

**NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**TENTH REGULAR SESSION**

1-4 September 2014

Fukuoka, Japan

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**WCPFC-NC10-2014/03**

1. **OPENING OF MEETING**
   1. **Welcome**

The Chair Masanori Miyahara (Japan) will open the Tenth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC10) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), 1-4 September 2014. He will welcome delegations of WCPFC Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) and observers.

* 1. **Adoption of agenda**

The Chair will introduce the Provisional Agenda, WCPFC-NC10-2014/03. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission will apply *mutatus mutandis* until such time as the Northern Committee adopts its own Rules of Procedure (Rule 31).

According to the Rules of Procedure, the Committee will be asked how it wishes to deal with any supplementary items that were circulated by any member of the Commission, the Chairman, or the Executive Director at least thirty days before the opening of the meeting.

Other matters to be discussed, under Agenda Item 8, may be proposed here.

* 1. **Meeting arrangements**

The Chair will invite NC10 to review the Indicative Schedule (WCPFC-NC10-2014/04) noting logistical arrangements in place to support the meeting, meeting schedule, and any social engagements.

1. **CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES**
   1. **Report from the Fourteenth Meeting of the International Scientific Committee**

NC10 will review the meeting report of the 14th Meeting of the International Scientific Committee (ISC14), especially the status of stocks of highly migratory species in the North Pacific Ocean. NC10 will consider relevant issues arising from ISC14 and make recommendations, under Agenda Item 2.3, as appropriate, to the Commission on conservation and management measures with respect to the following northern stocks:

* Pacific bluefin tuna
* North Pacific albacore
* North Pacific swordfish
  1. **Report of the Tenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee**

NC10 will review the meeting report and issues arising from the Tenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC10), Majuro, Republic of Marshall Islands, 6-14 August 2014 as they relate to the Northern Committee.

* 1. **Conservation and management measures for the northern stocks**

Paragraph 4 of theRules of procedure relating to the Northern Committee (Annex I, Rules of Procedure of the Commission) states that “The Northern Committee shall, by consensus, make recommendations on the implementation for the area north of 20° north parallel of such conservation and management measures as may be adopted by the Commission.”

* + 1. **Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM 2013-09)**

By 31 July 2014, NC members are, under paragraph 8, tasked to submit reports to the Executive Director relating to:

1. measures they used to implement paragraph 2, 3, 6, 10 and 11 of the CMM; and
2. results from monitoring the international trade of the products derived from Pacific bluefin tuna.

NC10 shall review those reports that CCMs submitted pursuant to this paragraph.

NC10 shall review this CMM based on the updated stock assessment and results of *WCPFC10-2013/DP-31* (NC request to the ISC regarding Pacific bluefin tuna), and take further actions including substantial catch reduction of juveniles (age 0-3 (less than 30 kg)). NC10 will consider 2014 NC Work Programme listed below:

* + - * Review reports from CCMs on their domestic management measures and trade.
      * Obtain and review an updated assessment and establish a rebuilding program with interim target and limit levels as well as emergency measures in case of recruitment drop and, as appropriate, CDS.
      * Recommend a new CMM in accordance with the rebuilding program
    1. **North Pacific albacore (CMM 2005-03)**

NC10 will review the results of 2014 stock assessments for North Pacific albacore and revisit Attachment G of NC9 Summary Report (Precautionary management framework for North Pacific albacore).

NC10 will review the current interim management objective (Para 34, NC6 Summary Report) and recommend to the Commission if necessary, appropriate reference points and any actions that will be taken in the event each of the particular limit reference point is breached.

NC10 will consider the 2014 NC Work Programme listed below:

1. Review of members’ reports on their implementation of CMM 2005-03, including:
2. Estimation of the proportion of the total catch of albacore in the North Pacific Ocean (in the Convention Area, and/or across the entire North Pacific Ocean, as appropriate) that is effectively subject to the effort limits mandated in the CMM.
3. Determination of how total effort across those fisheries has changed from 2002 through 2010 through a review of members’ reports of annual fishing effort by their vessels “fishing for” North Pacific albacore fisheries.
4. Establishment of a precautionary approach-based management framework, including:
5. recommend appropriate reference points;
6. agree in advance to actions that will be taken in the event that each of the particular limit reference points is breached (decision rules); and
7. recommend any changes to CMM 2005-03
   * 1. **North Pacific swordfish**

NC10 will review an updated stock assessment from ISC and discuss interim management objective and reference points in light of ISC for finalization.

* 1. **Conservation and management measures for other stocks**
     1. **Bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas (CMM 2013-01)**

WCPFC10 adopted CMM 2013-01 (CMM for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean) and NC10 will consider any issues related to, or any impacts of, CMM 2013-01 on tuna fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean north of 20ºN.

* + 1. **North Pacific striped marlin (CMM 2010-01)**

NC10 will consider new information if any for the review of this measure.

* + 1. **Sharks (CMM 2010-07, CMM 2011-04, CMM 2012-04 and CMM 2013-08)**

WCPFC adopted four shark-related measures. NC10 will review assessments and scientific advice for shark stocks, including blue shark in the North Pacific Ocean, and consider management options if needed for relevant shark stocks.

Subject to SC10’s output, NC10 will further consider whether North Pacific blue shark should be a northern stock.

* + 1. **Seabirds (CMM 2012-07)**

NC10 will receive reports from NC CCMs on the implementation of CMM 2012-07, as well as the status of introducing the mitigation measures to their fleets as required at paragraph 10 of the Measure for the area north of 23°N.

* + 1. **Sea turtles (CMM 2008-03)**

NC10 will review any mitigation research results if available and consider management actions to be further taken.

1. **REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME**

Paragraph 4 of theRules of procedure relating to the Northern Committee (Annex I, Rules of Procedure of the Commission) states that “The Northern Committee shall, by consensus, make recommendations on the implementation for the area north of 20° north parallel of such conservation and management measures as may be adopted by the Commission.”

WCPFC9 adopted CMM 2012-03, which states at paragraph 1, “no later than 31 December 2014, CCMs shall commence implementation of observer programmes for fishing vessels used to fish for fresh fish beyond the national jurisdictions in the area north of 20 degrees north.” NC10 will review implementation of ROP for fishing vessels operating in the area north of 20ºN.

1. **Vessel monitoring system**

Paragraph 4 of the Rules of procedure relating to the Northern Committee (Annex I, Rules of Procedure of the Commission) states that “The Northern Committee shall, by consensus, make recommendations on the implementation for the area north of 20° north parallel of such conservation and management measures as may be adopted by the Commission.”

CMM 2011-02, which replaced CMM 2007-02, states at paragraph 3 “With respect to the area north of 20°N and west of 175°E, the system will be activated at a date to be determined by the Commission.” WCPFC9 endorsed the NC Members commitment to implement VMS in the area north of 20°N and west of 175°E by 31 December 2013 (Para 285, WCPFC9 Report). NC10 will review the implementation of the VMS in the area north of 20°N and west of 175°E.

1. **DATA**
   1. **Review of the status of data and data gaps for northern stocks**

NC Work Programme requests 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 and North Pacific swordfish.

NC10 will review the progress of data submission and identify any further data gaps.

1. **COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**
   1. **ISC**

NC10 will exchange views on further efforts to strengthen the cooperation with ISC.

* 1. **IATTC**

NC10 will exchange views on cooperation with IATTC, especially in relation to Pacific bluefin tuna and North Pacific albacore.

1. **FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**
   1. **Work Programme for 2015-2017**

The Committee will review, and revise as needed, its Work Programme adopted at NC10.

1. **OTHER MATTERS**
   1. **Administrative arrangements for the Committee**
      1. **Secretariat functions and costs**

NC10 is invited to review and further consider the development of the NC Secretariat, if needed, and costs related with NC activities.

* + 1. **Rules of Procedure**

Subject to any proposals tabled by CCMs, NC10 will consider Rules of Procedure for NC

* 1. **Next meeting**

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

* 1. **Other business**

NC10 will discuss any other business raised under Agenda Item 1.2.

1. **Adoption of the Summary Report of the TENTH Regular Session of the Northern Committee and recommendations to the Commission**

NC10 will adopt the Summary Report of its Tenth 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.

1. **CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting is scheduled to close on 4 September 2014.