



**TO ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS, COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS,
PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS**

Circular No.: 2020/121

Date: 9 October 2020

No. pages: 09

WCPFC17 Provisional Agenda

Dear All,

I am pleased to enclose for distribution the Provisional Agenda for the online 17th Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC17). Also enclosed is the Provisional Annotated Agenda which includes commentaries on the scope and intent of each agenda item.

The Provisional Agenda was drawn up in close collaboration with the Commission Chair; Ms Jung-re Riley Kim. It takes into consideration the outcomes of the special Heads of Delegation meeting on the 15 July 2020 on meeting arrangements for online Commission-like meetings in 2020 as conveyed in Circular 2020/68 of 16 July 2020. The agenda is mindful of the constraints and limitations of the Zoom online meeting platform. It is also in adherence, to the extent feasible, with rule 2 of the WCPFC Rules of Procedure.

The Provisional Agenda includes all the decisions that the Commission is required to take in 2020 in order to ensure continuity of the Commission's work in 2021 and onward years, and to avoid any gaps in the Commission's conservation and management regime. It also includes issues that require progression in 2020, those that stand a realistic chance of resolution or substantial progression at the WCPFC17 meeting.

Despite the constraints of online meetings, CCMs with new proposals will be permitted to introduce them at the start of the meeting but the Commission is expected to determine how to progress those proposals.

The Provisional Agenda is submitted for your review and consideration. Any Member may under rule 3 of the Rules of Procedures request the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda at least thirty days (by 9th November 2020) before start of the WCPFC17 on 9th December 2020. Such a request shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the requested supplementary item.

The Provisional Agenda and Provisional Annotated Agenda are posted on the WCPFC17 website: <https://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/17th-regular-session-wcpfc>.

If there is any query or comment concerning this circular and Provisional Agenda, please direct it to me at feleti.teo@wcpfc.int.

Yours sincerely,



Feleti Penitala Teo, OBE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**COMMISSION
SEVENTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Electronic Meeting
8 – 15 December 2020

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**WCPFC17-2020-01
9 October 2020**

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

- 1.1 Adoption of agenda
- 1.2 Statements from Members and Participating Territories
- 1.3 Meeting arrangements
 - 1.3.1 Online meeting protocols
 - 1.3.2 Establishment of small working groups (CNMs, CMR, others)

AGENDA ITEM 2. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM 3. MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Status of the Convention
- 3.2 Update on Observer status
- 3.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status
 - 3.3.1 Participatory rights of CNMs

AGENDA ITEM 4. NEW PROPOSALS

AGENDA ITEM 5. INTERSESSIONAL DECISIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

AGENDA ITEM 6. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES

- 6.1 Implementation of Article 30 of WCPFC Convention and CMM 2013-07 (SIDS special requirements)
- 6.2 Updated Strategic Investment Plan

AGENDA ITEM 7: WCPO TUNA STOCKS

This agenda includes species-specific elements of the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06.

- 7.1 General overview of stock status (bigeye, skipjack, SP albacore, yellowfin, Pacific bluefin, and NP albacore)
- 7.2 Bigeye, Skipjack and Yellowfin
 - 7.2.1 Harvest strategies issues
 - 7.2.1.1 Review target reference point for skipjack
 - 7.2.1.2 Target reference points for bigeye and yellowfin
 - 7.2.2 Review of CMM 2018-01
 - 7.2.2.1 Purse seine effort limits for high seas
 - 7.2.2.2 Longline bigeye catch limits

- 7.2.2.3 Other commercial fisheries for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin
- 7.2.2.4 New CMM for tropical tunas
- 7.3 South Pacific Albacore
 - 7.3.1 Roadmap for effective conservation and management of SP albacore
 - 7.3.2 Review of CMM 2015-02
- 7.4 Pacific bluefin
 - 7.4.1 Review of CMM 2019-02

AGENDA ITEM 8: HARVEST STRATEGY

- 8.1 Review of Indicative Work Plan
- 8.2 Science-Management Dialogue

AGENDA ITEM 9: REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS

The reports of subsidiary bodies and intersessional working groups will be taken as read and will not be presented. Recommendations of those reports not addressed under other agenda items will be considered under this agenda item.

- 9.1 SC16
- 9.2 NC16
- 9.3 TCC16
- 9.4 Intersessional working groups
 - 9.4.1 E-reporting and E-monitoring
 - 9.4.2 FAD management options
 - 9.4.3 VMS data gap review
 - 9.4.4 Transshipment review

AGENDA ITEM 10: COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

- 10.1 Consideration and adoption of the Final Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR)
- 10.2 List of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2021
- 10.3 Review the workplan of tasks to enhance the Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS-IWG)

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE 2021 IUU VESSEL LIST

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE FAC14

- 12.1 Report of the Fourteenth Finance and Administration Committee
- 12.2 Budget for 2021 and Indicative Budgets for 2022 and 2023

AGENDA ITEM 13: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 13.1 Election of officers
- 13.2 Future meetings

AGENDA ITEM 14: OTHER MATTERS

AGENDA ITEM 15: SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC17

AGENDA ITEM 16: CLOSE OF MEETING



**COMMISSION
SEVENTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Electronic Meeting
8 – 15 December 2020

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

**WCPFC17-2020-02
9 October 2020**

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Commission Chair Ms Jung-re Riley Kim will open the online meeting on Wednesday 9th December 2020 (Pohnpei time) at a time to be designated.

1.1 Adoption of agenda

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

1.2 Statements from Members and Participating Territories

The Chair will request Members and Participating Territories with prepared general statements to circulate them for distribution in advance of the start of meeting.

1.3 Meeting arrangements

The Chair will explain the meeting arrangements and the meeting schedule.

1.3.1 Online meeting protocols

The Chair will explain the key online meeting protocols.

1.3.2 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's Annual Report will be posted onto the Online Discussion Forum for exchanges of views and comments and taken as read, however, comments and questions on the report may be entertained in plenary as necessary.

AGENDA ITEM 3. MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

3.1 Status of the Convention

New Zealand's report as the Depository on the status of the WCPF Convention will be taken as read, however, comments and questions on the report may be entertained as necessary.

3.2 Update on Observer status

The Secretariat's updated report on observer status will be taken as read, however, comments and questions on the report may be entertained as necessary.

3.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status

The Commission will consider and decide on the applications for CNM status for 2021, including the recommendations from TCC16 on those applications. A small working group is expected to review the applications and report back to plenary.

3.3.1 Participatory rights of CNMs

In accordance with paragraphs 12 and 13 of CMM 2019-01, the Commission will review the limits of participatory rights of CNMs under various CMMs.

AGENDA ITEM 4. NEW PROPOSALS

Mindful of the constraints of online meetings, Members with new proposals will be invited to briefly introduce them. The Commission is expected to consider how to progress discussions of those proposals.

AGENDA ITEM 5. INTERSESSIONAL DECISIONS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The Commission will review and discuss its intersessional decisions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other related issues.

AGENDA ITEM 6. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES

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

CCMs reports on assistance and contributions to support the special requirements of developing States as envisaged by article 30 of the WCPF Convention and CMM 2013-07 will be taken as read, however, comments and questions on those reports may be entertained as necessary.

6.2 Updated Strategic Investment Plan

The Secretariat's report on the updated status of the Strategic Investment Plan will be posted onto the Online Discussion Forum for exchange of views and comments and taken as read, however, comments and questions on the report may be entertained in plenary as necessary.

AGENDA ITEM 7: WCPO TUNA STOCKS

This agenda includes species-specific elements of the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06.

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

The Commission will receive brief presentations from SPC and ISC on the status of WCPO tuna stocks to set the scene for discussions under this agenda.

7.2 Bigeye, Skipjack and Yellowfin

7.2.1 Harvest strategies issues

7.2.1.1 Review target reference point for skipjack

The Commission will consider the advice and information from SC16 and the Scientific Services Provider on possible formulation of TRPs for skipjack.

7.2.1.2 Target reference points for bigeye and yellowfin

The Commission will review and consider the advice and information from SC16 and the Scientific Services Provider on potential TRPs for bigeye and yellowfin.

7.2.2 Review of CMM 2018-01

7.2.2.1 Purse seine effort limits for high seas

Despite paragraph 28 of CMM 2018-01 and due to the constraints of online meetings, the Commission will instead focus its attention on developing of a process to address the limit and allocation issues in the said paragraph.

7.2.2.2 Longline bigeye catch limits

Despite paragraph 44 of CMM 2018-01 and due to the constraints of online meetings, the Commission will instead focus its attention on developing of a process to address the limit and allocation issues in the said paragraph.

7.2.2.3 Other commercial fisheries for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin

The Commission will be invited to consider further the continued difficulty in assessing compliance with paragraphs 50 and 51 of CMM 2018-01.

7.2.2.4 New CMM for tropical tunas

The Commission is required to consider a successor CMM for CMM 2018-01 which will terminate after 10 February 2021.

7.3 South Pacific Albacore

7.3.1 Roadmap for effective conservation and management of SP albacore

The Commission will receive the report of the Intersessional Working Group tasked to develop the Roadmap for effective conservation and management of the South Pacific albacore stock.

7.3.2 Review of CMM 2015-02

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2015-02.

7.4 Pacific bluefin

7.4.1 Review of CMM 2019-02

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2019-02

AGENDA ITEM 8: HARVEST STRATEGY

8.1 Review of Indicative Work Plan

As required, the Commission is required to review and update the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan under CMM 2014-06 for 2021 and onward years.

8.2 Science-Management Dialogue

The updated discussion paper on a science management dialogue to facilitate the expeditious and efficient development and implementation of harvest strategies under the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan under CMM 2014-06 will be posted to the Online Discussion Forum for exchanges of views and comments. Outcome of those exchanges will be reported to plenary.

AGENDA ITEM 9: REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS

The reports of subsidiary bodies and intersessional working groups will be taken as read and will not be presented. Recommendations of those reports not addressed under other agenda items will be considered under this agenda item.

9.1 SC16

A list of SC16 recommendations for WCPFC17 not covered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.2 NC16

A list of NC16 recommendations for WCPFC17 not covered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.3 TCC16

A list of TCC16 recommendations for WCPFC17 not covered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.4 Intersessional working groups

9.4.1 E-Reporting and E-Monitoring

The Commission will receive a brief update report from the Chair of the ERandEM Working Group.

9.4.2 FAD Management Options

The Commission will receive a brief update report from the Chair of the FAD-MO Working Group.

9.4.3 VMS Data Gap Review

The Commission will receive a brief update report from the Chair of the VMS Data Gap Review Working Group.

9.4.4 Transshipment Review

The Commission will receive a brief update report from the Chair of the Transshipment Review Working Group.

AGENDA ITEM 10: COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

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

The Commission, pursuant to CMM 2019-06, will consider the provisional CMR recommended by TCC16 and taking into account additional information that may be provided by CCMs. A small working group will be established to consider the provisional CMR and compile a Final CMR for consideration and adoption at plenary.

10.2 List of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2021

The Commission, pursuant to CMM 2019-06, will decide on the List of Obligations to be reviewed by the compliance monitoring scheme in 2021.

10.3 Review the workplan of tasks to enhance the Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS-IWG)

The Commission will receive an update report from the CMS-IWG and is expected to focus its attention on the process for progressing the workplan of future tasks to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the compliance monitoring scheme.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE 2021 IUU VESSEL LIST

In accordance with CMM 2019-07, the Commission will consider and adopt the WCPFC 2021 IUU Vessel List.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE FAC14

12.1 Report of the Fourteenth Finance and Administration Committee

The Commission will receive and consider a brief summary of the FAC14 Report.

12.2 Budget for 2021 and Indicative Budgets for 2022 and 2023

The Commission will consider for adoption the Budget for 2021 and indicative budgets for 2022 and 2023.

AGENDA ITEM 13: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

13.1 Election of officers

The Commission will consider the appointment of the following officers:

- a) WCPFC Chair;
- b) WCPFC Vice Chair;
- c) TCC Chair;
- d) TCC Vice Chair;
- e) NC Chair; and
- f) NC Vice Chair

13.2 Future meetings

The Commission will decide the venue and dates for its next meeting and those of its subsidiary bodies and working groups if required.

AGENDA ITEM 14: OTHER MATTERS

Due to the constraint of online meetings, CCMs are respectfully asked to advise the Secretariat of any issue they wish to raise under this agenda item by close of business on Tuesday 16th November 2020 (Pohnpei time). Issues advised after the due date will not be entertained.

AGENDA ITEM 15: SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC17

The Chair will explain the process for the distribution of the Outcomes Document of the WCPFC17 meeting and the adoption out of session of its Summary Report

AGENDA ITEM 16: CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting is scheduled to close on Tuesday 15th December 2020 (Pohnpei time).