

**JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA  
FOURTH SESSION**

Portland, Oregon, United States of America

3 – 5 September 2019

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA  
MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION**

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**IATTC-NC-JWG04-2019/03**

**Proposal by the United States of America**

The Northern Committee (NC) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) in consultation with the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), requested the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) to begin work on a management strategy evaluation (MSE) for Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF) in 2019 with a goal of completing the MSE by 2024. As requested in the WCPFC harvest strategy for PBF fisheries, the ISC organized two MSE workshops, one in 2018 in Yokohama, Japan, and one in 2019 in San Diego, California, USA, to support the identification of specific management objectives, including level of risks and timelines. To clarify roles and responsibilities for the remaining steps in the MSE, the United States proposes that the Joint WG recommend the following terms of reference for the Pacific bluefin tuna MSE .

**Purpose of MSE**

To evaluate the expected performance of alternative long-term management strategies once the second rebuilding target is reached for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries.

**Role of the ISC**

To provide technical guidance on and oversee the development, execution and outputs of the model to be used in the PBF MSE.

**Role of the WCPFC NC and IATTC**

The WCPFC NC and IATTC will provide overall guidance on the MSE taking into account recommendations of the IATTC-NC Joint Working Group (JWG) including on, but not limited to, specification of management objectives, performance indicators, timelines, candidate reference points, and candidate harvest control rules.

**Role of the IATTC-WCPFC NC Joint Working Group (JWG)**

The JWG should be the forum for developing joint recommendations for WCPFC and IATTC on guidance for the MSE, taking into account the views expressed in stakeholder workshops. The JWG should identify a coordinator to liaise between the ISC, WCPFC and IATTC and help report on progress of the MSE as well as assist in the organization of any stakeholder workshops.