**Explanatory Note from the Chair on Rev4 of the Draft Bridging Measure**

The objective of the Draft Bridging Measure on Tropical Tunas (Consultative Draft) is to provide a bridge between the existing CMM 2016-01 which is due to expire after December 2017, and the harvest strategy framework that was agreed by the Commission in CMM 2014-06 and currently under development.

Rev4 of the draft bridging measure (attached at Annex 1) is a compilation of the views provided by CCMs and set out in Rev3 (including input provided during WCPFC13), as well as proposals received since then from the United States.

The approach taken in the drafting of Rev4 is as follows:

* A combined focus on species-based and fishery-based management to reflect the Harvest Strategy Framework approach and the multi-species nature of the fisheries managed by the Commission.
* Paragraphs are numbered sequentially for ease of reference. However, as there are alternative suggested approaches, the paragraph numbers will need to be corrected in subsequent drafts.
* A separate Comparison Document has been prepared that includes the full text of CMM 2016-01 and the status of each paragraph --compared to Rev4-- reflected in the margin.
* Amendments to draft text of Rev3 are included in Rev4 as additions in underlining, deletions in ~~strikethrough~~.
* Rev 4 includes alternative sets of proposals in square brackets as ALT 1, ALT 2 etc. This is for ease of discussion on alternative proposals on the same matter.
* Where a CCM has proposed particular wording for a proposal, this has been included in Rev4 as an attributed proposal in square brackets. Any associated justification for proposals has not been included in Rev 4. Rev3 and earlier versions of the Consultative Draft will serve as reference documents, as appropriate.
* Where a CCM has made a proposal, or expressed a view but has not provided specific wording, the proposal has been included in Rev4 with the Chair’s best attempt at drafting the proposal in square brackets.
* Where proposals are in square brackets it is understood that CCMs may disagree with the proposal, but a CCM’s stated opposition to particular proposals has not been included in Rev4.
* In general, exemptions to particular provisions have not been included in Rev4, unless specifically proposed by a CCM in Rev3, in light of the concern expressed by a number of CCMs over exemptions. The Chair also explained in the original draft bridging measure that all exemptions were excluded with the expectation that continued exemptions would be the subject of negotiation.
* The MCS and Other Provisions of CMM 2016-01 remain omitted from Rev 4 (see WCPFC Circular 2017/31 for exact provisions). A separate discussion on these provisions is scheduled for the intersessional meeting.
* All references to South Pacific albacore have been deleted following the consensus to develop a separate CMM on South Pacific albacore.

**ANNEX 1**

**PREAMBLE**

*The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC):*

***Recalling*** that since 1999, in the Multilateral High Level Conferences, the Preparatory Conferences, and in the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (the Commission), a number of resolutions and Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) have been developed to prevent or mitigate the overfishing of bigeye and yellowfin tuna and to limit the growth of fishing capacity in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and that these measures have been unsuccessful in either restricting the apparent growth of fishing capacity or in reducing the fishing mortality of bigeye or juvenile yellowfin tuna;

***Recalling*** that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (the Convention) is to ensure through effective management, the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the highly migratory fish stocks of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean in accordance with the 1982 Convention and the Agreement;

***Recalling further*** the final statement of the Chairman of the Multilateral High Level Conferences in 2000 that: “It is important to clarify, however, that the Convention applies to the waters of the Pacific Ocean. In particular, the western side of the Convention Area is not intended to include waters of South-East Asia which are not part of the Pacific Ocean, nor is it intended to include waters of the South China Sea as this would involve States which are not participants in the Conference” (Report of the Seventh and Final Session, 30th August- 5 September 2000, p.29);

***Recognizing*** that the Scientific Committee has determined that the bigeye stock is overfished, requiring reductions in fishing mortality to rebuild the stock; and that the yellowfin stock is currently being fished at capacity, requiring prevention of any further increases in fishing mortality to ensure that the stock remains at or above levels consistent with MSY; and that skipjack is currently moderately exploited and fishing mortality level is sustainable. (***Note***: *this will be revisited to reflect stock status following the 2017 assessment.*)

***Recognizing further*** the interactions that occur between the fisheries for bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tuna;

***Noting*** that Article 30(1) of the Convention requires the Commission to give full recognition to the special requirements of developing States that are Parties to the Convention, in particular small island developing States and Territories and possessions, in relation to the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area and development of fisheries on such stocks, including the provision of financial, scientific, and technological assistance;

***Noting further*** that Article 30(2) of the Convention requires the Commission to take into account the special requirements of developing States, in particular Small Island developing States and Territories. This includes ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by it do not result in transferring, directly or indirectly, a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, Parties, and Territories;

***Noting*** thatArticle 8(1) of the Convention which requires compatibility of conservation and management measures established for the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction;

***Recalling*** Article 8(4) of the Convention which requires the Commission to pay special attention to the high seas in the Convention Area that are surrounded by exclusive economic zones (EEZs);

***Noting*** that the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) have adopted and implemented “A Third Arrangement Implementing The Nauru Agreement Setting Forth Additional Terms And Conditions Of Access To The Fisheries Zones Of The Parties”;

***Noting further*** that the Parties to the Nauru Agreement have adopted and implemented a Vessel Day Scheme for the longline fishery, a Vessel Day Scheme for the purse seine fishery, and a registry for FADs in the Zones of the Parties;

***Noting furthermore*** that the Members of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency have indicated their intention to adopt a system of zone-based longline limits to replace the current system of flag-based bigeye catch limits within their EEZs, and a system of zone-based FAD set limits to replace the FAD closure and flag-based FAD set limits in their EEZs;

***Acknowledging*** that the Commission has adopted a limit reference point (LRP) for bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna of 20% of the estimated recent average spawning biomass in the absence of fishing, and, for skipjack tuna, has also agreed to an interim target reference point (TRP) of 50% of the recent average spawning biomass in the absence of fishing (CMM 2015-06);

***Acknowledging*** that the Commission has adopted CMM 2014-06on Establishing a Harvest Strategy for Key Fisheries and Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean and a Work Plan to guide the development of key components of a Harvest Strategy, including the recording of management objectives, adoption of reference points, and development of harvest control rules;

***Adopts***in accordance with Article 10 of the Convention, the following Conservation and Management Measure with respect to bigeye, yellowfin, and skipjack tuna:

**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this measure is to provide for a robust transitional management regime that ensures the sustainability of bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna stocks while the Commission continues to develop and establish harvest strategies pursuant to CMM 2014-06.

**PRINCIPLES FOR APPLICATION OF THE MEASURE**

**Compatibility**

1. Conservation and management measures established for the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction shall be compatible in order to ensure conservation and management of bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna stocks in their entirety. Measures shall ensure, at a minimum, that stocks are maintained at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, pending agreement on target reference points as part of the harvest strategy approach, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors including the special requirements of developing States in the Convention Area as expressed by Article 5 of the Convention.

**Area of Application**

1. This Measure applies to all areas of high seas and all EEZs [**EU**: and archipelagic waters] in the Convention Area except where otherwise stated in the Measure.

1. Coastal states are encouraged to take measures in archipelagic waters and territorial seas which are consistent with the objectives of this Measure and to inform the ~~WCPFC~~ Commission Secretariat of the relevant measures that they will apply in these waters.

**Small Island Developing States**

1. ~~Unless otherwise stated, n~~ Nothing in this Measure shall prejudice the rights and obligations of those small island developing State Members and Participating Territories in the Convention Area seeking to develop their domestic fisheries consistent with the provisions of this CMM.
2. [**PNA**: In giving effect to this CMM, the Commission shall pay attention to the geographical situation of a small island developing State which is made up of non-contiguous groups of islands having a distinct economic and cultural identity of their own but which are separated by areas of high seas.]

**HARVEST STRATEGIES FOR BIGEYE, SKIPJACK, AND YELLOWFIN TUNA**

1. This measure is to create a bridge to the adoption of a harvest strategy for bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna stocks in accordance with the work plan and indicative timeframes set out in the Agreed Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06 (Attachment 5).
2. Pending the adoption of stock-specific reference points, all stocks shall be managed [**EU**: consistent with the Convention] so that their adult biomass remains above the adopted Limit Reference Point of 20% of the estimated recent average spawning biomass in the absence of fishing, (SBF=0,t1-t2) with [high] [**EU**: 20%] probability], other than skipjack tuna which is to be managed to the agreed target reference point.

**Bigeye**

1. Pending agreement on a target reference point, the spawning biomass of BET is to be rebuilt to the agreed Limit Reference Point of 20% of the spawning biomass in the absence of fishing within an interim timeframe of up to 10 years [with at least xx% probability] [**EU**: to the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of 21% spawning stock biomass (SSB0) within 8 to 10 years with a 50-60% probability of exceeding the Limit Reference Point]. In addition, the fishing mortality rate for bigeye tuna is to be reduced to a level no greater than Fmsy, i.e. F/Fmsy ≤ 1.

**Skipjack**

1. ~~Pending agreement on a formal target reference point, t~~ The spawning biomass of skipjack tuna is to be maintained on average at a level consistent with the interim target reference point of 50% of the spawning biomass in the absence of fishing, adopted in accordance with CMM 2015-06.

**Yellowfin**

1. Pending agreement on a target reference point, the spawning biomass of yellowfin tuna is to be maintained at or above the most recently assessed level (for 2012, 38% of spawning biomass in the absence of fishing. (***Note****: to be updated in 2017*.) In addition, the fishing mortality rate for yellowfin is maintained at a level no greater than Fmsy, i.e. F/Fmsy ≤ 1.

**BIGEYE MANAGEMENT MEASURES: PURSE SEINE FISHERY**

**FAD Set Management [[[1]](#footnote-1)]**

**[ALT 1**: **Status quo**

12. Each CCM shall select one of the following options listed below and notify the Secretariat of that selection by April 1 of that year:

a. The prohibition of setting on FADs shall apply for a total of 4 months (July, August, September, and October). OR

1. In addition to a 3-month prohibition of setting on FADs (July, August, September) the CCM shall limit the total number of FAD sets by its vessels to the number listed in [Table 1, Attachment 1].
2. Except for those Kiribati flagged vessels fishing the adjacent high seas, it shall be prohibited to set on FADs in the high seas.[[2]](#footnote-2)]

[**ALT 2:** **PNA**

14. A three (3) months ~~(July, August and September)~~ prohibition of deploying, servicing or setting on FADs shall be in place between 0001 hours UTC on 1 July and 2359 hours UTC on 30 September each year for all purse seine vessels, tender vessels, and any other vessels operating in support of purse seine vessels fishing in EEZs and high seas (see paragraphs 3 -7 of CMM 2009-02 for the rules for the FAD closure in the high seas).

15. Except for those Kiribati flagged vessels fishing the adjacent high seas, it shall be prohibited to set on FADs in the high seas]

[**ALT 3: US**

16. Each CCM shall ensure, for purse seine vessels under its flag and purse seine vessels for which it is responsible under charter or similar arrangements, that the annual limits on FAD sets in [Table 1, Attachment 1] are not exceeded.]

[**PNA**: **Time of FAD Setting**

17. CCMs shall ensure that no vessel commences a set between the time of midnight (local nautical time) and sunrise during the periods of FAD closure applying to their vessels. The time of sunrise shall be determined in accordance with the nautical almanac. A purse seine set shall be considered to have commenced when the skiff is released from the vessel.]

[**EU: Ecological impact of FADs**

1. In order to minimize the ecological impact of FADs, in particular the entanglement of sharks, turtles and other non-associated species, and the release of synthetic persistent marine debris, each CCM shall progressively replace the use of non-biodegradable FADs with biodegradable and non-entangling FADs, with a view to phasing out non-biodegradable FADs by [xxxx].]

**SKIPJACK AND YELLOWFIN MANAGEMENT MEASURES: PURSE SEINE FISHERY**

**Zone-based purse seine effort control**

[**ALT 1: Status quo**

1. Coastal States within the Convention Area that are ~~Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)~~ participants in the PNA Purse Seine Vessel Day Scheme shall restrict the level of purse seine effort in their EEZs to 2010 levels through the PNA Vessel Day~~s~~ Scheme.
2. Other coastal States within the Convention Area with effort in their EEZs exceeding 1,500 days annually over the period 2006-2010 shall limit effort in their EEZs to the 2001-2004 average or 2010 levels.
3. Coastal States within the Convention Area, other than those referred to in paragraphs [19 and 20] above, shall restrict purse seine effort and/or catch within their EEZs in accordance with the effort limits established and notified to the Commission.]

[**ALT 2: PNA**

1. Coastal States within the Convention Area shall restrict purse seine effort or catch within their EEZs in accordance with the effort limits set out in [Table 1, Attachment 2.]]

[**Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu**: **Catch/Effort Limits**

1. Fiji, Niue, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu shall restrict purse seine effort within their EEZs in accordance with the following effort limits: Fiji (300 vessel days), Niue (200 vessel days); Samoa (150 vessel days); Tonga (250 vessel days), and; Vanuatu (200 vessel days). Niue shall also restrict the catch of skipjack tuna in its exclusive economic zone to 3000 tonnes per annum.[[3]](#footnote-3)]

**High seas purse seine effort control**

[**ALT 1:** **Status quo**

1. CCMS that are not Small Island Developing States shall restrict the level of purse seine effort on the high seas to the limits set out in [Table 2, Attachment 2].
2. The limits set out in [Table 2, Attachment 2] do not confer the allocation of rights to any CCM and are without prejudice to future decisions of the Commission.]

**[ALT 2: PNA**

1. There shall be no fishing by purse seine vessels in the high seas within the Convention Area south of 20oS. CCMs shall restrict the level of purse seine effort in the high seas within the Convention Area north of 20oN to 2010 levels.
2. Effort in the high seas shall be limited to [xxx] fishing days quarterly, with any unused days from one quarter carried into the next quarter within the same year. The Executive Director shall notify CCMs when the level of effort in the high seas is estimated to have reached 80% of the quarterly limit, and at that time, shall notify CCMs that purse seine fishing on the high seas shall close at a date when the quarterly limit has been reached, based on the best available information. CCMs shall ensure that their vessels do not fish in the high seas after the date notified by the Executive Director. Kiribati flagged vessels shall be exempt from the high seas purse seine limits in the high seas areas adjacent to the Kiribati exclusive economic zone.]

**[ALT 3: US: Purse Seine Fishing vessel and effort limits**

1. Each CCM shall authorize to be used for fishing for HMS in the Convention Area, specifically in its areas of national jurisdiction and in areas beyond national jurisdiction, no more purse seine vessels than the numbers listed in [Table 3, Attachment 2]. This limit applies to vessels under the flag of the CCM and foreign-flagged vessels that the CCM authorizes to be used for fishing in its areas of national jurisdiction.
2. Each CCM shall ensure, for purse seine vessels under its flag and purse seine vessels for which it is responsible under charter or similar arrangements, that the annual limits on fishing effort in [Table 4, Attachment 2] are not exceeded. The limits shall apply throughout the Convention Area between the latitudes of 20° N. and 20° S.]

[**ALT 4: Korea**

1. Each CCM shall ensure for purse seine vessels under its flag that the annual limits of fishing effort in the Convention Area and set out in [Table 4, Attachment 2] are not exceeded.]

[**Japan**: **Purse Seine Vessel Limits**:

1. CCMs other than Small Island Developing States shall reduce the number of purse seine vessels flying their flag larger than 24m with freezing capacity operating between 20oN and 20oS (hereinafter “LSPSVs”) to the level prior to December 31, 2012.]

**[PNA: Fleet structure**

1. CCMs shall support their fleets to adjust to the changes in the structure of regional purse seine fleets as SIDS fleets expand and replace some existing fleets, including ensuring that displaced vessels do not contribute to IUU fishing.]

### **[US: Transfer of limits**

1. CCMs may transfer among themselves for one or more whole calendar years from 2018 through 2020 the limits specified in this measure or portions thereof, provided that both CCMs notify the Commission of the transfer, including the amount and period of transfer, [X days] ahead of the transfer. CCMs may not, however, transfer any of the limits on fishing vessels specified in paragraphs X and X.]

**Catch retention**

34. To create a disincentive to the capture of small fish and to encourage the development of technologies and fishing strategies designed to avoid the capture of small tunas and other fish, CCMs shall require their purse seine [**EU**: and longline] vessels fishing in EEZs and on the high seas within the area bounded by 20ºN and 20ºS to retain on board and then land or transship at port all bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin tuna, [**PNA**: rainbow runner and mahimahi]. (See CMM 2009-02 paragraphs 8-12 for the Commission’s rules for catch retention in the high seas.) The only exceptions to this paragraph shall be:

a) when, in the final set of a trip, there is insufficient well space to accommodate all fish caught in that set, noting that excess fish taken in the last set may be transferred to and retained on board another purse seine vessel provided this is not prohibited under applicable national law; or

b) when the fish are unfit for human consumption for reasons other than size; or

c) when serious malfunction of equipment occurs.

1. Nothing in paragraphs [12-13 and 34] shall affect the sovereign rights of coastal States to determine how these management measures will be applied in their waters, or to apply additional or more stringent measures.

**[US: Research**

1. CCMs and the Commission shall conduct and encourage research to identify ways for purse seine vessels to minimize the mortality of juvenile bigeye tuna and yellowfin tuna in accordance with any research plans adopted by the Commission.]

**BIGEYE MANAGEMENT MEASURES: LONGLINE FISHERY**

[**ALT 1: Status quo**

1. CCMS shall restrict the level of bigeye catch to the levels specified in [Table 1, Attachment 3]. Any overage of the catch limit by a CCM shall be deducted from the catch limit for the following year for that CCM.
2. The above paragraph does not apply to CCMs that caught less than 2,000 tonnes in 2004. Each CCM that caught less than 2,000 tonnes in 2004 shall ensure that its bigeye catch does not exceed 2,000 tonnes annually.
3. CCMs listed in [Table 1, Attachment 3] shall report monthly the amount of bigeye catch by their flagged vessels to the Commission Secretariat by the end of the following month. The Secretariat shall notify all CCMs when 90% of the catch limits for a CCM is exceeded.
4. The limits set out in [Table 1, Attachment 3] do not confer the allocation of rights to any CCM and are without prejudice to future decisions of the Commission.]

[**ALT 2: PNA**

1. Participants in the PNA Longline Vessel Day Scheme shall restrict the level of longline effort in their EEZs to [xxxx] days.
2. Other coastal States within the Convention Area, other than those referred to in the above paragraph, shall establish effort limits, or equivalent catch limits for longline fisheries within their EEZs that reflect the geographical distributions of skipjack, yellowfin, and bigeye tunas and are consistent with the objectives for those species.
3. CCMs shall restrict the level of bigeye catch on the high seas to the levels set out in [Table 1, Attachment 3].
4. CCMs listed in [Table 1, Attachment 3] shall report monthly the amount of bigeye catch by their flagged vessels to the Commission Secretariat by the end of the following month. The Secretariat shall notify all CCMs when 90% of the catch limits for a CCM is exceeded.]

**[ALT 3: US**

1. Each CCM shall ensure, for longline vessels under its flag and longline vessels for which it is responsible under charter or similar arrangements, that the annual limits on bigeye tuna catches between 20° S and 20° N in [Table 1, Attachment 3] are not exceeded.

46. Each CCM, with the exception of small island developing States and participating territories, shall authorize to be used for fishing for HMS in the Convention Area, specifically in its area of national jurisdiction and in areas beyond national jurisdiction, no more longline vessels than the number so authorized in 2014, or if limited entry programmes were in effect at that time, then the number allowed to be authorized under those programmes at that time [Table 2, Attachment 3]. This limit applies to vessels under the flag of the CCM and foreign-flagged vessels that the CCM authorizes to be used for fishing in its area of national jurisdiction.

1. Each SIDS CCM and participating territory shall authorize to be used for fishing for HMS in the Convention Area, specifically in its area of national jurisdiction and in areas beyond national jurisdiction, no more longline vessels than [will consider specifying aspirational limits] [Table 2, Attachment 3]. This limit applies to vessels under the flag of the CCM and foreign-flagged vessels that the CCM authorizes to be used for fishing in its area of national jurisdiction.]

**[PNA: Fleet structure**

1. CCMs shall support their fleets to adjust to the changes in the structure of regional longline fleets as SIDS fleets expand and replace some existing fleets, including ensuring that displaced vessels do not contribute to IUU fishing.]

**[Status quo: Limits on longline vessels with freezing capacity**

1. CCMs, other than Small Island Developing States and Indonesia[[4]](#footnote-4), shall not increase the number of their longline vessels with freezing capacity targeting bigeye tuna above the current level.]

**[Status quo: Limits on ice-chilled longline vessels landing fresh fish**

1. CCMs, other than Small Island Developing States and Indonesia[[5]](#footnote-5), shall not increase the number of their ice-chilled longline vessels targeting bigeye tuna and landing exclusively fresh fish above the current level, or above the current number of licenses under established limited entry programmes.[[6]](#footnote-6)]

**[PNA**: **Transhipment**

1. There shall be no transhipment of frozen bigeye tuna at sea from longline vessels between 30oN and 10oS.][[7]](#footnote-7)

**[PNA**: **VMS**

1. Notwithstanding the VMS SSP, a longline freezer vessel that has caught more than 20 tonnes of bigeye in the previous year shall not operate under manual reporting in the area between 30°N and 20°S, but the vessel will not be directed to return to port until the Secretariat has exhausted all reasonable steps to re-establish normal automatic reception of VMS positions in accordance with the VMS SSPs. The flag State shall be notified when VMS data is not received by the Secretariat at the interval specified in CMM 2011-02.][[8]](#footnote-8)

**[PNA:** **Observer Coverage**

1. Each CCM shall achieve a coverage level of at least 20% of fishing on the high seas within the area bounded by 30° N and 20°S by observers from the ROP sourced from either the national observer programs of other Members or from existing sub-regional programs. The TCC will advise WCPFC14 on the staging over time of the increase in observer coverage in the high seas to 20%.][[9]](#footnote-9)

**YELLOWFIN MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

**Catch limits**

**[ALT 1: Status quo**

1. CCMs agree to take measures not to increase catches by their purse seine or longline vessels of yellowfin tuna.]

**[ALT 2: Chair[[10]](#footnote-10)**

55. CCMs shall ensure that the catch of yellowfin tuna by its longline vessels does not exceed the level [TBD] set out in [Table 1, Attachment 4].]

**BIGEYE, YELLOWFIN, AND SKIPJACK MANAGEMENT MEASURES: OTHER COMMERCIAL FISHERIES**

**[PNA**: **Catch limits**

1. A CCM shall notify the Secretariat of any fishery in which its vessels, other than purse seine or longline vessels, take more than 2000 tonnes of bigeye, skipjack, or yellowfin tuna annually from the Convention Area. Where a CCM notifies such a fishery to the Secretariat, the Secretariat shall advise Members of the notification. The Commission shall consider establishing appropriate annual catch limits for such fisheries.]

[**US**: **Catch limits**

1. Each CCM shall ensure, for vessels under its flag and vessels for which it is responsible under charter or similar arrangements, that each year, its HMS fishing vessels other than purse seine and longline vessels catch no more bigeye tuna than the amount caught in 2004 or the annual average amount caught in 2001-2004. The limits shall apply throughout the Convention Area between the latitudes of 20° N. and 20° S.]

**REVIEW AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

1. [The Commission shall review this CMM annually to ensure that the various provisions are having the intended effect.]
2. This measure shall remain in effect until [31 December 2020] unless earlier replaced or amended by the Commission.

**Attachment 1: Bigeye Management Measures – Purse Seine Fishery (paras [12-18])**

**Table 1. FAD Set Limits**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **[ALT 1: Status quo (para 12)]** | **[ALT 3: US (para 16)]** |
| Column A of Attachment A of CMM 2016-01  FAD set limits by flag vessels    China 845  Ecuador 119  El Salvador 59  FSM 604  Japan 2,139  Kiribati 493  Marshall Islands 1,028  New Zealand 183  Papua New Guinea 2,215  Philippines (distant water) 462  Republic of Korea 2,286  Solomon Islands 165  European Union 170  Chinese Taipei 2,416  Tuvalu 127  USA 2,522  Vanuatu 349  Total 16,183 | This table will be filled out as follows, subject to adjustment based on the outcomes of the new stock assessments: Every CCM will have limits for each year. The FAD limits for 2018 are the same as those for 2015-2016 in Column B of Attachment A of CMM 2016-01, which use a 2010-2012 baseline. The FAD limits for subsequent years are the same as 2018 for SIDS and are reduced 5 percent each year for non-SIDS and for SIDS with limits greater than 2,000 FAD sets. |

**Attachment 2: Skipjack and Yellowfin Management Measures: Purse Seine Fishery (paras [19-30])**

**Table 1. Zone based purse seine effort control**

**[ALT 2: PNA (para 22) - TBD]**

**Table 2. High seas purse seine effort control**

|  |
| --- |
| **[ALT 1: Status quo (para 24)]** |
| Table from Attachment D of 2016-01  CCM EFFORT LIMIT (DAYS)  CHINA 26  ECUADOR \*\*  EL SALVADOR \*\*  EUROPEAN UNION 403  INDONESIA (0)  JAPAN 121  NEW ZEALAND 160  PHILIPPINES [TBD]  REPUBLIC OF KOREA 207  CHINESE TAIPEI 95  USA 1270  \*\* subject to CNM on participatory rights |

**Attachment 2**

**Table 3. Purse Seine Vessel Limits**

|  |
| --- |
| **[ALT 3: US (para 28)]** |
| This table will be filled out as follows, subject to adjustment based on the outcomes of the new stock assessments: Every CCM will have limits for each year. Purse seine vessel limits for 2018 for non-SIDSs/non-PTs are based on 2012 levels; the limits for subsequent years are to be determined. The purse seine vessel limits for 2018 for SIDSs and PTs are based on 2017 levels [numbers to be provided]; the limits for subsequent years are to be determined. |

**Table 4: Purse Seine Fishing Effort Limits**

|  |
| --- |
| **[ALT 3 : US (para 29)]** |
| This table will be filled out as follows subject to adjustment based on the outcomes of the new stock assessments: Every CCM will have limits for each year. The total purse seine fishing effort limit for each of the years 2018-2020 [yet to be calculated] is the level estimated to most likely achieve the SKJ TRP, [X] fishing days. [This total limit will be is allocated by flag appropriately]. |

|  |
| --- |
| **[ALT 4: Korea (para 30)]** |
| **TBD** |

**Attachment 3: Bigeye Management Measures – Longline Fishery (paras [37-53 ])**

**Table 1. Bigeye Longline Catch Limits**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **[ALT 1: Status quo (paras 37-40)]** | **[ALT 2: PNA (paras 41-44 )]** | **[ALT 3: US (para 45)]** |
| Attachment F of CMM 2016-01: Bigeye catch limits by flag  CCMs Catch Limits    CHINA 7,049  INDONESIA 5,889\*  JAPAN 16,860  KOREA 12,869  CHINESE TAIPEI 9,675  USA 3,345  \*Provisional and maybe subject to revision following data analysis and verification | Attachment F of CMM 2016-01 adjusted in light of zone based LL limits:  CCMs Catch Limits  [TBD]  China  Indonesia  Japan  Korea  Chinese Taipei  USA | This table will be filled out as follows, subject to adjustment based on the outcomes of the new stock assessments: Every CCM will have limits for each year. Limits based on history between 20°N and 20°S. The limits will be adjusted accordingly for CCMs that already had stated limits in Attachment F of CMM 2016-01 for CCMs. For CCMs that did not previously have limits, the limits are the highest historical annual catch rounded up to 100 mt, 500 mt, 1,000 mt, or 2,000 mt, and for CCMs with historical peak annual catches of greater than 2,000 mt, their peak historical annual catch. |
|  |  |  |

**Table 2. Longline vessel limits**

|  |
| --- |
| **[ALT 3: US (paras 46-47 )]** |
| This table will be filled out as follows, subject to adjustment based on the outcomes of the new stock assessments: Every CCM will have limits for each year. Limits for non-SIDSs are the number of longline vessels authorized in 2014, or if limited entry programmes were in effect at that time, then the number allowed to be authorized under those programmes at that time. Limits for SIDSs and participating territories shall consider specified aspirational limits. |

**Attachment 4: Yellowfin Management Measures – Purse Seine and Longline Fishery (paras [54-55])**

**Table 1: Longline Limits for Yellowfin Tuna**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **[ALT 1: Status quo (para 54)]** | **[ALT 2: Chair (para 55)]** |
|  | Table of yellowfin limits in longline fishery taken from yellowfin catches set out in Table 5 of WPCFC13 IPO4 (Nadi) set out on following page |



|  |
| --- |
| **Notes**: |
| 1. Source: WCFPC Annual catch estimates as at 28th August 2016. |
| 2. Catch estimates in **red** have been carried over from previous years. |
| 3. Indonesia and Philippines have recently revised their estimates (see the respective Annual Catch Estimate Workshop reports at (http://www.wcpfc.int/west-pacific-east-asia-oceanic-fisheries-management-project) |
| 4. Catches and effort of vessels operating under charters and similar arrangements have been attributed to host island states or territories in accordance with paragraph 5 of CMM 2012-01 and paragraph 5 CMM 2013-01 using the best information available to SPC-OFP. However, in several cases, catches have not yet been attributed to the CCM responsible for the "charter or similar arrangements" since the flag state CCM has yet to advise that it has excluded these catches from their data (and thereby avoid double-counting). |
| 5. Estimates include archipelagic water catches which for some countries cannot be separated at this stage (e.g. Philippines). |
| 6. Subject to CNM on participatory rights, in accordance with paragraph 6 of CMM 2014-01 for years from 2015 onwards |
| 7. Senegal committed to limiting its fishing activities in the WCPF Convention Area to one longline vessel - WCFPC5 Report (Para. 44) |
| 8. The Vietnam longline fleet are understood to fish outside the WCFPC Convention Area (South China Sea). |
| 9. Catches by the Chinese longline fleet in the Kiribati EEZ are included in the estimates. |
| 10. Catches by chartered Chinese, Korean and Chinese-Taipei flagged longline vessels licensed to fish in Solomon Islands waters have been attributed to the Solomon Islands for 2010, 2011 and 2014. |
| 11. Does not yet cover development of new fisheries in the waters of small-island developing states (e.g. Tokelau) |
| 12. Indonesia yellowfin tuna catch excludes catches in Archipelagic waters. |
| 13. Note although EU fleets are reported here separately by flag, it is understood that as per the relevant CMM the 2000 Mt limit applies to the combined EU-longline fleet. |



**COMMISSION**

**TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION**

Bali, Indonesia

3-8 December 2015

**AGREED WORK PLAN FOR THE ADOPTION OF HARVEST STRATEGIES UNDER CMM 2014-06**[[11]](#footnote-11)

This plan is intended to give effect to the requirements contained in paragraph 13 of CMM 2014-06:

*“The Commission shall agree a workplan and indicative timeframes to adopt or refine harvest strategies for skipjack, bigeye, yellowfin, South Pacific albacore, Pacific bluefin and northern albacore tuna by no later than the twelfth meeting of the Commission in 2015. This workplan will be subject to review in 2017. The Commission may agree timeframes to adopt harvest strategies for other fisheries or stocks.”*

A proposed schedule of actions to adopt or refine harvest strategies is provided for skipjack, bigeye, yellowfin and South Pacific albacore (it is noted that under the CMM the Northern Committee will be responsible for developing a schedule for Pacific bluefin and north Pacific albacore). These actions in the draft work plan are based upon the “Elements of a harvest strategy” in paragraph 7 of CMM 2014-06:

*“****Elements of a harvest strategy***

*7. Each harvest strategy developed in accordance with this CMM shall, wherever possible and where appropriate, contain the following elements:*

*a. Defined operational objectives, including timeframes, for the fishery or stock (‘management objectives’)*

*b. Target and limit reference points for each stock (‘reference points’)*

*c. Acceptable levels of risk of not breaching limit reference points (‘acceptable levels of risk’)*

*d. A monitoring strategy using best available information to assess performance against reference points (‘monitoring strategy’)*

*e. Decision rules that aim to achieve the target reference point and aim to avoid the limit reference point (‘harvest control rules’), and*

*f. An evaluation of the performance of the proposed harvest control rules against management objectives, including risk assessment (‘management strategy evaluation’).”*

**Explanatory Notes**

For detailed information on the objectives, principles and elements of harvest strategies, members are referred to CMM2014-06 and its annex.

**Stocks or Fisheries?**

This work plan anticipates that the Commission will agree initial harvest strategy elements on a stock basis (limit reference points and acceptable levels of risk of breaching a limit reference point). All other harvest strategy elements, including objectives, target reference points, Harvest Control Rules, and monitoring strategies, may be developed for stocks and/or fisheries. As such, this work plan is organized assuming that harvest strategies will be initially developed on a stock-specific basis, but the Commission will reorganise it as needed if harvest strategy elements are adopted on a fishery-specific basis. Any harvest control rules developed for fisheries should be designed and evaluated to achieve the TRP for each of the [main] stocks caught by that fishery.

The plan also reflects the different level of progress amongst the four tuna stocks included in the work plan. More rapid progress on harvest strategy elements for some stocks should not undermine the progress on other elements.

**Rationale for Sequencing**

The sequencing of the harvest strategy elements through the plan has been designed to allow efficient development of harvest strategies. Under the plan, the recording of management objectives and agreement on target reference points and risks of breaching limits reference points are planned to be undertaken first and these are followed by the development of harvest control rules. Management strategy evaluation is planned to ensure that harvest control rules meet objectives and target reference points. It is anticipated that management strategy evaluation and the development of harvest control rules will be an iterative process.

It is recognised that, for south Pacific albacore and skipjack tuna, the development of target reference points early has been dependent on a substantial body of analysis and modelling to explore the candidate targets suitability and alignment with objectives. Similar preparatory analysis will be required before adoption of target reference points for yellowfin and bigeye tunas. The work plan for bigeye tuna differs from the other stocks to reflect its current status (below limit reference point). The first steps in the plan for bigeye tuna relate to rebuilding the stock above its limit reference point.

**Recording Objectives**

It is proposed that the Commission can initially ‘record’ a range of candidate management objectives rather than ‘agree’ management objectives. This will allow development of relevant performance measures for management strategy evaluation. It is noted that the Commission has previously recorded a range of candidate objectives for tuna stocks and fisheries, including those in the final ‘Report of the Expert Working Group Management Objectives, Performance Indicators and Reference Points’ (MOW2-IP/01Rev 1), which was developed in the course of the first two Management Objectives Workshops (2012 and 2013) and accepted by WCPFC10.

**Review and Amendment of the plan**

It is recognised that there is a need for some flexibility in the plan as work progresses. The workplan should be considered a living document and it is proposed that progress against the plan be reviewed annually by the Commission as a permanent agenda item. The plan may be amended following this review or following the advice of a subsidiary body.

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|  | **South Pacific Albacore** | **Skipjack** | **Bigeye** | **Yellowfin** |
| **2015** | SC provided advice on implications of a range of Target Reference Points for South Pacific albacore. | **Commission agreed an interim Target Reference Point (b).** | Commission tasked SC to determine a biologically reasonable timeframe for rebuilding bigeye tuna to [or above] its limit reference point. |  |
|  | **Commission agreed to workplan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-06 [WCPFC12 Summary Report, Attachment Y]** | | | |

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|  | **South Pacific Albacore** | **Skipjack** | **Bigeye** | **Yellowfin** |
| **2016** | **Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).**  **Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).**   * SC provided advice on a monitoring strategy to assess performance against reference points. * SC provided advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules. * Commission tasked SPC/SC to develop interim performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules. * *[Commission agree to a* ***monitoring strategy*** *to assess performance against reference points.]* | **Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).**  **Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).**   * SC provided advice on a monitoring strategy to assess performance against reference points. * SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules. * Commission agreed interim performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules. **[see WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment M]** * *[Commission agree to a* ***monitoring strategy*** *to assess performance against reference points.]* | **Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).**  **Commission agreed timeframes to rebuild stock to limit reference point. [see page 8 of HSW]** | **Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).** |
|  | **Commission agreed on interim maximum acceptable risk level for breaching the LRP (c). [see page 8 of HSW]** | | | |
|  | **Commission agreed to a refined workplan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-06 [WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment N]** | | | |
|  | **Progress Summary:**  Recognised the need for some harvest strategy elements to be adopted as ‘interim’ noting that they be reconsidered as the harvest strategy process develops.  Considered management objectives for the fisheries or stocks and made progress on identifying performance measures for tropical purse seine fisheries. For South Pacific albacore acknowledged the benefit of SPC adapting the same list of indicators to further similar work for south Pacific albacore. Commenced some early discussions on the relationship between harvest strategies for the different species and multispecies issues. | | | |

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|  | **South Pacific Albacore** | **Skipjack** | **Bigeye** | **Yellowfin** |
| **2017** | **Agree Target Reference Point (b).**   * Commission agree a **Target Reference Point** for south pacific albacore.   **Develop harvest control rules (e).**  and  **Management strategy evaluation (f).**   * SC provide advice on candidate harvest control rules based on agreed reference points. * Commission consider advice on progress towards **harvest control rules**. | **Develop harvest control rules (e)**  and  **Management strategy evaluation (f).**   * SC provide advice on candidate harvest control rules based on agreed reference points. * Commission consider advice on progress towards **harvest control rules**. | **Agree performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).**   * SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules. * Commission agree interim performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules   [SC report on BET status following updated assessment.]  [SC and SPC provide advice to the Commission on the likely outcomes of revised tropical tuna measure.] | **Agree performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).**   * SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules. * Commission agree interim performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules |
|  | **Consider management objectives for stocks and fisheries (a).** | | | |

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|  | **South Pacific Albacore** | **Skipjack** | **Bigeye** | **Yellowfin** |
| **2018** | **Develop harvest control rules (e)**  and  **Management strategy evaluation**  **(f)**   * SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. * TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. * Commission consider advice on progress towards **harvest control rules**. | **Develop harvest control rules (e)**  and  **Management strategy evaluation**  **(f)**   * SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. * TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. * Commission consider advice on progress towards **harvest control rules**. | [SC and SPC provide advice to the Commission on the likely outcomes of revised tropical tuna measure.] | **Agree Target Reference Point (b).**   * SC provide advice on a range of Target Reference Points for yellowfin. * Commission agree a **Target Reference Point** for yellowfin.   **Develop harvest control rules (e).**  **Management strategy evaluation (f).** |
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|  | **South Pacific Albacore** | **Skipjack** | **Bigeye** | **Yellowfin** |
| **2019** | **Develop harvest control rules (e)**  and  **Management strategy evaluation**  **(f)**   * SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. * TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. * Commission consider advice on progress towards **harvest control rules**. | **Develop harvest control rules (e)**  and  **Management strategy evaluation**  **(f)**   * SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. * TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. * Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules. | **Agree Target Reference Point (b).**   * SC provide advice on a range of Target Reference Points for bigeye. * Commission agree a **Target Reference Point** for bigeye.   **Agree monitoring strategy (d).**  **Develop harvest control rules (e).**  **Management strategy evaluation (f).**   * SC provide advice on a monitoring strategy to assess performance against reference points. * SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules. * Commission agree to a **monitoring strategy** to assess performance against reference points.   Commission agree performance indicators to evaluate **harvest control rules** | **Agree performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).**   * SC provide advice on a monitoring strategy to assess performance against reference points. * Commission agree to a **monitoring strategy** to assess performance against reference points. |

**Annex: Record of outcomes from WCPFC13 related to the Harvest Strategy Workplan**

**Agreed interim performance indicators to evaluate Harvest Control Rules**

1. The Commission accepted the suggested initial list of performance indicators for tropical purse-seine fisheries as developed by the Small Working Group on Management Objectives at WCPFC13 for the purpose of the evaluation of harvest control rules (This list is attached at **WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment M**).

**Reference: WCPFC13 Summary Report, paragraph 286**

**Acceptable levels of risk (all stocks)**

1. After discussion of the proposals of the FFA members and the USA, and based on the recommendation of the working group the Commission agreed to:
2. not specify, at this time, acceptable levels of risk of breaching the limit reference point for each stock;
3. consider any risk level greater than 20 percent to be inconsistent with the LRP related principle in UNFSA (as referenced in Article 6 of the Convention) including that the risk of breaching limit reference points be very low; and
4. determine the acceptability of potential HCRs where the estimated risk of breaching the limit reference point is between 0 and 20%.

**Reference: WCPFC13 Summary Report, paragraph 296**

**Rebuilding timelines (bigeye)**

1. In accordance with the workplan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-05 the Commission is scheduled to agree a timeframe for rebuilding bigeye tuna to [or above] its LRP.
2. The Commission agreed to an interim timeframe of up to ten years for rebuilding the bigeye tuna stock to the agreed Limit Reference Point of 0.2SBF=0.
3. The Commission shall use this timeframe in its development and evaluation of strategies and conservation and management measures relevant to the rebuilding of bigeye tuna. Amongst other matters, the Commission will consider the probability of the bigeye stock being at or above the limit reference point at the end of the rebuilding timeframe.

Reference: WCPFC13 Summary Report, paragraphs 304 - 306

**Target reference point (South Pacific albacore)**

1. WCPFC13 requested that existing analyses of the implications of different TRP levels – in terms of total catch and effort changes required – should be re-circulated to CCMs by FFA before the end of December 2016, and that the Scientific Services Provider assist CCMs in understanding the economic implications of different TRPs for their vessels before SC13.
2. WCPFC13 agreed to defer the possible adoption of an interim Target Reference Point for the South Pacific Albacore stock, which had originally been agreed to take place in 2015 under the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, until December 2017 at the latest.
3. The Commission directed that further discussion of the TRP should take place over the course of 2017 as part of the ongoing consultative process for the development of a Bridging Measure for the Conservation and Management of the South Pacific Albacore stock, and should include a report on progress by the Convenor of that process to the 13th WCPFC Scientific Committee.

Reference: WCPFC13 Summary Report, paragraphs 313 - 315

**Harvest Strategy Workplan**

1. The Commission adopted the Updated Harvest Strategy Work Plan (WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment N). The Secretariat was tasked with documenting progress achieved under the Harvest Strategies agenda item in the form of an annex to the Harvest Strategy Work Plan to serve as a reference document to track progress against the agreed work plan.

Reference: WCPFC13 Summary Report, paragraph 326

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1. [PNA: For members of the PNA, this measure will be implemented through the Third Arrangement Implementing the Nauru Agreement of May 2008.] [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **Note**: CMM 2016-01 contains an exemption in footnote 5. CCMs have commented on the need to remove exemptions. For this reason and due to interpretation problems with footnote 5, it is not included in the draft bridging measure Rev4. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. **Note:** measures will need to be developed to operationalise this requirement, such as pooling and transferability of limits both within the relevant EEZs and between EEZs and the high seas. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. This paragraph shall not create a precedent with respect to application of exemptions to non-SIDS CCMs. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. This paragraph shall not create a precedent with respect to application of exemptions to non-SIDS CCMs. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The provisions of this paragraph do not apply to those CCMs who apply domestic individual transferable quotas within a legislated/regulated management framework. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. **Note**: will need to consider placement of this proposal. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. **Note**: will need to consider placement of this proposal. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. **Note**: will need to consider placement of this proposal. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Chair’s proposal seeks to progress discussions on the development of yellowfin longline catch limits. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. As refined and adopted at the Thirteenth Regular Session of the Commission, Denarau, Fiji 5-9 December 2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)