



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

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WCPFC18 Provisional Agenda

Dear All,

I am pleased to circulate the Provisional Agenda for the online 18th Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC18). Also enclosed in this circular is the Provisional Annotated Agenda which explains the intent and scope 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 account the outcomes of the special Heads of Delegation meeting on the 15 July 2020 on meeting arrangements for online Commission-like meetings 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, and it is also in adherence, to the extent feasible, with rule 2 of the WCPFC Rules of Procedure.

The Provisional Agenda include all the decisions that the Commission is required to take in 2021 to ensure continuity of the Commission's work in 2022 and onward years and to avoid any gaps in the Commission's conservation and management regime. The Chair's proposal for a new tropical tuna measure is a key focus of the meeting and agenda 7 is organised to facilitate efficient coverage of that proposal. The agenda also includes issues that require progression in 2021, those that stand a realistic chance of resolution or substantial progression at the WCPFC18 meeting.

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

The Provisional Agenda is submitted for your review and consideration. Any Member, pursuant to rule 3 of the Rules of Procedures, may request the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda at least thirty days (by **1st November 2021**) before start of the WCPFC18 on 1st December 2021. Such a request shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the requested supplementary item.

The Provisional Agenda and Provisional Annotated Agenda are also posted on the WCPFC18 website: <https://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/18th-regular-session-wcpfc>.

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

Yours sincerely,



Feleti Penitala Teo, OBE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**COMMISSION
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Electronic Meeting
1 – 7 December 2021

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**WCPFC18-2021-01
5th October 2021**

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 AND BILLFISH STOCKS

- 7.1 General overview of the status of WCPO stocks
- 7.2 Bigeye, Skipjack and Yellowfin
 - 7.2.1 Harvest Strategy issues
 - 7.2.1.1 Review target reference point for skipjack
 - 7.2.1.2 Review target reference point for bigeye and yellowfin
 - 7.2.1.3 Management procedures for skipjack
 - 7.2.2 Proposed New Measure for Tropical Tuna
 - 7.2.2.1 SSP Analysis of Requests by TTMW2
 - 7.2.2.2 Report of the FAD-MO IWG
 - 7.2.3 Other commercial fisheries for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin

- 7.3 South Pacific Albacore
 - 7.3.1 Review of the interim target reference point
 - 7.3.2 Roadmap for effective conservation and management of SP albacore
 - 7.3.3 Review of CMM 2015-02
- 7.4 Pacific bluefin tuna
 - 7.4.1 Review of CMM 2019-02
- 7.5 Southwest Pacific swordfish
 - 7.5.1 Future projections as requested by WCPFC16
 - 7.5.2 Review of CMM 2009-03

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 under this agenda will be taken as read. Only recommendations of the reports not addressed under other agenda items will be considered under this agenda item.

- 9.1 SC17
- 9.2 TCC17
- 9.3 NCC17
- 9.4 Intersessional working groups and intersessional work
 - 9.4.1 E-reporting and E-monitoring (ERandEM WG)
 - 9.4.2 Transshipment review (TS IWG)
 - 9.4.3 Crew labour standards

AGENDA ITEM 10: COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

- 10.1 Consideration and adoption of the Final Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR)
- 10.2 Work to progress the CMS future work included in Section IX of CMM 2019-06 Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS-IWG)
- 10.3 Expiry of CMM 2019-06
- 10.4 List of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2022

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE 2022 IUU VESSEL LIST

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE FAC15

- 12.1 Report of the Fifteenth Finance and Administration Committee
- 12.2 Budget for 2022 and Indicative Budgets for 2023 and 2024

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 WCPFC18

AGENDA ITEM 16: CLOSE OF MEETING



**COMMISSION
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Electronic Meeting
1 – 7 December 2021

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

**WCPFC18-2021-01
5th October 2021**

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Commission Chair, Ms Jung-re Riley Kim (Korea) will open the meeting on Wednesday 1st December 2021 (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 statements to provide copies to the Secretariat for distribution in advance of meeting and not necessarily to be read out.

1.3 Meeting arrangements

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

1.3.1 Online meeting protocols

The Chair will, with the assistance of the Secretariat, explain the key online meeting protocols.

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

The Commission will consider the need to establish small working groups to progress consideration of specific issues and report back to plenary, and their working arrangements.

AGENDA ITEM 2. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director's Annual Report will be posted on to the Online Discussion Forum for exchange of views and comments and taken as read, however, further 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

The Report by the Depository (New Zealand) of the WCPF Convention will be taken as read, however, comments and questions on the report may be entertained in plenary 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 in plenary as necessary.

3.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status

The Commission will consider and decide on the applications for CNM status in 2022, including the recommendations from TCC17 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 the various CMMs.

AGENDA ITEM 4. NEW PROPOSALS

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

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

The Commission will review and decide on its intersessional decisions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and 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)

The Commission will consider the reports of CCMs in support of the special requirements of developing States as envisaged by article 30 of the WCPF Convention and CMM 2013-07. The reports will be taken as read, however, comments and questions on the reports may be entertained in plenary as necessary.

6.2 Updated Strategic Investment Plan

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

AGENDA ITEM 7: WCPO TUNA AND BILLFISH STOCKS

7.1 General overview of status of WCPO stocks

The Commission will receive brief updates from the Scientific Services Provider (SSP) and ISC on the status of the WCPO tuna and billfish stocks to set the scene for this agenda.

7.2 Bigeye, Skipjack and Yellowfin

The Commission will consider the various issues concerning the management of the tropical tuna stocks with the main focus on the development of the new tropical tuna measure.

7.2.1 Harvest Strategy issues

With the main focus of WCPFC18 on the new tropical tuna measure, the Commission will consider these elements of the harvest strategy work plan as they relate the new tropical tuna measure.

7.2.1.1 Review target reference point for skipjack

The Commission will consider the advice and information from SC17 and the SSP on possible formulation of a target reference point for skipjack.

7.2.1.2 Review target reference point for bigeye and yellowfin

The Commission will consider the advice and information from SC17 and the SSP on possible formulation of target reference points for bigeye and yellowfin, including the results of further analysis requested by SC17 related to the impact of candidate bigeye and yellowfin TRPs on the SP albacore stock (Para 85, SC17 Outcomes Document).

7.2.1.3 Management procedures for skipjack

As required by the Indicative Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategy under CMM 2014-06, the Commission is expected to consider in 2021 management procedures for skipjack. With the focus on the new tropical tuna measure, the Commission may consider deferring this work to 2022.

7.2.2 Proposed New Measure for Tropical Tuna

The Chair will present the Chair's proposal for a new tropical tuna measure. The Chair's proposed new tropical tuna measure is a culmination of two dedicated workshops to develop a new tropical tuna measure and a series of intersessional consultations between and among CCMs and between the Chair and CCMs. The Commission will receive the following two reports, before working its way through the Chair's proposal.

7.2.2.1 SSP Analysis of Requests by TTMW2

The SSP will present the outcomes of its analysis of the requests that were provided to it by the second workshop to develop the new tropical tuna measure (TTMW2).

7.2.2.2 Report of the FAD-MO IWG

The Commission will consider the aspects of the report of the FAD Management Options Intersessional Working Group that relate to the FAD provisions of the new tropical tuna measure.

7.2.3 Other commercial fisheries for bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin

The Commission will consider the advice of SC17 and TCC17 on the implementation of paragraphs 50 and 51 of CMM 2020-01.

7.3 South Pacific Albacore

7.3.1 Review of the interim target reference point

The Commission will review the interim target reference point for South Pacific albacore taking into account the advice of SC17 (Para 27, SC17 Outcomes Document) related to a recalibration of the interim TRP in accordance with the process agreed at WCPFC15 (Para 207, WCPFC15 Summary Report).

7.3.2 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 the effective conservation and management of the South Pacific albacore stock.

7.3.3 Review of CMM 2015-02

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

7.4 Pacific bluefin tuna

7.4.1 Review of CMM 2019-02

The Commission will be invited to review any updates on CMM 2019-02.

7.5 Southwest Pacific swordfish

7.5.1 Future projections as requested by WCPFC16

The Commission will consider the SC17 advice and results of the future projections for Southwest Pacific swordfish as tasked by WCPFC16 (para 481, WCPFC16 Summary Report) and SC17 (para 69-71, SC17 Outcomes Document).

7.5.2 Review of CMM 2009-03

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2009-03.

AGENDA ITEM 8: HARVEST STRATEGY

8.1 Review of Indicative Work Plan

As required, the Commission is to review and update the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan under CMM 2014-06 for 2022 and onward years.

8.2 Science-Management Dialogue

The Commission to consider the views expressed at SC17 (Paras 101 and 111, SC17 Outcomes Document) on the utility of convening a science-management dialogue to expedite the progress and implementation of the Indicative Harvest Strategy Work Plan.

AGENDA ITEM 9: REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS

The reports under this agenda will be taken as read. Only recommendations of the reports not addressed under other agenda items will be considered under this agenda item.

9.1 SC17

A list of SC17 recommendations to WCPFC18 not considered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.2 TCC17

A list of TCC17 recommendations to WCPFC18 not considered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.3 NCC17

A list of NC17 recommendations to WCPFC18 not considered under other agenda items will be presented for the Commission's consideration and decision.

9.4 Intersessional working groups and intersessional work

9.4.1 E-reporting and E-monitoring (ERandEM WG)

The Commission will receive a brief update from the Chair of the ERandEM WG.

9.4.2 Transshipment review (TS IWG)

The Commission will receive a brief update from the Chair of the TS IWG.

9.4.3 Crew labour standards

The Commission will receive a brief update from the Co-Leads of the intersessional work on crew labour standards.

AGENDA ITEM 10: COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

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

The Commission will, pursuant to CMM 2019-06, consider the provisional CMR recommended by TCC17 and also taking into account additional information that may be provided by CCMs. A small working group is expected to be established to consider the provisional CMR and compile a Final CMR for the consideration and adoption by the Commission in plenary.

10.2 Work to progress the CMS future work included in Section IX of CMM 2019-06 Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS-IWG)

The Commission will receive a brief update from the Chair of the CMS-IWG on progress of work streams under Section IX of CMM 2019-06 to reform and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the compliance monitoring scheme.

10.3 Expiry of CMM 2019-06

The Commission is to consider a successor measure to ensure the continued operation of the CMS beyond the expiry of CMM 2019-06 on 31st December 2021.

10.4 List of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2022

The Commission to decide, pursuant to CMM 2019-06, on the List of Obligations to be reviewed by the compliance monitoring scheme in 2022.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE 2022 IUU VESSEL LIST

The Commission will consider and adopt, pursuant to CMM 2019-07, the WCPFC 2022 IUU Vessel List.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE FAC15

12.1 Report of the Fifteenth Finance and Administration Committee

The Commission will receive and consider a brief summary of the FAC15 Report.

12.2 Budget for 2022 and Indicative Budgets for 2023 and 2024

The Commission will consider for adoption the Budget for 2022 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) SC Chair;
- b) SC Vice Chair; and
- c) FAC C0-Chair

13.2 Future meetings

The Commission will consider the venues 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 constraints of online meeting, 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 16 November 2021** (Pohnpei time). Issues advised after due date may not be entertained.

AGENDA ITEM 15: SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC18

The Chair will explain the process for the distribution of the Outcomes Document of the WCPFC18 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 7 December 2021 (Pohnpei time).