



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
SIXTH REGULAR SESSION**

**WEST PACIFIC EAST ASIA OCEANIC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

Nuku'alofa, Tonga  
14 August 2010

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**REPORT OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

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**WCPFC-SC6-2010/GN-WP-03**

**1. Opening of Meeting**

1. The West Pacific East Asia (WPEA) Oceanic Fisheries Management Project Coordinator, Tony Lewis, welcomed participants and observers to the second meeting of the WPEA Project Steering Committee (PSC).

2. The following documents were available to the meeting: (i) a summary of Project-related activities during the last 12 months (WCPFC-SC6-2010/WPEA-PSC2/GN-IP-10, rev 1); (ii) progress reports covering activities undertaken in the three project countries since the Project's inception in January 2010 (GN-IP-12, GN-IP-13 and GN-IP-14); and (iii) a statement of income, expenditure, and fund balance changes for the Project fund (GN-IP-11).

**2. Appointment of Chairman and Rapporteur**

3. The Project Coordinator served as Chair for the meeting. The WCPFC Secretariat provided rapporteuring assistance.

**3. Adoption of the Agenda**

4. The revised provisional meeting agenda (WCPFC-SC6-2010/11 [Rev. 1]) was adopted (Attachment A).

**4. Introduction to WPEA-PSC2**

**4.1 WPEA Project**

5. The Project Coordinator gave a brief overview of the project, noting that it emerged from an identified need to improve collection of data related to tuna fisheries in the three countries involved (Indonesia, Philippines, and Vietnam), and strengthen institutional arrangements and legal processes in those countries to allow them to be more effectively involved in the work of the Commission. The Project officially began on 6 January 2010; the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is

the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implementing agency (IA) for the project, with the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) and the WCPFC Secretariat acting as cooperating executing agencies.

#### **4.2 WPEA-Project Steering Committee Membership**

6. The WPEA-PSC is an advisory body that assists with effective implementation of the Project and with subsequent adoption of results. It meets annually at the margins of the WCPFC Scientific Committee (SC) meeting. The membership, as confirmed during the 2009 WPEA-PSC meeting, includes the three participating countries (Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam), the WCPFC Secretariat, UNDP, UNOPS, GEF, and partner governments/agencies (including nongovernmental organizations). FAO has recently expressed interest in participation, but was unable to attend PSC2.

### **5. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

#### **5.1 Financial arrangements and status of the WPEA**

7. GEF has committed to providing US\$925,000 to the WPEA. In addition, in-kind and cash contributions are being made by the participating countries (Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam), and co-financing and/or in-kind partnership arrangements are in place with the Australian International Development Assistance Agency (AusAID), the US National Marine Fisheries Service, the Government of Japan (though the WCPFC Japan Trust Fund), the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), and the WCPFC.

8. SungKwon Soh, WCPFC Science Manager and Interim Executive Director, presented the statement of income, expenditure, and fund balance changes (GN-IP-11). The total income over the last year (including the balance of funds from the former Indonesia Philippines Data Collection Project (IPDCP), and contributions from Australia, the Japan Trust Fund, and the WCPFC) was \$469,408; expenditures totaled \$170,044 leaving a balance of \$299,364. A total of \$260,000 will be transferred to WCPFC from the UN Office for Project Services to support 2010 activities, making available a total of about \$560,000 for approximately 50 activities spread across the three countries. All activities to date have been funded from co-financing and carry-over sources.

#### **5.2 Clarification of audit requirements**

9. Participating countries are required to select auditors to perform audits in accordance with UNDP and GEF requirements; alternatively, the WCPFC Secretariat can provide this service.

### **6. REVIEW OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

10. The WCPFC Science Manager reviewed project management activities undertaken to date under the WPEA. An inception workshop was held in July 2009, and the Project Document was signed by all three countries on January 6<sup>th</sup> 2010. This then became the official start date of the project. The WCPFC Secretariat submitted WPEA annual work plans (AWPs), with budget implications, to UNOPS and UNDP in early January 2010 for their review; these were recently approved. Activities to date have been implemented according to those work plans, and are discussed under Agenda Item 7. Other management activities undertaken include attendance at the GEF International Waters Conference, and a field visit for the review of Indonesian port sampling activities in Bitung.

11. The Project Coordinator noted that much had been achieved in the brief period following formal project inception, despite GEF funds not yet being available to the project. He acknowledged the support provided by various resource people across the region, and in particular thanked Peter Williams (Secretariat of the Pacific Community [SPC]) for his support of in-country data workshops.

12. The Project Coordinator also noted reporting requirements for the project and participating countries.

## **7. REVIEW OF THE FIRST YEAR WPEA ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND ACTIVITIES**

### **7.1 Indonesia**

13. Fayakun Satria (RCCF) reviewed the activities undertaken to date under the 2010 work plan. Indonesia undertook training of enumerators, with port sampling activities conducted beginning in March, following that training. Training for a database technician was provided through attendance at a workshop at SPC. In addition, a workshop was held addressing policy and legal issues. Details are provided in GN-IP-14.

#### **Discussion**

14. It was noted that the WPEA was supporting the hiring of one project staff person (a national tuna coordinator) in each country. Indonesia has experienced computer-related problems, and data entry is currently being handled by the WCPFC Secretariat from hard copy data provided by Indonesia.

### **7.2 Philippines**

15. Noel Barut (NFRDI/BFAR) reviewed the activities undertaken to date under the 2010 work plan. Philippines continued port sampling activities begun under the IPDCP in selected sites with funding from the Philippine government and ACIAR; additional sites will be monitored beginning in July 2010 with WPEA funding support. Logsheet data and cannery receipts data have been gathered since 2008, and an annual catch estimates review workshop was conducted in May 2010 to develop accurate catch estimates by species and gear type. Details are provided in GN-IP-13.

#### **Discussion**

16. It was noted that activities in Philippines had received support through a US\$50,000 contribution from NOAA/NMFS.

### **7.3 Vietnam**

17. Pham Viet Anh (Department of Capture Fisheries and Resources Protection) reviewed the activities undertaken to date under the 2010 work plan. Vietnam held an inception workshop in October 2009 and a tuna data collection workshop in March 2010. Field visits were made to three provinces, and a stakeholder meeting and enumerator training workshop held in May 2010. Vietnam participated in a stock assessment workshop and TUFMAN database training (at SPC), and undertook a consultancy and convened a subsequent review workshop focusing on legal, policy and institutional arrangements for the management of Vietnam's tuna fishing operations and conservation and management activities. Details are provided in GN-IP-12.

## **Discussion**

18. It was noted that no activities had been conducted in Vietnam prior to the WPEA, and that a significant amount had been achieved in a short time. Data collection for small purse seine and gillnet fisheries will commence following a workshop in November 2010. It was agreed that some sampling in tuna canneries would be helpful; Vietnam's canneries process about 50,000 mt per year, about two thirds of which is supplied from imports.

19. Peter Williams (SPC) noted that while significant work had been undertaken by the three countries over the past year, much work remains. He stated that the focus had been on improving annual catch statistics, and that an estimate of annual catch by species and gear was needed. He indicated that annual catch estimate workshops that have been held in Indonesia and Philippines will be continued over next few years. Collecting data by species and gear from artisanal (as opposed to industrial) fisheries remains a significant challenge.

## **8. FUTURE WORK PLAN**

20. The Project Coordinator noted that all funding is dependent on approval of annual work plans, so there is a need to develop these in timely fashion

### **8.1 Annual work plan for 2011**

21. The WCPFC Science Manager noted the need for submission by countries of draft 2011 work plans (based on the 2010 work plan templates) by the end of August 2010. These will be reviewed and following consultations, draft work plans be submitted by countries prior to the middle of October 2010. He noted that countries had been made aware of this requirement in mid-2010, and indicated that the UNDP/UNOPS work plan approval process was lengthy, making early submissions critical if funds were to be transferred to WCPFC prior to the start of 2011 activities.

22. The WCPFC-SC6 representative from Papua New Guinea stated that the gaps in fisheries data the WPEA Project was intended to fill were a major concern for WCPFC members, and on behalf of SC members expressed thanks to the WPEA-participating countries for their work and efforts to address these gaps. The Science Manager noted that the WCPFC would welcome additional support for the project.

### **8.2 Progress of Phase 2 WPEA Project**

23. The Project Coordinator indicated that the WCPFC and participating countries were aware when submitting the original project proposal to UNDP that the GEF funding schedule limited the funding available to the project to MSP level, and that the resulting timeframe and funds would not support all necessary activities in the long term. It was thus recognized that the project would need to be continued in an expanded form through an application under the new GEF funding period. On that basis the WCPFC Secretariat will submit a project identification form (PIF), which is the first necessary step in seeking funding from the next International Waters Project funding tranche. The PIF has been circulated informally; this will need to be endorsed, and if approved by GEF, will lead to preparation of a full project document, which would probably need to be finalized in mid-2011, following extensive consultation with countries. The Phase 2 project will likely be a 5-year project with funding of US\$5–6 million; activities would be similar, but better resourced. He noted that the

process outlined, and the PIF, would need to be formally endorsed by the three WPEA countries in the near future.

## **9. OTHER MATTERS**

24. The WCPFC-SC6 representative from Australia commented that AusAID was very pleased to be able to contribute to the project, and would consider the provision of additional funding, especially in activities related to capacity building. He looked forward to further positive outcomes in accordance with the work plans, and thanked all those involved, especially the Secretariat and the three WPEA countries.

### **9.1 Election of PSC-3 Chair, Vice Chair and rapporteur.**

25. Philippines agreed to serve as chair for PSC-3. The WCPFC Secretariat will provide rapporteuring services.

## **10. ADOPTION OF REPORT**

26. The report was adopted during the SC plenary.

## **11. CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

27. The Project Coordinator closed the meeting.



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
SIXTH REGULAR SESSION**

10-19 August 2010  
Nuku'alofa, Tonga

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**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE  
SECOND STEERING COMMITTEE OF WPEA OFM<sup>1</sup>**

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**WCPFC-SC6-2010/11 (Rev.1)**

Meeting time: 14:00-16:00, Saturday, 14 August 2009

Meeting venue: Plenary room

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING
2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND RAPPORTEURS
3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
4. INTRODUCTION TO WPEA OFM PSC-2<sup>2</sup>
  - 4.1 WPEA OFM Project and role of the SC
  - 4.2 WPEA OFM -PSC Membership<sup>3</sup>
5. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
  - 5.1 Financial arrangements and status of the WPEA OFM
  - 5.2 Clarification of audit requirements
6. REVIEW OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT
7. REVIEW OF THE FIRST YEAR WPEA OFM ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND ACTIVITIES
  - 7.1 Indonesia
  - 7.2 Philippines
  - 7.3 Vietnam
8. FUTURE WORK PLAN
  - 8.1 Annual Work Plan for 2011
  - 8.2 Progress of Phase 2 WPEA Project
9. OTHER MATTERS
  - 9.1 Election of PSC-3 chair, vice chair and rapporteur
10. ADOPTION OF REPORT
11. CLOSE OF THE MEETING

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<sup>1</sup> WCPFC's GEF Project: West Pacific East Asia Oceanic Fisheries Management Project

<sup>2</sup> Project Steering Committee

<sup>3</sup> Philippines; Indonesia; Vietnam; WCPFC Secretariat; UNDP; United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS); The GEF, and Partner governments/agencies