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**TO ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS, COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS,  
PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS**

**Circular No.: 2022/06  
Date: 15 February 2022  
No of pages: 6**

**Communication from the ERandEMWG Chair Regarding Planned Activities for  
2022**

Dear All,

As requested, and further to Circular 2022/03 dated 2 February 2022, I circulate a self-explanatory letter from the Chair of the Electronic-reporting and Electronic-Monitoring Working Group (ERandEMWG). Any responses to the enclosed letter may be directed to the Chair, Ms Claire van der Geest ([Claire.VANDERGEEST@afma.gov.au](mailto:Claire.VANDERGEEST@afma.gov.au)) and copy the Secretariat Compliance Manager, Dr Lara Manarangi-Trott ([lara.manarangi-trott@wcpfc.int](mailto:lara.manarangi-trott@wcpfc.int)). Please distribute this circular to all relevant people in your country and/or organization.

Yours sincerely,



**Feleti Penitala Teo, OBE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dear WCPFC EREM WG Participants,

Thank you for your continued engagement in this important work. Australia is again pleased to be providing a lead for this work and I am personally very pleased to be supporting the delivery of this work with you as your Chair.

As has been the case in recent years, it is likely that the majority of our work will need to occur via email and/or online meetings. This letter sets out the planned approach to the WG's work throughout 2022 and 2023 to enable successful delivery of the remit of the WG as asked by the Commission.

To recap, WCPFC 18 endorsed the TCC workplan 2022-24 including tasking the TCC to:

In 2022:

1. Consider and provide advice on outputs from the EREM WG including those related to existing obligations, data gaps and the prioritisation of ER and EM, and
2. Draft minimum standards for electronic monitoring.

In 2023:

1. Consider and provide advice on outputs from the EREM WG, including a draft EM CMM.

As such the focus of our 2022 agenda will be on the development of the EM Standards and finalising the advice to the Commission about the priorities for ER and EM.

Critically, though it will be important for the WG to consider the end goal and how best to deliver that end goal. To that end, it is important to recall that the Commission's objective and the critical role that data, including comprehensive, verified, independent and timely data collection and provision, supports the Commission's ability to achieve these objectives.

We have a big but not insurmountable workload. The planned approach to achieving the 2022 work is the following:

<b>When</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Participant Actions</b>
February	Chair to provide 2022 work plan and WG participants	For noting – no action required.
February	Revised Draft Standards circulated to WG. Revised priorities for ER and EM based on the Commission's decision "prioritising E-monitoring in areas where independent data collection and verification is currently low and asked SC15 and TCC15 for advice on priority areas". And specifically, that the Commission has encouraged the development of Electronic Monitoring by CCMs in areas where data gaps (as identified by Project 93) exist such as longline observer coverage and high seas transshipment.	Comments from participants due by 8 April 2022.

<b>When</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Participant Actions</b>
	Consider consultation draft outlining possible approaches to the broader implementation framework for EM and its relationship with the ROP.	
April	Revised draft Standards incorporating all comments circulated. Revised draft prioritisation list incorporating all comments circulated.	Further comments from participants due 31 May 2022.
April	First draft of a discussion paper on the regional framework for the EM program circulated mid-April.	Comments from participants by 31 May.
June	Agenda for the online meeting circulated to participants.	Early June for noting.
July	Revised draft Standards incorporating all comments circulated. Revised draft prioritisation list incorporating all comments circulated.	Final comments from participants due 31 July 2022.
Mid-late July	Online session to discuss standards, prioritisation and high-level framework, if required. Possibly a one to two day four hour session, but will be confirmed.	Proposed meeting during the week commencing the 18 July, from 10-2pm POH time.
August	Chair circulates draft Standards and Prioritisation list to WCPFC Secretariat for inclusion in the SC 18 papers. Possible presentation/Q&A at SC18.	For information noting.
September	Chair circulates draft Standards and Prioritisation list to WCPFC Secretariat for inclusion in the TCC 18 papers. TCC 18 asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review the draft standards and prioritisation list and provide any other comments to the WG.</li> <li>2. Adopt the EREM WG 5 report, if online meeting is held.</li> <li>3. Recommend adoption of standards and prioritisation to WCPFC 19.</li> </ol>	For discussion.
September	Second Online session to discuss standards, prioritisation and high-level framework, if required.	Proposed meeting depending on the progress made to date.

<b>When</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Participant Actions</b>
October	Final revisions to the Standards and Prioritisation list, if required, from TCC comments.	If required, final participant review due 31 October 2022.
November	Standards and Prioritisation submitted as papers to WCPFC 19.	For noting.
December	WCPFC 19 considers the standards and prioritisation list.	For noting.

For further background on the EREM WG work to date and for updates please refer to this page <https://www.wcpfc.int/erandem-iwg>.

Participation in the EREM WG remains open, please just send through an email to confirm your interest in being involved.

I look forward to working with you all to progress these important elements in 2022 and to ensure success at WCPFC 20 in 2023.

**Claire van der Geest**  
WCFPC EREM WG Chair  
14 February 2022

Enc: Current EREM WG participant list

**WCPFC EREM Working Group Participants\_as at 14 February 2022**

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