

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Koror, Palau

16 – 24 August 2023

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**WCPFC-SC19-2023/02 (Rev.01)**

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**
         1. Data gaps
         2. Updates on data-related projects
         3. Minimum data reporting requirements
         4. Frequent submission of operational catch and effort data
      2. **Bycatch estimates of longline fishery**
   2. **Regional Observer Programme**
      1. **Review of observer training project for elasmobranch biological sampling (Project 109)**
      2. **ROP Data Issues**
   3. **Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring (ER and EM)**
   4. **Economic data**
   5. **Baseline period or limit of the Indonesian Large Fish Handline Fishery**
4. **STOCK ASSESSMENT THEME** 
   1. **Independent review of recent WCPO Yellowfin tuna assessment**
   2. **Improvement of MULTIFAN-CL software**
   3. **WCPO tunas**
      1. **WCPO yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*)**
         1. Research and information
      2. Review of 2023 yellowfin tuna stock assessment
         1. Provision of scientific information
5. Status and trends
6. Management advice and implications
   * 1. **WCPO bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*)** 
        1. Research and information
     2. Review of 2023 bigeye tuna stock assessment
        1. Provision of scientific information
7. Stock status and trends
8. Management advice and implications
   * 1. **WCPO skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)**
        1. Research and information
9. Indicator analysis
10. Update of skipjack tuna stock assessment information
    * 1. **South Pacific albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*)**
         1. Research and information
    1. Indicator analysis
    2. **Northern stocks** 
       1. **North Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*)** 
          1. Research and information
    3. North Pacific albacore stock assessment
       * 1. Provision of scientific information
11. Status and trends
12. Management advice and implications
    * 1. **Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*)** 
         1. Research and information
13. Update of Pacific bluefin tuna stock assessment information
    * 1. **North Pacific swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*)**
         1. Research and information
14. North Pacific swordfish stock assessment
    * + 1. Provision of scientific information
15. Status and trends
16. Management advice and implications
    1. **WCPO sharks** 
       1. **Silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*)**
          1. Research and information
17. Silky shark stock assessment in the WCPO (Project 108)
    1. **WCPO billfishes**
       1. **North Pacific striped marlin (*Kajikia audax*)**
          1. Research and information
18. North Pacific striped marlin stock assessment
    * + 1. Provision of scientific information
19. Status and trends
20. Management advice and implications
    1. **Projects and Requests**
       1. **Characterization of stock assessment uncertainty (Project 113)**
       2. **Application of Close-Kin-Mark-Recapture Methods (Project 100c)**
       3. **Options to provide information to the Scientific Committee**
       4. **Tuna Research Plan**
       5. **Billfish Research Plan (Project 112)**
       6. **Reproductive biology of yellowfin tuna**
21. **MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME**
    1. **Development of harvest strategy framework for key tuna species**
22. **Skipjack tuna**
    * + 1. Implementation of management procedure for WCPO skipjack tuna
        2. Monitoring strategy for WCPO skipjack tuna
23. **South Pacific albacore tuna**
    * + 1. Target reference point (TRP)
        2. SP Albacore operating models
        3. SP Albacore management procedures
24. **Mixed fishery MSE framework**
25. **Progress of the WCPFC Harvest Strategy Work Plan**
    1. **Implementation of CMM 2021-01**
       1. **Review of effectiveness of CMM 2021-01**
       2. Review of Project 77
26. **ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME** 
    1. **Ecosystem and Climate Indicators**
    2. **FAD impacts** 
       1. **Research on non-entangling and biodegradable FADs (Project 110)**
       2. **FAD Management Options IWG Issues**
    3. **Sharks** 
       1. **Review of conservation and management measures for sharks**
       2. **Mid-term Review of 2021-2025 Shark Research Plan (Project 97b)**
    4. **Seabirds** 
       1. **Review of seabird research**
       2. **Review of CMM on seabirds (CMM 2018-03)**
    5. **Sea turtles**

**6.5.1 Review of sea turtle research**

**6.5.2 Review of Conservation and Management of Sea Turtles (CMM 2018-04)**

* 1. **Cetaceans**
  2. **Bycatch management**

1. **OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS**
   1. **Pacific Marine Specimen Bank (Project 35b)**
   2. **Pacific Tuna Tagging Project (Project 42)**
   3. **West Pacific East Asia Project**
   4. **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 2024 work programme and budget, and projection of 2025-2026 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 NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
8. **CLOSE OF MEETING**