



**COMMISSION**  
**FIRST SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE ALLOCATION WORKSHOP**  
25 – 26 June 2026  
Wellington, New Zealand (Hybrid)

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**FFA Letter to the First South Pacific Albacore Allocation Workshop**

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**WCPFC-SPAA01-2026-DP02**  
**28 May 2026**

**Submitted by FFA Member CCMs**

26 May 2026

Mr Wez Norris

Chair – WCPFC South Pacific Albacore Allocation Workshop

% Rhea Moss Christian

Executive Director

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Federated State of Micronesia

**Subject: FFA Proposal South Pacific Albacore First Allocation Workshop (SPAA01), 25 - 26 June, Wellington, NZ.**

Dear Wez,

I write on behalf of the 17 Members of the Forum Fishery Agency (FFA) to convey our collective positions for the upcoming SPAA01 workshop. These positions are without prejudice to any individual or collective positions that FFA Members may hold separately.

FFA Members thank you for taking on this critical role. The management of south Pacific albacore is a very high priority for us, and we welcome your seasoned guidance during discussions in Wellington.

FFA Members are committed to working constructively with other WCPFC CCMs to secure adoption at WCPFC23 of a new CMM that gives effect to the management procedure adopted at WCPFC22 and puts in place effective management for this stock. Our key goal is zone-based management arrangements that secure the rights and interests of coastal States and territories, while providing for cooperation with distant-water fishing nations on in-zone and high seas fishing opportunities.

CCMs will recall that at WCPFC22, FFA members tabled [WCPFC22-2025-DP02](#) on the management of south Pacific albacore, including proposing a high-level split between EEZs and high seas as follows:

***'It is imperative that the Commission adopt an EEZ and high seas proportional share split to implement the TAC to be determined by the Management Procedure. FFA Members are seeking a high-level split with 75% to be allocated to EEZs and 25% to be***

*allocated for high seas in the area south of 10°S latitude. This decision is required to lay the groundwork for the Commission's subsequent work on specified CCM allocations in the coming year, and adoption by WCPFC23'.*

FFA Members recognise the importance of flexibility in both negotiations on allocations, and the implementation of new management arrangements for SPA. However, we reaffirm our position that allocation outcomes and management arrangements based solely or primarily on catch history will undermine the rights and interests of coastal States and territories, especially SIDS, and are incompatible with the Convention.

We note that there are a range of possible outcomes that could support our interests as coastal States and territories whilst providing opportunities for distant-water fishing nations. For instance, strong recognition of coastal States' rights in the high-level split, including consideration of the Convention's provisions for SIDS special requirements, is likely to provide more flexibility for FFA Members in the high seas allocation process, as well as providing greater opportunities for DWFN fleets to fish in EEZs and take advantage of the mutual benefits that can be achieved through such cooperation.

We look forward to working constructively and creatively with you as chair and with all WCPFC CCMs to achieve beneficial outcomes in the upcoming workshop and through to WCPFC23.

Your Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H Ward', written in a cursive style.

Ms Heather Ward

**CHAIR**

**FORUM FISHERIES COMMITTEE**