

**NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**THIRTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

28 August – 1 September 2017

Busan, Republic of Korea

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**WCPFC-NC13-2017/03**

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

The Chair Masanori Miyahara (Japan) will open the Thirteenth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC13) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), in Busan, Korea, 28 August – 1 September 2017. He will welcome delegations of Northern Committee Members and observers.

A senior official from the Republic of Korea and the WCPFC Commission representatives will be invited to deliver an opening address.

* 1. **Adoption of agenda**

The Chair will introduce the Provisional Agenda, WCPFC-NC13-2017/02.

* 1. **Meeting arrangements**

The Chair will invite NC13 to review the Indicative Schedule (WCPFC-NC13-2017/04), logistical arrangements in place to support the meeting, and any social engagements.

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

NC13 will review the meeting report of the 17th Meeting of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC17), especially the status of stocks of highly migratory species in the North Pacific Ocean.

* 1. **Report of the Thirteenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee**

NC13 will review issues arising from the Thirteenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC13, Rarotonga, 9-17 August 2017) as they relate to the Northern Committee.

* 1. **Conservation and management measures for the northern stocks**
     1. **Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM 2016-04)**

According to the work programme, tasks of NC13 include:

1. Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.
2. Develop emergency measures in case of recruitment collapse.
3. Develop CDS based on the inputs from members.
4. Develop the management framework including reference points and harvest control rules and recommend any changes to the rebuilding program and CMM (Task (1) recommend appropriate reference points; (2) agree in advance to actions that will be taken in the event each of the particular limit reference points is breached (decision rules) and other elements of harvest strategies, if appropriate; (3) adopt step-wise rebuilding targets; (4) recommend any changes to the rebuilding program and CMM).
5. Consider the outcomes of ISC analysis of performance of harvest scenarios.
6. Adopt second rebuilding target to be achieved by 2030.

All the items except (1) will be discussed in the Joint Working Group Meeting between NC and IATTC.

In doing so, NC13 will also consider the following suggestions from WCPFC13 (Paragraph 561, WCPFC13 Summary Report):

* That NC13 develop conservation and management measures for adoption at WCPFC14 to rebuild the stock to 20% SBF=0 levels at the latest by 2034;
* That NC13 develop an emergency rule to be adopted at WCPFC14 which stipulates specific rules all CCMs shall comply with when drastic drops in recruitment are detected.
  + - 1. Review of CCM report

By 31 July 2017, NC members are, under paragraph 12, tasked to submit reports to the Executive Director relating to:

1. measures related to paragraphs 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 14 of the CMM; and
2. results from monitoring the international trade of the products derived from Pacific bluefin tuna.

NC13 will review reports from CCMs on their domestic management measures and trade, and may suggest actions for CCMs to enhance their compliance with this CMM.

* + - 1. Joint Working Group Meeting between NC and IATTC on Pacific bluefin tuna conservation management

NC13 will review the report from the Joint Working Group Meeting between NC and IATTC to be held during the NC13, and adopt results of the joint meeting as recommendations for WCPFC14.

* + 1. **North Pacific albacore (CMM 2005-03)**

According to the work programme, tasks of NC13 for 2017 include:

1. Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.
2. Continue to support ISC MSE work to complete Task (B)(2).
3. Obtain the new assessment results from ISC and recommend any necessary changes to CMM2005-03.
   * + 1. Review of CCM report

NC13 will review the compiled members’ reports on catch and effort data based on CMM 2005-03 on NP albacore, and identify and rectify any shortcomings.

* + - 1. Precautionary management framework

NC13 will review the progress of ISC’s management strategy evaluation (MSE) process for North Pacific albacore, and provide recommendations to ISC for further task.

* + - 1. Review of the conservation and management measure

NC13 will review the results of 2017 North Pacific albacore stock assessment, consider any proposals, and recommend a revised or new CMM for the North Pacific albacore stock as appropriate.

* + 1. **North Pacific swordfish**

NC13 will consider any proposals, and recommend a new CMM for the North Pacific swordfish stock as required.

In accordance with the work programme, tasks of NC13 include finalization of an interim management objective and reference points.

* 1. **Conservation and management measures for other stocks**
     1. **Bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas (CMM 2016-01)**

WCPFC13 adopted CMM 2016-01 (*CMM for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean*). NC13 will consider any issues related to, or any impacts of, CMM 2016-01 on tuna fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean north of 20ºN.

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

NC12 noted from the ISC Chair’s report that North Pacific striped marlin is experiencing overfishing and the stock is overfished, and urged the Commission to develop a rebuilding plan for the stock as a matter of priority.

Through its work plan, NC encouraged all CCMs to submit North Pacific striped marlin data to the Commission, and make available to ISC.

* + 1. **Sharks (CMM 2010-07, CMM 2011-04, CMM 2012-04, CMM 2013-08 and CMM 2014-05)**

The Commission adopted five shark-related measures. NC13 will review any updated information from ISC, and consider 2017 NC work programme related to management options on two shark species (blue shark and shortfin mako shark) and submission of all shark data to ISC.

NC13 notes that “*WCPFC13 requested that SC13 and TCC13, with support from the Secretariat, work towards the development of a comprehensive approach to shark and ray conservation and management with a view to adopting a new CMM at the Commission’s annual meeting in 2018*” (Paragraph 507, WCPFC13 Summary Report).

* + 1. **Seabirds (CMM 2015-03)**

CMM 2015-03 came into effect on 1 January 2017; until then, all the provisions of CMM 2012-07 remained in effect.

NC12 encouraged its member to submit information regarding the implementation of new seabird mitigation measure for small scale vessels to NC13. NC13 will review the reports from NC Members.

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

NC13 will review any mitigation research results if available and consider possible management actions, noting the results of a workshop on Joint Analysis of Sea Turtle Mitigation Effectiveness at <https://www.wcpfc.int/node/28673>.

NC13 also notes the launch of a new website for the Bycatch Management Information System at <https://www.wcpfc.int/bycatch-management>.

1. **REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAMME**

NC13 will review implementation of regional observer programme for fishing vessels operating in the area north of 20ºN.

1. **Vessel monitoring system**

NC13 will review implementation of vessel monitoring system for fishing vessels operating in north of 20°N.

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

The NC Work Programme calls for 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, North Pacific striped marlin, and swordfish data and to make them available to the ISC.

NC13 will review the progress of data submission and identify any additional data gaps.

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

NC13 will exchange views on further efforts to strengthen the cooperation with ISC.

* 1. **IATTC**

NC13 will continue to 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 2018-2020**

The Committee will review, and revise as needed, its Work Programme for 2018-2020.

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

NC13 is invited to review and further consider the operation of the NC Secretariat, and costs related with NC activities.

* + 1. **Rules of Procedure**

Subject to any proposals tabled by CCMs, NC13 will consider Rules of Procedure for NC

* 1. **Next meeting**

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

* 1. **Other business**

NC13 will discuss any other business raised under Agenda Item 1.2.

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

NC13 will adopt the Summary Report of its Thirteenth 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 1 September 2017.