



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
SIXTH REGULAR SESSION**

10-19 August 2010
Nuku'alofa, Tonga

Structure and future operations of the SC Meeting

WCPFC-SC6-2010/GN-IP-07

Prepared by the Secretariat

Scientific Committee structure

1. The consultancy report, 'Independent Review of the Commission's Transitional Science Structure and Functions' 2008, suggested altering the structure of the Scientific Committee (SC) meeting to improve the efficiency of its operations. The SC5 agreed to task R. Campbell, the Secretariat, the SC Chair and Vice Chair, and SWG convenors with developing a proposal for re-structuring SC meetings, for distribution to CCMs well in advance of SC6, and if accepted, for trial at SC6.
2. In April 2010, the Secretariat distributed to all CCMs the paper WCPFC-SC-2010/Intersessional-01 *Proposal for streamlining the structure of the Scientific Committee Meetings for the WCPFC* as attached, providing two options to be considered for trialing at SC6. A new feature is the inclusion of a new session, Management Issues, at SC6, which may incorporate the issues related to Reference Points and review of other management related issues. Responses resulted in Option A being the preferred choice. Comments received on the proposal included:
 - Option A¹ was preferred as it simulated a phased approach to a new SC structure, rather than completely removing the FT, ME and BI Themes as proposed in Option B.
 - Trialling Option A for 2 years before possibly trialling Option B, as this will provide sufficient practice time for the new meeting structure.
 - Possible hybrid of both Option A and Option B where Theme Sessions would alternate every 2 to 3 years.
 - Review the effectiveness of Option A and decide whether to shift to Option B for SC7 (2011) or maintain Option A.
 - Having the Methods Theme move to the Stock Assessment Preparatory Workshop (SAPW) hosted by the SPC-OFP, and include the allocated Methods Theme Session time during SC to the Stock Status Theme.
 - Option B was preferred as it presented the shortest duration and current SC meetings were too long.

Other comments received referred to the functioning of the SC:

- All purely political statements would have to be avoided; consequently, the SC Chair would have to ensure that only scientific points of view are expressed around the table, and

¹Reduced sessions for BI, FT and ME Theme, i.e., the current SC6 structure

- then included in the SC report. Political statements should be left to the WCPFC Annual Meeting.
- The need to develop, within the SC, exhaustive and thorough scientific discussions and conclusions on the stock assessment results.
 - Peer review the results of all stock assessment models by a small ad hoc group of WCPFC scientists, prior to SC meetings.
 - Small groups of scientists/experts for each field/species undertake in depth analysis of assessments prior to discussion during SC plenary, as used in other RFMOs.
 - Change the timing of the SC meeting to later in the year to allow more time for data provision, production of assessment papers, consideration of ISC assessments and advice.
 - Develop schedule for assessments of main species to tie in with peer review process, and timing of SC meeting.
 - Identification of topics under each agenda item that may only need to be considered on alternate years
3. Alternative session structures for the Fish Biology, Fish Technology and Methods under Option A may be considered. Holding Fish Biology, Fishing Technology and Methods Theme Sessions in alternative years, or once every three years, would allow more session time for the Theme held each year. Biology and methods work relevant to an assessment would be considered at the SAPW.
 4. Table 1 is the proposed review of Option A, re-structuring the timing of each Theme session, which includes the Fish Biology, Fishing Technology and Methods Theme sessions. Note that the Data and Statistics Theme sessions run consecutively, and the Management Issues Theme would be the last theme session in plenary. Two ad hoc special sessions are included for any other work that may need consideration by the SC, e.g., PTTP and WPEA.
 5. Table 2 outlines the SC structure without the FT, ME and BI Theme sessions (Option B). This removes one more day from the structure being trialed at SC6. Every 2 or 3 years, one additional day may be included either prior to, or during, the SC to convene the FT, ME and BI Themes.
 6. Table 3 includes 2 consecutive sessions for one of either, the BI, FT or ME Themes, to be run in alternative years. Note, the last session on Tuesday of the second week is a free session.
 7. The number of sessions for all the Themes convened annually may also be reduced or increased depending on the amount of work to be considered in any one year. For example, the Management Issues Theme may not need to be convened annually and therefore the time allocated to those sessions could be reallocated to other Themes such as Stock Status.

Review

The SC is invited to:

- Consider the time allocated to each Theme session and review the SC6 structure and operations;
- Determine the future structure of SC meetings, including time allocated to Theme sessions, and the occurrence of FT, BI and ME Theme sessions.
- Consider the additional comments if necessary



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

Proposal for Streamlining the Structure of Scientific Committee Meetings for the WCPFC

**WCPFC-SC-2010/Intersessional-01
19 April 2010**

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WCPFC Secretariat

Proposal for Streamlining the Structure of Scientific Committee Meetings for the WCPFC

*Robert Campbell
April 2009*

1. Introduction

The following is taken from the report of the fifth meeting of the Scientific Committee for the WCPFC (SC5):

SC5 considered several topics relating to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the future SC operations. These topics were discussed based on the experiences of previous SC meetings, feedback from the Commission and other subsidiary bodies, and a review of the recommendations contained in the “Independent Review of the Commission’s Transitional Science Structure and Functions”.

Several CCMs recommended that the structure of the SC meetings be streamlined. Proposals included scheduling meetings of the BI-SWG, ME-SWG and FT-SWG on a biennial, ad hoc, or other basis; or dissolving these SWGs as formal working groups but holding the discussions that would normally occur in these SWGs as thematic sessions within a single SC plenary meeting with each thematic session convened by an expert in a similar way to the current convenor arrangement works within the SWGs. Suggestions were also made to revise the structure so that the SA-SWG, EB-SWG and ST-SWG meetings were also not held as separate, pre-plenary meetings, but rather are incorporated into a single SC plenary meeting.

SC5 agreed to task R. Campbell (Australia), the Secretariat, the SC Chair and Vice Chair, and SWG convenors with developing a proposal for re-structuring SC meetings. This proposal will be distributed to the SC well in advance of SC6, and if acceptable will be trialled at SC6

2. Structure of Recent SC Meetings

Recent meetings of the SC have been structured around the Agenda items shown in Table 1 which has been convened over a two week period. Apart from the first two agenda items, the first week and following Monday has comprised the meeting of the six Specialist Working Groups and the adoption of the respective reports. This has left 3.25 days for the plenary of the SC (Monday afternoon to Thursday inclusive) with the Friday devoted to the adoption of the meeting report.

In total these meetings have consisted of 43 sessions and taken place over 12 days with formal meetings held on 11 of these days (Sunday being a non-meeting day). Sessions are generally 1.5 or 2.0 hours based on the following daily schedule of 4 such sessions (as adopted at SC5):

Table 1. Listing of the main agenda items covered a recent meetings of the Scientific Committee together with the allocated times.

Item	Agenda Item	Allocated Time
1	Opening of Meeting	1 session
2	Review of Fisheries	2 sessions
	Meeting of Specialist Working Groups	
3	• Statistics SWG	4 sessions*
4	• Methods SWG	2 sessions
5	• Stock Assessment SWG	6 sessions
6	• Ecosystems and Bycatch SWG	4 sessions
7	• Fishing Technology	2 sessions
8	• Biology SWG	2 sessions
9	• Adoption of Reports	3 sessions
10	Status of Stocks and Management Advice and Implications	4 sessions
11	Bycatch Mitigation	2 sessions
12	Data and Information	2 sessions
13	Cooperation with other organisations	0.5 session
14	Consideration of Special Requirements of Developing States and Participating Territories	0.5 session
15	Future Work Programme and Budget	2 sessions
16	Administrative Matters	1 session
17	Other Matters	1 session
18	Adoption of Report	4 sessions
19	Close of Meeting	-
	Number of sessions	43 sessions

* Includes 1 evening session

1	Morning Session	8.30 to 10.00	1.5 hrs
	Morning tea	10.00 to 10.30	
2	Mid-morning Session	10.30 to 12.30	2.0 hrs
	Lunch	12.30 to 14.00	
3	Afternoon Session	14.00 to 15.30	1.5 hrs
	Afternoon tea	15.30 to 16.00	
4	Late-afternoon Session	16.00 to 17.30	1.5 hrs

There is the option of extending the last session each day to 18.00 if required to stay on schedule.

The present meeting structure of the SC has been criticised for a number of reasons, including:

- Inadequacy of review. As the number of participants in the SWGs is large, with many participants lacking the required scientific expertise to adequately review the papers presented, it is generally felt that the necessary review of the science is not being achieved in these meetings. The level of detailed technical discussion required in such circumstances is not possible.
- Not only science. As the same participants generally attend both the SWGs and the SC the SWGs are not seen as a meeting of scientific experts as they were originally intended to be. Furthermore, inclusion of the wider group of attendees at these meetings can result in the incursion of matters beyond the science to the focused on. This feature is highlighted by the use of CCM name plates during the SWGs when the intention of these groups is to be a meeting of individual scientists.
- Duplication of discussion: Each of the SWG makes a number of recommendations to the SC. The following week these recommendations are discussed by the SC which then makes recommendations to the Commission. As most participants to the SWG meetings also attend

the SC plenary, the first set of recommendations (i.e. from the SWG to the SC) can be interpreted as the same group of people essentially making recommendations to themselves. It should be noted that at SC5 the Stock Assessment SWG did not make recommendations to the SC – management advice to the Commission was only discussed and adopted by the SC. However, this approach resulted in a lengthy delay between the review of the stock assessments and the discussion on management advice.

- The meeting is too long. Extending over 2 weeks, with meetings held on 11 days, the meeting is very long.

In its recent review of the science structure of the Commission, MRAG made a number of recommendations including:

1. Strengthening the role of the Stock Assessment Preparatory Workshop (SAPW) convened by SPC-OFP in April each year through incorporation of some of the SWGs (in particular the Biology SWG and the Methods SWG),
2. Restructuring of the SWG meetings, including reviewing the need to convene the Statistics SWG and the Fishing Technology SWG at each SC and establishing a less formal process (no national representation and more intensive involvement of experts),
3. Allocation of more time to the review of stock assessments,
4. Establishment of an Ad-hoc working group on Socio-Economic Issues,
5. Consideration of additional workshops to cover species not considered in the main SPC-OFP work program.

Noting the review of these recommendations by SC5, the following comments can be made:

1. SC5 acknowledged the important role played by the SAPW and supported this recommendation. It also recognised the need for this meeting to remain informal to encompass a need recognised by MRAG to establish a less formal process with no national representation and more intensive involvement of experts (see 2 above). Furthermore, in noting that recent SAPWs already involved a review of the biological parameters and methods used in the stock assessment models, it was also deemed appropriate to have relevant biological and methodological working papers reviewed by the SAPW. However, it was deemed important that significant biological and methodological issues, or those which have a significant influence on the outcomes of the stock assessments, should also be reported to the SC. Hence, there remained a need for a streamlined version of both the Biology SWG and Methods SWG to report to the SC, through such sessions may not have to be convened each year.
2. SC5 reviewed the role of the SWGs, and in noting the criticisms listed above concerning the present structure of the SWGs and the SC, proposed to adopt a new structure not considered by MRAG in their review. In particular, noting the fact that to a large extent the same participants attended both the SWGs and the SC plenary, the likelihood that the SWGs will not become more technically focussed and informal (a role to be played by the SAPW), and the current inefficiencies in the current process due to duplication, a structure based on combining similar SWG and plenary sessions into single theme based session was proposed. Under this approach, the six SWGs and associated SC plenary sessions would be replaced by the following six themes:
 - Data and Statistics Theme
 - Fish Biology Theme
 - Fishing Technology Theme
 - Methods Theme
 - Stock Status Theme
 - Ecosystems and Bycatch Theme

Each theme would essentially undertake the duties formerly undertaken by each SWG and each have a convenor. However, the change of title from Specialist Working Group to Theme is an acknowledgement that these sessions all take place as part of the SC plenary. As such, the presentation and discussion of all working papers, together with the discussion of management advice and recommendations to the Commission will now take place in a single continuous theme session instead of being split between sessions across the two weeks as in the past.

3. The adoption of the new theme based structure will avoid the current duplication in the process and allow the meeting to be more efficient in its use of time. Consequently, more time could be made available to adequately review each stock assessment. However, additional work to make these sessions more effective (such as the use of draft recommendations) will hopefully also save additional time.
4. Whilst SC5 did not explicitly discuss this issue, the following can be noted. During SC5 the session of the Methods SWG was devoted to a special workshop on Reference Points. This workshop fulfilled both a capacity building and a review purpose. A number of participants welcomed the addition of the workshop to the SC structure and a number of other topics, such as socio-economic issues, would benefit from by being discussed in such a workshop framework. Whilst SC6 will again focus on Reference Points, the need to retain a session in the SC structure where this and other management issues can be discussed seems both appropriate and worthwhile. Hence, it is proposed to establish a new Management Issues Theme to support this concept. This theme does not need to meet each year and the convenor may change depending on the topic under discussion.
5. Again, whilst SC5 did not discuss this issue, a discussion of species not presently covered by stock assessments could be reviewed as part of the proposed Management Issues Theme. An exploratory expose of the role of ecosystems models in ecosystem based fisheries management would be another worthy candidate issue.

3. New Structure for SC6 – Proposal A

Based on the above discussion, a possible agenda for SC6 which incorporate the thematic structure proposed by SC5 is outlined in Table 2. This proposal incorporates the following features:

- The whole meeting is convened as the SC plenary and retains within the thematic structure all the previous topics covered by the SWGs.
- It retains all the main agenda items of previous SC meetings, with session times remaining the same for all agenda items 1-2 and 10-16 (except for Item 12 which is reduced to a single session, facilitated by Informal Small Group discussions).
- Three of the previous SWGs (Biology, Methods and Fishing Technology) are streamlined within the new thematic structure, with only 1 session allocated to each instead of the two sessions allocated in previous SCs. As mentioned above, relevant papers on Fish Biology and Methods will be incorporated within the SAPW so only significant issues need to be reported to the SC. The

Table 2. Illustrative schedule for new theme-based structure for SC6 – Proposal A.

Item	Week-Day	Daily Session	Agenda Item	Proposed Allocation
1	Tuesday	1	Opening of Meeting	1 session
2		2-3	Review of Fisheries	2 sessions
3		4	Data and Statistics Theme	1 sessions
4	Wednesday	1	Fish Biology Theme	1 session
5		2	Fishing Technology Theme	1 session
6		3	Methods Theme	1 session
7		4	Stock Status Theme	1 session
7	Thursday	1-4	Stock Status Theme	4 sessions
7	Friday	1-4	Stock Status Theme	4 sessions
8	Saturday	1-2	Management Issues Theme - Reference Points	2 sessions
		3-4	Hold for Special Presentations	2 sessions
	Sunday		Free Day	
9	Monday	1-4	Ecosystems and Bycatch Mitigation Theme	4 sessions
3	Tuesday	1-4	Data and Statistics Theme	4 sessions
10	Wednesday	1	Cooperation with other organisations	0.5 session
11		1	Consideration of Special Requirements of Developing States and Participating Territories	0.5 session
12		2	Future Work Programme and Budget	1 sessions
13		3	Administrative Matters	1 session
14		4	Other Matters	1 session
15	Thursday	1-4	Adoption of Report	4 sessions
16			Close of Meeting	
			Number of sessions	34 sessions
			Number of plenary days	8.5 days
			Total duration of meeting	10 days

Fishing Technology theme may also benefit from becoming more streamlined and focused. An additional benefit of retaining each of these individual themes is that it allows the retention of a convenor for each theme who can focus on identifying appropriate research topics for each theme for inclusion in the overall Scientific Work Programme for the Commission.

- Alternative session structures for the Fish Biology, Fish Technology and Methods can be identified. For example, it may be worthwhile holding some only every second year which would allow more time (2 sessions) for those that are held in that year.
- Two full days plus an additional late afternoon session is allowed for review of stock assessments and the adoption of management advice (including the northern stocks). Hopefully, the process of reviewing and adopting management advice can be made more efficient if the convenor(s) draft recommendations before each session. Additional time can be devoted to this theme if deemed necessary. However, given the scope and importance of this theme, and the need to draft recommendations, as in the past at least two co-convenors (and possibly a third for northern stocks) are required.
- One full day is allowed for review of ecosystems and bycatch issues and adoption of recommendations – again, this may need to be extended.
- I have incorporated a new Management Issues Theme. At SC6 this will incorporate the discussion on Reference Points but as mentioned above this will be a useful vehicle for the discussion and review of other management related issues.
- As with previous SCs, the proposed agenda for SC6 again leaves Saturday afternoon and Sunday free. However, in recent years Saturday afternoon has been used to hold additional meetings of interest to the SC (e.g. Steering Committee meetings on the Pacific Tuna Tagging Program) and this is likely to be the case at future meeting. If this is not the case, this time can be used to catch up on the agenda if the meeting is behind schedule.
- The timelines associated with the proposal structure in Table 2 total 34 sessions or 8.5 days (or 10 days including the Saturday afternoon and Sunday). This is a savings of 2 days from the 10.5 (12) days duration of previous SC meetings. Such timelines would enable the meeting to be held from a Tuesday to the following Thursday, allowing people attending to arrive on the Monday before (unless they are also attending associated preparatory SC officer, Head of Delegation or FFA meetings) and leave on the Friday after the meeting hopefully reducing the time spent travelling on the weekends.
- Under this proposed structure, the convenors of the SWG will help co-chair each of the respective themes with the SC Chair. This ensures that each Theme has a dedicated convenor who can bring the expertise and focus onto the issues addressed by each Theme. With no SWGs there will be no need for convenors to write summary reports and to have them adopted (saving nearly a day). This will make the role of the convenor easier and hopefully this will allow more time so they can focus on drafting notes and recommendations, etc to better facilitate the agenda under each Theme.
- With the SC plenary covering all days of the SC agenda, this will mean the need for a Principle Rapporteur for the entire period – as opposed to 5 days at previous SCs.

4. New Structure – Proposal B

Based on discussion of Proposed A outlined in the previous section at the recent Pre-Assessment Workshop, an alternative more streamlined structure was suggested. This structure would eliminate the Biology, Methods and Fishing Technology Themes and incorporate those aspects of these Themes which contributed in a substantive manner to the stock assessments in the Stock Assessment Theme. This would eliminate 3 sessions but in order to accommodate any additional presentations the duration of the Stock Assessment Theme is increased by one session to 10 sessions (from 9 under Proposal A). These changes together save two sessions or half a day. In order to streamline the proposal by a full day, the meeting is extended to cover the Saturday afternoon so that only the Sunday is left as free time. This can be seen as appropriate given that the whole meeting has been reduced by 3 days.

An illustrative schedule for SC6 under this proposal (known as Proposal B) is shown in Table 3. Additional features of this proposal which differ from Proposal A are as follows:

- The duration of the meeting is reduced to 9 days (8 days of plenary). Such timelines would enable the meeting to be held from a Tuesday to the following Wednesday, again hopefully reducing the time spent travelling on the weekends.

Table 3. Illustrative schedule for new theme-based structure for SC6 – Proposal B.

Week-Day	Daily Session	Agenda Item	Proposed Allocation
Tuesday	1	Opening of Meeting	1 session
	2-3	Review of Fisheries	2 sessions
	4	Data and Statistics Theme	1 sessions
Wednesday	1-4	Stock Status Theme	4 sessions
Thursday	1-4	Stock Status Theme	4 sessions
Friday	1-2	Stock Status Theme	2 sessions
	3-4	Management Issues Theme - e.g. Reference Points in 2010	2 sessions
Saturday	1-4	Ecosystems and Bycatch Mitigation Theme	4 sessions
Sunday		Free Day	
Monday	1-4	Data and Statistics Theme	4 sessions
Tuesday	1	Cooperation with other organisations	0.5 session
	1	Consideration of Special Requirements of Developing States and Participating Territories	0.5 session
	2	Future Work Programme and Budget	1 session
	3	Administrative Matters	1 session
	4	Other Matters	1 session
Wednesday	1-4	Adoption of Report	4 sessions
		Close of Meeting	
		Number of sessions	32 sessions
		Number of plenary days	8 days
		Total duration of meeting	9 days

- There is no need for convenors (co-chairs) for the Biology, Methods and Fishing Technology Themes, though convenors (co-chairs) will still be required for the Stock Assessment, Data and Statistics, Ecosystem and Bycatch, and the Management Issues Themes.
- As the Biology, Methods and Fishing Technology Themes are eliminated under Proposal B, there will be little time to present information relating to these topics to the SC. Only those aspects of these Themes which contributed in a substantive manner to the stock assessments would be presented (in the Stock Assessment Theme). To assist in the dissemination of information under these and the other Themes, as well as other topics of interest, it is proposed that the Commission convene a “Scientific Conference” every three years. Such a conference would provide a good venue to bring together scientists and other stakeholder groups interested in the ongoing research and science related to the management of the tuna and related fisheries in the western central Pacific Ocean. To save travel costs for both the Commission and other attending, it may be prudent to hold such a Conference just prior to an associated SC meeting.

5. Role and Structure of Stock Assessment Preparatory Workshop

MRAG proposed an enhanced role for the Stock Assessment Preparatory Workshop (SAPW) currently convened by SPC-OFP each year to complement some for the changes suggested to the structure of the SC meeting. In particular, MRAG recommended strengthening the role of the SAPW through incorporation of some of the SWGs (in particular the Biology SWG and the Methods SWG). As described above, this enhanced role is also a feature of both Proposal A and Proposal B described above. MRAG also recognised the need for this meeting to remain informal with no national representation and a more intensive involvement of experts.

As noted in Attachment Q of the SC5 report, the role of the SAPW was discussed by SC5 which acknowledged the important role played by this workshop. SC5 also strongly supported the MRAG recommendation for this workshop to remain informal and in order to facilitate this outcome recommended that it continue to be facilitated by SPC.

Having attended the recent SAPW held between 6-10 April it would appear that this workshop is functioning well and fulfilling its designed purpose. With around 22 people attending the recent workshop (including the SC Chair, the Methods SWG convenor, and scientists from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, USA, New Zealand, Australia, Nauru, Cook Islands, Fiji, New Caledonia, Republic of the Marshall Islands, the EU together with scientists from SPC-OFP) it appears to be drawing a good representation of scientists from member CCMs. Discussion remained focus on particular scientific issues underlying the stock assessments in the WCPO (e.g. data, CPUE, model structure, recruitment trends, etc), and in particular those issues seen as particular interest to the assessments to be undertaken and presented at SC6. With a greater emphasis on the continued and expanded attendance at this workshop by scientists in the region who can contribute to the scientific reviews undertaken by this workshop, there is no reason why this workshop cannot continue to function well and fulfil its objectives.

As in the past, a full report of the work undertaken by the workshop will be presented to the SC with additional presentation(s) of those issues which contributed in a substantive manner to the stock assessments.

6. Comparison of session times for each Theme under each Proposal

The number of sessions available to each Theme (including associated SWG) at SC5 and under each of the two proposals for SC6 is compared in Table 4. Agenda Items where changes have been made to the time-allocations are indicated by the shading – these are Items 3-8 and Items 12 and 17. The time allocation to all other items remain the same. Note, Item 9 is new.

Table 4. Comparison of times associated with each agenda item for the two proposals with those allocated during SC5.

	Agenda Item	SC-5			Proposal A	Proposal B
		SWG	Plenary	Total	Total	Total
	Number of Sessions	Number of Sessions				
1	Opening of Meeting		1	1	1	1
2	Review of Fisheries		2	2	2	2
3	Data and Statistics	1,2	2	5	5	4
4	Fish Biology	2		2	1	
5	Fishing Technology	2		2	1	
6	Methods	2		2	1	
7	Stock Assessment and Stock Status	2,4	4	10	9	10
8	Ecosystems and Bycatch Mitigation	4	2	6	4	4
9	Management Issues				2	2
10	Cooperation with other organisations		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
11	Consideration of Special Requirements of Developing States and Participating Territories		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
12	Future Work Programme and Budget		2	2	1	1
13	Administrative Matters		1	1	1	1
14	Other Matters		1	1	1	1
15	Adoption of Report		4	4	4	4
16	Close of Meeting		-	-	-	-
17	Adoption of SWG reports			3		
Number of sessions				42	34	32
Number of plenary days				10.5	8.5	8
Total duration of meeting				12	10	9

7. Further Consideration

As recommended by SC5, this document is to be circulated to CCMs for further comment. Whilst comments are being sought on any aspects of the changes being proposed, in particular CCMs are requested to comments on the suitability/preference of either Proposal A or Proposal B. Based on these comments, a final structure and agenda for SC6 will be adopted.

Finally, it is recommended that whatever structure and agenda is adopted for SC6, that SC6 discuss the success or otherwise of the adopted structure and agenda and, where required, make recommendations for suitable modifications for SC7. In particular, the time allocations to some Themes and/or Agenda Items may need to be reviewed and revised.

Table 1. SC structure with all themes included

SC7 and beyond - Indicative Schedule - w/ FT, BI, ME Themes				
DATE	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	HOURS	COMMENTS
Sunday	10:00-11:30	SM , Secretariat, Lead Rapporteur meeting		
	13:00-14:00	Chair, VC, SM meeting		
	14:00-15:30	SC Chair, Convener and SM meeting - Discuss meeting process		
	16:00-17:00	Head's of Delegation Meeting and Registration		
Monday	08:00-08:30	Registration		
	08:30-10:00	1. OPENING OF THE MEETING	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	2. REVIEW OF FISHERIES	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	2. REVIEW OF FISHERIES	1.5	
Tuesday	15:30-17:30	AH HOC SPECIAL SESSION (Steering Committee on the GEF WPEA Project)	2	LESS 0.5
	08:30-10:00	3. FISH BIOLOGY THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	4. FISHING TECHNOLOGY THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	9. DATA AND STSTISTICS THEME	1.5	
Wednesday	15:30-17:30	9. DATA AND STSTISTICS THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	9. DATA AND STSTISTICS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	9. DATA AND STSTISTICS THEME	1.5	LESS 0.5
	13:30-15:00	5. METHODS THEME	1.5	
Thursday	15:30-17:30	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
Friday	15:30-17:30	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
Saturday	15:30-17:30	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	6. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	ADD 1.5
	10:30-12:00	8. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	8. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
Sunday	15:30-17:30	8. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	Reserved for over time		
	10:30-12:00	Reserved for over time		
	13:30-15:00			
Monday	15:30-17:30			
	08:30-10:00	8. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	AH HOC SPECIAL SESSION (Steering Committee on the PTTP)	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	7. MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	1.5	
Tuesday	15:30-17:30	7. MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	10. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS		
	10:30-12:00	11. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ISSUES	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	12. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET	1.5	
Wednesday	15:30-17:30	13. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	1.5	
	08:30-10:00	14. OTHER MATTERS	2	
	10:30-12:00	15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT / 16. CLOSE OF MEETING	2	
			58.5	TOTAL

Table 2. SC structure without fishing technology, fish biology and methods themes

SC7 and beyond - Indicative Schedule - w/o FT, BI, ME Themes				
DATE	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	HOURS	COMMENTS
Sunday	10:00-11:30	SM , Secretariat, Lead Rapporteur meeting		
	13:00-14:00	Chair, VC, SM meeting		
	14:00-15:30	SC Chair, Convener and SM meeting - Discuss meeting process		
	16:00-17:00	Head's of Delegation Meeting and Registration		
Monday	08:00-08:30	Registration		
	08:30-10:00	1. OPENING OF THE MEETING	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	2. REVIEW OF FISHERIES	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	2. REVIEW OF FISHERIES	1.5	
Tuesday	15:30-17:30	AH HOC SPECIAL SESSION (Steering Committee on the GEF WPEA Project)	2	LESS 0.5
	08:30-10:00	3. DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	3. DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	3. DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	1.5	
Wednesday	15:30-17:30	3. DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	2	LESS 0.5
	08:30-10:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
Thursday	15:30-17:30	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
Friday	15:30-17:30	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	4. STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	ADD 1
	13:30-15:00	5. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
Saturday	15:30-17:30	5. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	5. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	5. ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	AH HOC SPECIAL SESSION (Steering Committee on the PTPP)	1.5	
Sunday	15:30-17:30	6. MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	2	
	08:30-10:00	Reserved for over time		
	10:30-12:00	Reserved for over time		
	13:30-15:00			
Monday	15:30-17:30			
	08:30-10:00	6. MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	7. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	8. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ISSUES		
Tuesday	15:30-17:30	9. FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET	1.5	
	08:30-10:00	10. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	2	
	10:30-12:00	11. OTHER MATTERS	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	12. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
Tuesday	15:30-17:30	12. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	12. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT / 13. CLOSE OF MEETING	2	
			52	TOTAL

Table 3. Three year alternative Methods, Fishing Technology and Fish Biology theme session

SC7 and beyond - Indicative Schedule - w/ alternative 3 year FT, BI, ME Themes				
DATE	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	HOURS	COMMENTS
Sunday	10:00-11:30	SM , Secretariat, Lead Rapporteur meeting		
	13:00-14:00	Chair, VC, SM meeting		
	14:00-15:30	SC Chair, Convener and SM meeting - Discuss meeting process		
	16:00-17:00	Head's of Delegation Meeting and Registration		
Monday	08:00-08:30	Registration		
	08:30-10:00	OPENING OF THE MEETING	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	REVIEW OF FISHERIES	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	REVIEW OF FISHERIES	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	FISH BIOLOGY / FISHING TECHNOLOGY / METHODS	2	
Tuesday	08:30-10:00	FISH BIOLOGY / FISHING TECHNOLOGY / METHODS	1.5	3.5 hours total
	10:30-12:00	DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	2	
Wednesday	08:30-10:00	DATA AND STATISTICS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
Thursday	08:30-10:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
Friday	08:30-10:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	STOCK STATUS THEME	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	STOCK STATUS THEME	2	
Saturday	08:30-10:00	ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME	2	
Sunday	08:30-10:00	Reserved for over time		
	10:30-12:00	Reserved for over time		
	13:30-15:00			
	15:30-17:30			
Monday	08:30-10:00	MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	MANAGEMENT ISSUES THEME	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS ISSUES	2	
Tuesday	08:30-10:00	FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	OTHER MATTERS	1.5	
	15:30-17:30			
Wednesday	08:30-10:00	ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
	10:30-12:00	ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
	13:30-15:00	ADOPTION OF THE REPORT	1.5	
	15:30-17:30	ADOPTION OF THE REPORT / CLOSE OF MEETING	2	
			56.5 TOTAL	