



**COMMISSION
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
10 – 14 December 2018

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

**WCPFC15-2018-02
17 October 2018**

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

The Commission Chair Ms Rhea Moss-Christian (Marshall Islands) will call the session to order at 9am on Monday 10th December 2018 and will preside over the opening of the meeting.

1.1 Adoption of agenda

The Chair will present the Provisional Agenda for consideration and adoption by the Commission.

1.2 Statements from Members and Participating Territories

Members and Participating Territories who wish to deliver opening statements will be invited to do so. Those with written statements can provide copies to the Secretariat for distribution.

1.3 Meeting arrangements

The Chair will explain the meeting arrangements and the indicative meeting schedule, including any social function and proposed side events. Decisions reached at the meeting of Heads of Delegation held the previous day will be presented for formal consideration and confirmation by the Commission.

1.3.1 Establishment of small working groups (CNMs, CMR, others)

The Commission will consider the need for small working groups to be established and their working arrangements and schedule.

1.3.2 Hosting arrangements for WCPFC annual sessions hosted by SIDS

The Commission will consider hosting arrangements that may facilitate the hosting of annual regular sessions of the Commission by SIDS with limited hosting capacity mindful of the need for the Commission to be able to effectively transact its core business.

AGENDA ITEM 2. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director will present his annual report in accordance with rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure.

AGENDA ITEM 3. MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

3.1 Status of the Convention

New Zealand as the Depositary will provide an update on the status of the WCPFC Convention.

3.2 Update on Observer status

The Commission will be informed of any application for Observer status and those Observers that have been invited intersessionally to participate in this session of the Commission.

3.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status

The Commission will consider and decide on applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status for 2019, including the recommendations from TCC14 on those applications.

3.3.1 Participatory rights of CNMs

In accordance with paragraphs 12 and 13 of CMM 2009-11, the Commission may review the limits of participatory rights of CNMs under various CMMs.

AGENDA ITEM 4. NEW PROPOSALS

CCMs with new proposals will be invited to present them to the Commission. Proposals that address matters relevant to other agenda items will be presented under those agenda items. In considering new proposals, the Commission will be invited to consider how to progress discussion of those proposals throughout the meeting and whether additional small working groups are required.

AGENDA ITEM 5. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES

5.1 Implementation of Article 30 of WCPFC Convention and CMM 2013-07 (SIDS special requirements)

The Commission will be invited to consider reports by CCMs on initiatives or programmes undertaken and designed to support the special requirements of developing States as envisaged by Article 30 of the WCPFC Convention and CMM 2013-07.

5.2 Strategic Investment Plan by the FAC Special Requirements Fund Virtual Working Group

The Commission will be invited to consider the Strategic Investment Plan being developed by the FAC virtual working group. The purpose of the Plan is to match capacity and capability requirements of developing States and Territories with appropriate investment strategies so they can be progressed in an initial three year trial period.

AGENDA ITEM 6. WCPO TUNA AND BILLFISH STOCKS

Relevant outcomes from meetings of subsidiary bodies, intersessional working groups and other relevant sources will be presented to facilitate discussions under this agenda item. Some elements of the Harvest Strategy Work Plan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-06 are integrated into the discussions under this agenda item.

6.1 General overview of stock status (bigeye, skipjack, SP albacore, yellowfin, Pacific bluefin, NP albacore and NP swordfish)

The Commission will receive updates on the status of WCPO tuna and billfish stocks to help inform discussions on management measures.

6.2 South Pacific Albacore

6.2.1 Roadmap for effective conservation and management of SP albacore

The Commission will receive and discuss a report from New Zealand as the lead CCM of the intersessional working group tasked to develop a Roadmap to implement the elements needed for the effective conservation and management for South Pacific albacore.

6.2.2 Target reference point

As decided at WCPFC14, the Commission is expected to adopt a target reference point for South Pacific albacore at this session.

6.2.3 Harvest control rules

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss in this session harvest control rules for South Pacific albacore.

6.2.4 Management strategy evaluation

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss in this session the management strategy evaluation for South Pacific albacore.

6.2.5 Review of CMM 2015-02 (SP albacore)

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2015-02 and consider any proposal to revise it.

6.3 Bigeye, Skipjack and Yellowfin

6.3.1 Review of CMM 2017-01 (bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin)

The Commission will be invited to review CMM 2017-01, in particular, the provisions applicable for one year only namely footnote 1, paragraphs 16, 17, 29, 39 and Table 3 of Attachment 1. The Commission will also consider provisions agreed to be reviewed in 2018 and / or where future work may be required namely paragraphs 15, 25 (Table 1 of Attachment 1), 28, 40, 44, 50 and 55.

6.3.1.1 FAD Management Options-IWG report

The Commission will receive and discuss the report of the FADMgmtOptions-IWG as they relate to the specific tasks under paragraphs 22 and 24 of CMM 2017-01.

6.3.2 Target reference point (bigeye and yellowfin)

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to discuss in this session the target reference points for bigeye and yellowfin.

6.3.3 Harvest control rules (skipjack)

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss in this session harvest control rules for skipjack.

6.3.4 Management strategy evaluation (skipjack)

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss in this session the status of developing management strategy evaluation for skipjack.

6.4 Pacific bluefin

6.4.1 Review of CMM 2017-08

The Commission is invited to review CMM 2017-08 and consider any proposal to revise it.

6.5 North Pacific albacore

6.5.1 Review of CMM 2005-03

The Commission is invited to review CMM 2005-03 and consider any proposal to revise it.

6.6 North Pacific striped marlin

6.6.1 Designation as a Northern stock and rebuilding plan

As decided at WCPFC14, the Commission is expected to receive a report from SC14 as to whether the NP striped marlin stock can be designated as a Northern stock. The Commission may have to consider the need for a rebuilding plan for the stock as requested by the Scientific Committee and the Northern Committee.

6.7 Others

The Commission will consider any other issue relating to tuna or billfish stocks that may require attention at this session.

AGENDA ITEM 7: HARVEST STRATEGY

Discussion will focus on the remaining 2018 elements of the Agreed Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06, covering South Pacific albacore, skipjack, bigeye and yellowfin not integrated into agenda item 6. The Northern Committee will provide update on harvest strategies relating to Northern stocks.

7.1 Management objectives (all stocks/fisheries)

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss and record in this session management objectives for all stocks and fisheries.

7.2 Monitoring Strategy (all stocks/fisheries)

In accordance with the Harvest Strategy Work Plan, the Commission is expected to continue to discuss in this session monitoring strategy for all stocks and fisheries.

7.3 Harvest Strategy for Pacific bluefin, NP albacore and NP Swordfish

The Northern Committee will update the Commission on the development and implementation of harvest strategies for Pacific bluefin, NP albacore and NP swordfish.

7.4 Terms of Reference for a Science-Management Dialogue

The Commission will be invited to consider a proposed Terms of Reference for a Science-Management Dialogue as recognized by WCPFC14 as essential to expedite the development of the WCPFC Harvest Strategy Framework.

7.5 Review of Work Plan

The Commission will consider and as appropriate revise the work plan for 2019 and future years.

AGENDA ITEM 8: WCPO SHARK STOCKS AND BYCATCH MITIGATION

Relevant outcomes from meetings of subsidiary bodies, intersessional working groups and other relevant sources will be presented to facilitate discussions under this agenda item.

8.1 Report of the Shark-IWG, including Proposal for a Comprehensive CMM for Sharks and Rays

The Commission will consider the report of the Shark Intersessional Working Group including a proposal for a comprehensive CMM for Sharks and Rays conservation and management.

8.2 Proposal for Best Practice Guidelines for Safe Release of Sharks

The Commission will consider a proposal from SC14 for Best Practice Guidelines for Safe Release of Sharks.

8.3 North Pacific blue shark – designation as a Northern stock

As decided at WCPFC14, the Commission is expected to receive a report from SC14 as to whether the NP blue shark stock can be designated as a Northern stock.

8.4 Review of CMM 2017-06 on Seabirds

The Commission is invited to review CMM 2017-06 and consider any proposal to revise it.

8.5 Review of CMM 2008-03 on Sea Turtles

The Commission is invited to review CMM 2008-03 and consider any proposal to revise it.

8.6 Others

The Commission will consider any other bycatch requiring the Commission's attention including any relevant new proposal from CCMs.

AGENDA ITEM 9: ADOPTION OF REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES

The reports of the subsidiary bodies will be taken as read and will not be presented to the Commission. However, recommendations of subsidiary bodies not addressed under other agenda items will be considered under this agenda item. A list of those recommendations will be provided in dedicated reference document.

9.1 Report of the 14th Regular Session of the Scientific Committee

9.2 Report of the 14th Regular Session of the Northern Committee

9.3 Report of the 14th Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee

9.4 Report of the 3rd Meeting of the Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring – Intersessional Working Group

AGENDA ITEM 10: COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

10.1 Consideration and adoption of the Final Compliance Monitoring Report

In accordance with CMM 2017-07, the Commission will consider the provisional Compliance Monitoring Report as recommended by TCC14 and taking into account any additional information provided by CCMs. A small working group will be established to consider the provisional Compliance Monitoring Report and compile the final Compliance Monitoring Report for adoption by the Commission.

10.2 Review of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme

10.2.1 Report from the Independent Panel to review the Compliance Monitoring Scheme

The Commission will formally receive the Report from the Independent Panel to review the Compliance Monitoring Scheme. The Commission will also receive a report from the CMS Intersessional Working Group established by WCPFC14 to facilitate consideration of the said review report.

10.2.2 Report of the CMS-IWG, including Proposal for a CMM for the Compliance Monitoring Scheme

The Commission will consider a proposal from the CMS Intersessional Working Group for a new CMM for the Compliance Monitoring Scheme.

10.3 Expiry of CMM 2017-07 at the end of 2018

Subject to discussions under agenda item 10.2.2, the Commission may need to consider an arrangement to enable the continued operation of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme beyond the end of 2018.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADOPTION OF THE 2019 IUU VESSEL LIST

In accordance with CMM 2010-06, the Commission will consider and adopt the WCPFC 2019 IUU Vessel List.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

12.1 Report of the Twelfth Finance and Administration Committee

The Commission will consider for adoption the report of the 12th Annual Session of the Finance and Administration Committee.

12.2 Budget approval for 2019 and Indicative Budgets for 2020 and 2021

The Commission will consider for adoption the Budget for 2019 and indicative budgets for 2020 and 2021.

AGENDA ITEM 13: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

13.1 Corporate Plan

As tasked by WCPFC14, the Secretariat will present a medium-term draft Corporate Plan for the consideration of the Commission.

13.2 Kobe Process

The Commission will consider a submission by the Steering Committee of the Kobe Process on the future work of the Kobe Process.

13.3 Research projects

13.3.1 Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Project

The Commission will receive an update on the status of the ABNJ project.

13.3.2 Pacific Tuna Tagging (PTT) Project

The Commission will receive an update on the progress of the PTT project.

13.3.3 WCPFC Tissue Bank – application of Nagoya Protocol

The Commission will receive an update on the status of the WCPFC Tissue Bank project and consider the application of the *Nagoya Protocols on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity* to the said project.

13.3.4 West Pacific East Asia (WPEA) Project

The Commission will receive an update on the status of the WPEA Project.

13.4 Election of officers

The Commission will consider the appointment of the following officers:

- i) WCPFC Chair;
- ii) WCPFC Vice Chair;
- iii) SC Vice Chair;
- iv) TCC Chair;
- v) TCC Vice Chair; and
- vi) FAC Co-Chair.

13.5 Future meetings

The Commission will decide the venue and dates for its next meeting, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and any other intersessional meeting/s that may be agreed.

AGENDA ITEM 14: OTHER MATTERS

The Commission will consider any other matter.

AGENDA ITEM 15: SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC15

The Chair will outline the process for adoption of the Summary Report for WCPFC15. The Outcomes Document containing agreed decision points will be circulated within 7 working days following the close of the annual session. The draft Summary Report will be distributed as soon as it is available and delegations will be given 30 working days after circulation to provide any changes. The complete Summary Report will be finalized intersessionally and posted on the Commission website and CCMs and Observers will be advised accordingly.

AGENDA ITEM 16: CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting is scheduled to close at 5pm on Friday 14th December 2018.