identify appropriate limit reference point for the stock.

7.8 Others

The Commission will consider any other issue relating to tuna or billfish stocks that may require attention at this session.

AGENDA ITEM 8: WCPO SHARK STOCKS AND BYCATCH MITIGATION

Relevant outcomes from meetings of subsidiary bodies, intersessional working groups and other relevant sources will be presented to facilitate discussions under this agenda item.

8.1 Review of existing shark measures and consideration of limit reference points for sharks

In reviewing existing shark measures, the Commission will be invited to give due consideration to the necessary data needs for proper management of sharks as considered by SC15, including the need to identify appropriate limit reference points for WCPO sharks.

8.2 Proposal for a Comprehensive CMM for Sharks and Rays

The Commission is expected to consider a proposal for a comprehensive CMM for shark management that was initially developed through an intersessional working group on sharks.

8.3 Review of CMM 2018-03 on Seabirds

The Commission is invited to review CMM 2018-03.

8.4 Others

The Commission will consider any other bycatch requiring the Commission's attention including any relevant new proposal from CCMs.

AGENDA ITEM 9: ADOPTION OF REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES

The reports of the subsidiary bodies will be taken as read and will not be presented to the Commission. However, recommendations of subsidiary bodies not addressed under other agenda items will be considered under this agenda item. A list of those recommendations will be provided in dedicated reference document.

9.1 SC15

A list of recommendations from SC15 for WCPFC16 not covered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.2 NC15

A list of recommendations from NC15 for WCPFC16 not covered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.3 TCC15

A list of recommendations from TCC15 for WCPFC16 not covered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.4 Intersessional working groups

9.4.1 Review of the Transshipment Measure CMM 2009-06

The Commission will receive an update on the progress of the work of the intersessional working group tasked to review the transshipment measure CMM 2009-06.

9.4.2 E-Reporting and E-Monitoring Working Group

The Commission will receive an update from the Chair of the ERandEM working group on the progress of developing a draft CMM on E-monitoring.

AGENDA ITEM 10: COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

10.1 Consideration and adoption of the Final Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR)

In accordance with CMM 2018-07, the Commission will consider the provisional Compliance Monitoring Report as recommended by TCC15 and taking into account any additional information provided by CCMs. A small working group will be established to consider the provisional Compliance Monitoring Report and compile the final Compliance Monitoring Report for adoption by the Commission

10.2 Review the workplan of tasks to enhance the Compliance Monitoring Scheme

The Commission will review the multi-year work plan of tasks to enhance the Compliance Monitoring Scheme under 'section IX – Future Work' of CMM 2018-07.

10.2 Expiry of CMM 2018-07 at the end of 2019

The Commission is to decide on an arrangement to enable the continued operation of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme beyond the end of 2019.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE 2020 IUU VESSEL LIST

In accordance with CMM 2010-06, the Commission will consider and adopt the WCPFC 2020 IUU Vessel List.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

12.1 Report of the Thirteenth Finance and Administration Committee

The Commission will consider for adoption the report of the 12th Annual Session of the Finance and Administration Committee.

12.2 Budget approval for 2020 and Indicative Budgets for 2021 and 2022

The Commission will consider for adoption the Budget for 2020 and indicative budgets for 2021 and 2022.

AGENDA ITEM 13: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

13.1 Secretariat's Corporate Plan

As tasked by WCPFC15, the Secretariat will table a medium-term draft Corporate Plan to guide the work of the Secretariat.

13.2 Research projects

13.2.1 ABNJ Project

The Commission will receive an update on the status of the ABNJ project.

13.2.2 Pacific Tuna Tagging Project

The Commission will receive an update on the progress of the PTT project.

13.2.3 WCPFC Tissue Bank

The Commission will receive an update on the status of the WCPFC Tissue Bank project.

13.2.4 WPEA Project

The Commission will receive an update on the status of the WPEA Project.

13.3 Election of officers

The Commission will consider the appointment of the following officers:

- i) SC Vice Chair
- ii) FAC Co-Chair

13.4 Future meetings

The Commission will decide the venue and dates for its next meeting, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and any other intersessional meeting/s that may be agreed.

AGENDA ITEM 14: OTHER MATTERS

The Commission will consider any other matter.

AGENDA ITEM 15: SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC16

The Chair will outline the process for adoption of the Summary Report for WCPFC15. The Outcomes Document containing agreed decision points will be circulated within 7 working days following the close of the annual session. The draft Summary Report will be distributed as soon as it is available and delegations will be given 30 working days after circulation to provide any changes. The complete Summary Report will be finalized intersessionally and posted on the Commission website and CCMs and Observers will be advised accordingly.

AGENDA ITEM 16: CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting is scheduled to close at 5pm on Wednesday 11th December 2019.