Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

TO ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS, COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS, PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS

Circular No.: 2026/92
Date: 21 September 2026
No. pages: 2

Subject: Special Session of the Scientific Committee | 27–28 November 2026

Dear All,

Further to Circular No. 2026/79 of 20 August 2026 which conveyed a proposal from the 22nd Scientific Committee (SC22) to convene a two-day special session for further review and formal approval of the BET OM grid among other issues, I confirm that no objections were received to the proposal to convene a two-day special session of the Scientific Committee on 27 and 28 November 2026 in Port Vila, Vanuatu. The meeting schedule will therefore proceed as set out in Circular No. 2026/79, as follows:

November 27 and 28: Special session of the Scientific Committee
November 29: FAC and HOD
November 30 and December 1: Annual Meeting
December 2: Break
December 3, 4, and 5: Annual Meeting continues

As further noted in Circular 2026/79, there is no provision in the approved 2026 budget to support an intersessional Scientific Committee meeting, and the Secretariat has therefore been exploring available funding sources, as requested by SC.

I am pleased to advise that the Secretariat has received a contribution of USD 10,000 from The Ocean Foundation toward the costs of the special session. Following this contribution, a balance of USD 100,000 remains to be funded.

To meet the remaining costs, the Secretariat proposes drawing from two sources:

1. USD 50,000 from the Commission's Working Capital Fund; and
2. USD 50,000 from savings in the current year's budget.

I take this opportunity to remind CCMs that drawing on the Working Capital Fund for this purpose will reduce the balance available to support future Commission financing needs, including its potential use to offset future member contributions. While the Fund provides an appropriate source of support for this exceptional requirement, reliance on the Working Capital Fund to meet recurring or future meeting costs would not represent a sustainable long-term funding approach. Future intersessional meeting costs should therefore be considered through the Commission's regular budget process or through voluntary donations.

P.O. Box 2356, Kolonia, Pohnpei, 96941
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
Phone: +691 320 1992/1993
Email: wcpfc@wcpfc.int

These sources, together with the USD 10,000 contribution from The Ocean Foundation, would provide the required USD 110,000 to support the special session.

A notice on the meeting arrangements will be circulated shortly. Please contact me with any questions (rhea.moss-christian@wcpfc.int).

Yours sincerely,



Rhea Moss-Christian
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR