



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
SIXTH REGULAR SESSION**

**Nuku'alofa, Tonga
10-19 August 2010**

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

WCPFC-SC6-2010/03

AGENDA ITEM 1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting will open at 08:30 on Tuesday, 10 August 2010.

1.1 Welcome address

The Chair will welcome delegations of the WCPFC Members, Cooperating Non-members and Participating Territories (CCMs) and observers to the Sixth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC6).

A senior official from Tonga will be invited to deliver an opening address.

1.2 Adoption of agenda

The Provisional Agenda for SC6 was prepared and distributed on 11 May 2010 in accordance with Rule 1 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure. Any Member of the Commission, the Chairman, or the Executive Director may, at least 30 days before the date fixed for the opening of a Regular Session request the inclusion of supplementary items in the Agenda. A request for the inclusion of a supplementary item on the Provisional Agenda shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the proposed supplementary item, which will be communicated to all CCMs and observers at least 20 days before the opening of the Session.

Other matters to be discussed, under Agenda Item 14, may be proposed here.

1.3 Meeting arrangements

The Chair will outline procedural matters including the schedule for the meeting and administrative arrangements. According to the decision by the Commission and intersessional consultations with CCMs, the SC Chair will announce a revised structure of the SC meeting to be applied to SC6 where all Specialist Working Group meetings are absorbed into the plenary meeting.

The SC will select a Theme Convener for Management Issues Theme under Agenda Item 7.

It is the second year of Mr Naozumi Miyabe serving as the Chair of the SC. The SC will consider either the extension of one more term or the selection of a new SC Chair, including Theme Conveners if required, for 2011 session and thereafter.

1.4 Reporting arrangements

Scientific Committee Report

The SC will adopt a Summary Report and, if available, an Executive Summary that will address requests from the Commission. Relevant text under Agenda Items highlighted with an asterisk (*) in the Summary Report will be incorporated into the Executive Summary. The Executive Summary may also include a brief summary of research plans, findings or conclusions on the stock status, reports and recommendations as directed by the Commission or at the initiative of the SC (paragraph 2, Article 12 of the Convention).

The SC will have assistance of a professional rapporteur as the lead rapporteur. The SC will appoint supporting rapporteurs, who will be assigned to specific agenda items.

Theme Sessions

The substance of topics presented, discussed and agreed within each Theme (including the Stock Status Theme) will be covered in the minutes of the main SC6 Summary Report and each Theme Convener will assist with the completion of their session minutes. However, the Stock Status Theme will also produce an additional report which will provide a detailed overview of each stock assessment presented and the main results and figures (as previously provided in the SA-SWG report). This Stock Status Theme report will be included as an Appendix to the SC6 Summary Report.

1.5 Intersessional activities of the Scientific Committee

The Chair, with support from the Secretariat, will report on intersessional activities of the SC and the Secretariat.

AGENDA ITEM 2 REVIEW OF FISHERIES

2.1 Overview of Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) fisheries*

The SPC-OFP will present on fisheries for highly migratory species in the WCPO region. The SC will be invited to provide supplementary information, ask questions and provide comments.

2.2 Overview of Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) fisheries

The IATTC will present on fisheries for highly migratory species in the EPO region. The SC will be invited to provide supplementary information, ask questions and provide comments.

2.3 Annual Report (Part 1) from Members, Participating Territories and Cooperating Non-Members (CCMs)

CCMs will be given the opportunity to make a brief presentation (3 minutes) highlighting recent changes and developments in their fisheries as described in Part 1 of their Annual Report to the Commission. A short time for questions may be provided at the conclusion

of each presentation. The deadline for the submission of Part 1 of the Annual Report to the Secretariat (wcpfc@wcpfc.int) is **9 July 2010**.

Presenters of CCM Annual Reports are required to prepare a half page summary (attached to Part 1 as “Summary of Part 1 of the Annual Report”) to accompany their report for inclusion in the SC6 Summary Report. Rapporteurs will capture the key issues raised in subsequent discussion for inclusion in the Summary Report. It will be assumed that all reports have been read prior to the Session. The use of PowerPoint or other visual presentations is discouraged due to time constraints.

CCMs are requested to submit any outstanding Part 1 Reports for previous years, and the status of Part 1 submissions for each CCM can be found at the bottom of each WCPFC-SC meeting website (<http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/2>).

2.4 Reports from regional fisheries bodies and other organizations

Regional fisheries bodies and other intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations observing the SC may make a brief presentation (3 minutes) on key issues relevant to the work of the SC. Such presentations need to be arranged with the Chair before the opening of the Session. The deadline for the submission of meeting documents to the Secretariat (wcpfc@wcpfc.int) from regional fisheries bodies and other intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations is **18 July 2010**.

AGENDA ITEM 3 FISH BIOLOGY THEME

The SC will review the outputs of the SC Work Programme projects and make recommendations on the possible extension of any biological research.

3.1 Biological parameters*

- a. Refinement of bigeye parameters Pacific-wide: A comprehensive review and study of bigeye tuna reproductive biology (Project 35¹)
- b. Regional study of the stock structure and life history characteristics of South Pacific albacore (Project 39)

AGENDA ITEM 4 FISHING TECHNOLOGY THEME

The SC will review the outputs of the SC Work Programme projects and make recommendations on the possible extension of any technical research.

4.1 Small tuna on floating objects (STFO)*

The SC will review research findings from CCMs in relation to paragraphs 312-314 of the SC5 Summary Report.

AGENDA ITEM 5 METHODS THEME*

The SC will review the findings of research on stock assessment methodologies and provide recommendations on the need of further research.

¹ Project numbers refer to those in Attachment O of the SC3 Summary Report.

AGENDA ITEM 6 STOCK STATUS THEME

The SC will provide advice and recommendations to the Commission on the effective management, long-term conservation and sustainable use (including review of the current CMMs) of the stocks listed below.

6.1 WCPO bigeye tuna

a. Status and trends*

A full stock assessment for bigeye tuna was conducted in 2010, the results of which will be presented to SC6 for review and discussion.

b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.2 WCPO yellowfin tuna

a. Status and trends*

A full stock assessment was conducted for yellowfin tuna in 2009. Any new information and findings, if appropriate, will be discussed.

b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.3 Requests from CMM-2008-01

a. Fishing effort for bigeye and yellowfin tuna from other commercial tuna fisheries*

In accordance with paragraph 39 of CMM-2008-01, the SC will consider fishing effort or proposals for the provision of effort data from other commercial tuna fisheries provided by CCMs.

In order to support discussion under this item, CCMs will provide such information to the Secretariat (wcpfc@wcpfc.int) by **30 June 2010**.

b. Review of CMM-2008-01*

The SC will provide scientific advice to the Commission for its annual review of the impacts and compliance with this Measure (paragraph 46).

6.4 WCPO skipjack tuna

a. Status and trends*

A full stock assessment for bigeye tuna was conducted in 2010, the results of which will be presented to SC6 for review and discussion.

b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.5 South Pacific albacore

a. Status and trends*

A full stock assessment was conducted in 2008 and a comparative assessment was made in 2009. The SC will consider any new or additional information.

- b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.6 South Pacific swordfish

- a. Status and trends*

The last assessment was presented to SC4 in 2008. The SC will consider any new or additional information.

- b. Management Advice and Implications*
- c. Requests from CMM-2009-03*

The SC will review CCM's information provided through this CMM.

6.7 Southwest Pacific striped marlin

- a. Status and trends*

No stock assessment was conducted for Southwest Pacific striped marlin in 2010. The SC will consider any new or additional information.

- b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.8 North Pacific striped marlin

The Chair of the International SC for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) will be invited to provide any new information on the status and conservation advice for this stock. The SC may consider a draft CMM on NP striped marlin if available.

- a. Status and trends*
- b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.9 Northern stocks

Annex I of the Commission's Rules of Procedure defines 'northern stocks' to be 'northern Pacific bluefin², northern albacore and the northern stock of swordfish'. The ISC Chair will be invited to provide the results of 2010 stock assessments of northern stocks, stock status, and management and conservation advice for these stocks.

6.9.1 North Pacific albacore (CMM-2005-03)

- a. Status and trends*
- b. Management Advice and Implications*

² Pacific bluefin tuna

6.9.2 Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM-2009-07)

- a. Status and trends*
- b. Management Advice and Implications*

6.9.3 North Pacific swordfish

- a. Status and trends*
- b. Management Advice and Implications*

AGENDA ITEM 7 MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME*

The SC will review the outputs of SC work programme Project 57 (Identifying provisional limit reference points for the key target species in the WCPFC) and (following up the recommendation from SC5) make a recommendation to WCPFC7 on appropriate provisional Limit-Reference-Points, both types and associated values, for the key target species in the WCPFC.

The SC will consider the provision of scientific assistance to the preparation and convening of the Commission's workshop on Management Objectives that is scheduled for 2011.

The SC will also review the outputs of the Kobe 2 'Workshop on the Provision of Scientific Advice' and 'Workshop on Tuna Management'.

AGENDA ITEM 8 ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME

8.1 Fisheries impacts (Ecological Risk Assessment)

The SC will consider information and research findings for recommendation to the Commission on the following:

- a. Seabirds*

Research outputs on the seabird productivity-susceptibility analysis, which includes ROP data, species-specific vulnerability, and seasonal and species-specific catch information

Results of Kobe II Bycatch Workshop and other information including the IOTC's new measures in relation to CMM-2007-04

- b. Sharks*

Relevant information and research findings on requests from CMM-2009-04, including paragraphs 4, 8, 13, and 14³ of the Measure

Requests from the Commission (paragraphs 287, 288 and 290 of the WCPFC6 Summary Report), including:

³ Regarding the request in paragraph 14 of the CMM-2009-04, please refer to Circular 2010/04 for the delay of shark research.

- i) Addition of hammerhead and porbeagle sharks to the list of key shark species on the basis that it is a CMS Appendix II species;
 - ii) Consideration on information contained in the Pacific Islands Regional Plan of Action for Sharks (WCPFC6-2009/IP13);
 - iii) Review of the list of shark species identified for stock assessment and for annual reporting by CCMs to ensure it includes species at highest risk; and
 - iv) Review of outputs from the Kobe2 bycatch workshop.
- c. Sea turtles*

Any additional information and research findings from CCMs in relation to the provisions of CMM-2008-03

AGENDA ITEM 9 DATA AND STATISTICS THEME

9.1 Data gaps

- a. Data gaps and progress towards addressing gaps

The SC will consider progress in relation to addressing gaps in the data holdings of the Commission.

- b. Species composition of purse-seine catches

The SC will consider the results of Project 60 (Collection and evaluation of purse-seine species composition data). The SC will also consider the elaboration of port sampling programme for species composition (WCPFC6 Summary Report, paragraph 322).

- c. Data issues with the ISC

The SC will consider the progress of data sharing between the Commission and ISC.

9.2 Regional Observer Programme (ROP)

The SC will consider any information, including data gaps, and research findings in relation to scientific data collected, or to be collected, by the ROP.

9.3 West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (WPEA)

The SC will consider the Summary Report of the First WPEA Project Steering Committee Meeting.

9.4 Tagging initiatives (PTTP)

The SC will consider the Summary Report of the Fourth Steering Committee for the Pacific Tuna Tagging Project.

AGENDA ITEM 10 COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

10.1 The status of cooperation and relations

WCPFC6 approved the Memorandum on Cooperation on the Exchange and Release of Data between WCPFC and IATTC and sent this to the IATTC for their review. Regarding the MOU between WCPFC and NPAFC, NPAFC requested additional time for their review of the MOU.

The SC may consider any further needs for cooperation with other organizations.

AGENDA ITEM 11 CONSIDERATION OF THE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES AND PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES

11.1 Special Requirements Fund

a. Review of 2009/2010 activities

The SC will consider intersessional activities during 2009/2010 for the capacity building in science of developing States and participating territories supported by the Commission's Special Requirements Fund and Japanese Trust Fund. The Secretariat⁴, SPC-OFP and FFA will give a brief report in this regard.

b. Advice and recommendations to the Commission*

The SC will provide advice and recommendations in relation to existing activities and proposed new initiatives, if any, for the Special Requirements Fund, Japanese Trust Fund or other potential sources of assistance for capacity building of the developing States and participating territories.

AGENDA ITEM 12 FUTURE WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

12.1 Strategic Research Plan of the Scientific Committee

The SC will review the Strategic Research Plan 2007-2011 (Attachment P, SC2 Summary Report) and provide any suggestions for the development and possible adoption of the Plan for 2012-2016 at SC7.

12.2 Review of the Scientific Committee Work Programme

The SC will review and revise the SC Work Programme that was established at SC3 (Attachment O of the SC3 Summary Report).

12.3 Progress of 2010 Work Programme, 2011 Work Programme and budget, and 2012-2013 provisional Work Programme and indicative budget*

The SC will consider the progress of the 2010 Work Programmes, update the Programme for 2011-2013, and recommend a priority list of activities for the 2011 with an indicative budget and scope and tasks for each research project theme.

AGENDA ITEM 13 ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

13.1 Rules of Procedure

⁴ Secretariat will report the status of the SRF.

Subject to any proposals tabled by CCMs, the SC will consider Rules of Procedure for the SC.

13.2 Peer review of stock assessments*

The Commission at WCPFC6 agreed to review the 2010 bigeye stock assessment with a target to report to the Commission (WCPFC7) by December 2011. The SC may consider a work plan, options for the process of the peer review, selection of reviewers, and budget to be proposed.

13.3 Future operation of the Scientific Committee

The SC will consider options for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the future operation of the SC.

a. Review of the Structure and Functions of the SC Meetings

The SC will review the proposed structure of the SC meetings that was applied to SC6, and recommend a revised structure to be applied to the future SC meetings until a new need for modification is proposed.

13.4 Next meeting*

Members are invited to propose a time and venue for SC7 in August 2011.

AGENDA ITEM 14 OTHER MATTERS

The SC will consider any additional issues.

AGENDA ITEM 15 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

15.1 Adoption of the Summary Report and Executive Summary of the Sixth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee

The SC will adopt the Summary Report of its Sixth Regular Session and its Executive Summary.

AGENDA ITEM 16 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting will close at 17:00 on Thursday, 19 August 2010.