



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

Circular no: 2022/82
Date: 13 December 2022
No of pages:19

WCPFC19 OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Dear All,

Pursuant to rule 33(2) of the Rules of Procedure for the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), please find enclosed the Provisional Outcomes Document for WCPFC19 which lists all the decisions taken by the Commission at the WCPFC19 meeting recently held in Da Nang, Vietnam from 28 November to 3 December 2022.

The Outcomes Document has also been posted on the WCPFC19 meeting site. Should there be comments on the Outcomes Document, please submit them together with comments on the Draft Summary Report for WCPFC19 which will be circulated and posted in due course once available. The Secretariat is presently arranging to post copies of all the Conservation and Management Measures adopted at WCPFC19 on the Commission website.

On behalf of your Secretariat, I wish everyone the merriest of Christmas and a very prosperous and fulfilling New Year. Take care and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Feleti Penitala Teo", is located below the "Yours sincerely," text.

Feleti Penitala Teo, **OBE**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



COMMISSION
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION
 Da Nang City, Vietnam
 28 November to 3 December 2022

PROVISIONAL OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

WCPFC19-2022-OUTCOMES
13th December 2022

Agenda 1.1 – Adoption of Agenda

- | |
|----------------------------|
| 1. The Agenda was adopted. |
|----------------------------|

Agenda 2 – 2022 Annual Report of the Executive Director

- | |
|---|
| 2. The Commission noted with appreciation the 2022 Annual Report of the Executive Director (WCPFC19-2022-04) and recognized the valuable service of the Executive Director, Feleti Penitala Teo, OBE, during his tenure as Executive Director. |
|---|

Agenda 3.1 – Status of the Convention

- | |
|---|
| 3. The Commission noted with appreciation the report on the Status of the WCPF Convention (WCPFC19-2022-05). |
|---|

Agenda 3.2 – Update on observer status

- | |
|---|
| 4. The Commission noted the updated list of observers to the Commission (WCPFC19-2022-06 Rev 1). |
|---|

Agenda 3.3 – Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status

- | |
|--|
| 5. The Commission approved the applications for CNM status for 2023 from Curaçao, Ecuador, El Salvador, Liberia, Nicaragua, Panama, Thailand and Vietnam. |
| 6. WCPFC19 noted the significant concerns expressed by TCC18 regarding recent serious incidents involving Panama's flagged vessels in the NPFC Convention area. The Commission noted that Panama provided further information to the Commission requested by TCC18, including evidence of Panama's submission of relevant information to NPFC to include the flagged vessel on the NPFC IUU vessel list. |

7. WCPFC19 reiterated TCC18's reminder to encourage Panama to make efforts to make improvements to the management of its vessels. WCPFC tasks TCC19 to consider the outcome of NPFC IUU listing process and further efforts on Panama's improvements to manage and monitor its vessels when considering Panama's CNM application in 2023. The Commission noted the NPFC IUU listing process was ongoing and as such, recommends the approval of the renewal of Panama's CNM status for 2023.

Agenda 3.3.1 – Participatory rights of CNMs

8. WCPFC19 considered the request for participatory rights of CNM for 2023. The SWG considered an application from Nicaragua to increase its purse seine capacity from one vessel to two vessels. The Commission noted that the request has implications for capacity limits under paragraph 42 of CMM2021-01 and recommended that any further capacity increase is considered when the relevant CMM is reviewed.
9. WCPFC19 approved the following participatory rights for 2023:
 - i) **Curaçao:** The participatory rights of Curacao are limited to carrier vessels to engage in transshipment activities in the Convention area.
 - ii) **Ecuador:** The participatory rights of Ecuador for fishing in the WCPO are limited to purse seine fishing, with no participatory rights for fishing on the high seas for highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area. Any introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2019-01 and CMM 2020-01 or its replacement measure.
 - iii) **El Salvador:** The participatory rights of El Salvador for fishing in the WCPO are limited to purse seine fishing only. The total level of effort by purse seine vessels of El Salvador on the high seas shall not exceed 29 days in the Convention Area. Any introduction of purse seine fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2019-01 and CMM 2020-01 or its replacement measure.
 - iv) **Liberia:** The participatory rights of Liberia are limited to carrier vessels to engage in transshipment activities in the Convention area.
 - v) **Nicaragua:** The participatory rights of Nicaragua are limited to purse seine fishing for one vessel, with no participatory rights for fishing on the high seas for highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area. Any introduction of fishing capacity is to be in accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2019-01 and CMM 2021-01 or its replacement measure.
 - vi) **Panama:** The participatory rights of Panama in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels. Panama's participatory rights also apply to vessels that supply food, water and spare parts to carrier vessels that engage in transshipment activities, provided that these vessels do not engage in activities supporting fishing vessels, including providing and/or servicing FADs.

- vii) **Thailand:** The participatory rights of Thailand in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels only.
- viii) **Vietnam:** The participatory rights of Vietnam in the WCPO are limited to the provision of carrier and bunker vessels only.

WCPFC/IATTC Overlap Area

- 10. In accordance with the decision of WCPFC9 regarding the management of the overlap area of 4°S and 50°S between 130°W and 150°W, vessels flagged to Ecuador, El Salvador and Nicaragua and Panama will be governed by the IATTC when fishing in the overlap area.
- 11. In accordance with the Data Exchange MOU agreed by both Commissions, fishing vessels flying the flag of a member of either the IATTC or WCPFC shall cooperate with the RFMO to which they are not a member by voluntarily providing operational catch and effort data for its fishing activities for highly migratory species in the overlap area.
- 12. For the purpose of investigation of possible IUU fishing activities and consistent with international and domestic laws, vessels flying the flag of a CNM that is a Contracting Party to the IATTC will cooperate with those coastal State members of the WCPFC whose EEZs occur in the overlap area by voluntarily providing VMS reports (date, time and position) to those coastal States when operating in the overlap area.

Agenda 4 – New Proposals

- 13. All proposals tabled for WCPFC19 consideration were introduced and proponents of proposals were encouraged to discuss them at the margins of the meeting and to report back their progress to plenary.

Agenda 5.1 – Implementation of Article 30 of WCPFC Convention and CMM 2013-07 (SIDS special requirements)

- 14. WCPFC19 reaffirmed the importance of the implementation of Article 30 and CMM 2013-07 and recognized the importance of assessing the impact of proposals on SIDS according to CMM 2013-06.

Agenda 5.2 – Updated Strategic Investment Plan

- 15. The Commission approved the updated Strategic Investment Plan for 2022 in **WCPFC19-2022-09 (Attachment F)**.

Agenda 6.1 – Review of the status of WCPFC tuna and billfish stocks

- 16. WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the presentations by the Scientific Services Provider and the ISC on the status of WCPFC tuna and billfish stocks.

Agenda 6.2.1.1 – Update on review of target reference point for skipjack

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 17. | WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the presentation by the Scientific Services Provider on the target reference point for skipjack tuna. |
|-----|---|

Agenda 6.2.1.2 – Review of additional work tasked by the SMD01 and adoption of management procedures for skipjack tuna.

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 18. | WCPFC19 adopted the CMM on a Management Procedure for Skipjack Tuna (WCPFC19-2022-IWG SKJ Agenda 6.3.1.3_Rev4) (Attachment G). |
|-----|--|

Agenda 6.2.1.3 – Agreement on the target reference point for bigeye and yellowfin tuna.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 19. | WCPFC19 noted the report from the Scientific Services Provider on a target reference point for bigeye and yellowfin tuna (WCPFC19-2022-12). WCPFC19 agreed on the need for further work prior to considering target reference points for bigeye and yellowfin tuna and noted that the Commission will continue to work on these issues in the coming years. |
|-----|---|

Agenda 6.3.1 – Evaluation and review of CMM 2021-01

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 20. | WCPFC 19 noted with appreciation the report from the Scientific Services Provider on the evaluation and review of CMM 2021-01 (WCPFC19-2022-13_rev1). |
| 21. | WCPFC19 agreed to the request from the Philippines for a limited extension of no longer than 12 months for the replacement of ARGOS units covering only the support vessels that are operating in High Seas Pocket 1. WCPFC19 indicated that no further extension would be agreed, and that Philippines needed to address the type approval of VMS 100Si. |

Agenda 6.3.1.1 – Review of results from FAD Management Options IWG

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 22. | WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the report of the Chair of the FAD Management Options IWG (WCPFC19-2022-FADMgmtOptions). |
| 23. | The Commission supports the SC18 and TCC18 recommendations for the IATTC definition of biodegradable and categories of biodegradable FADs. The Commission further noted that the FADMO-IWG will further examine the categories of biodegradable FADs, timeline for the stepwise introduction of biodegradable FADs, potential gaps and other relevant information. |
| 24. | The Commission tasks the FADMO-IWG with assistance from the Secretariat and the SSP to review the effectiveness of paragraph 22 of CMM 2021-01 and other FAD related issues and incorporate into its 2023 work plan. |

Agenda 6.3.1.2 – Baseline period or limit for the Indonesia Large Fish Handline Fishery

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 25. | WCPFC19 noted the delegation paper submitted by Indonesia and the Scientific Services Provider on the Indonesian large fish handline fishery (WCPFC19-2022-DP11). There was no agreement to adopt the recommendation in the paper and WCPFC19 noted that it would appreciate receiving further information from Indonesia in response to questions raised at WCPFC19. |
|-----|--|

Agenda 6.3.1.3 – Process to negotiate a new or revised TTM

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 26. | WCPFC19 agreed on a Process to Negotiate a Revised Tropical Tuna Measure in 2023, with revisions to the time frames in the work plan to be made at the discretion of the new Chair of the Commission in consultation with CCMs and taking into account other RFMO meetings attended by CCMs (Attachment H). |
|-----|--|

Agenda 6.4.1.1 – Review of any additional performance indicators, if available, and alternative target reference points

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 27. | WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the analyses undertaken by the Scientific Services Provider to inform discussions on South Pacific albacore objectives and the target reference point (WCPFC19-2022-15). |
|-----|---|

Agenda 6.4.1.2 – Review of additional work tasked by the SMD01 to support decision-making on management procedures

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 28. | WCPFC19 noted the additional work tasked by SMD01 to support decision-making on management procedures for South Pacific albacore (WCPFC19-2022-16). |
|-----|--|

Agenda 6.4.2.1 – Review of the SPA Roadmap-IWG activities

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 29. | WCPFC noted with appreciation the Report of the Chair of the SPA Roadmap-IWG (WCPFC19-2022-SPALB_RM). |
| 30. | WCPFC19 adopted the terms of reference and work plan for the SPA Roadmap-IWG (Attachment I). |

Agenda 6.5.2 – Harvest Strategy Proposal from NC18

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 31. | WCPFC19 adopted the Harvest Strategy for North Pacific Albacore presented by the Northern Committee (WCPFC19-2022-17 Attachment A (Attachment J)). |
|-----|---|

Agenda 6.6.1 – Review of CMM 2021-02

32. WCPFC19 noted WCPFC19-2022-DP12 presented by Korea and that Korea would bring a proposal on Pacific bluefin CMM to the Joint NC/IATTC Working Group, NC19 and WCPFC20 in 2023.

Agenda 6.7.1 – Proposal from NC18 on North Pacific swordfish

33. WCPFC19 adopted the CMM for North Pacific Swordfish presented by the Northern Committee (**WCPFC19-2022-17 Attachment B**) - (**Attachment K**).

Agenda 6.8.2 – Review of CMM 2009-03 on South Pacific swordfish

34. WCPFC agreed that progress should be made in 2023 on ensuring SWPO swordfish management extends beyond South of 20° S, to the entire southwest Pacific swordfish stock in the WCPFC convention area, south of the equator.
35. WCPFC noted that the SWG could not reach consensus on any other substantive matter regarding the proposed measure.

Agenda 6.9.1 – Review of CMM 2010-01 on North Pacific striped marlin

36. WCPFC19 noted that a proposed CMM on North Pacific striped marlin was deferred until 2023 and expressed concern regarding the continued delay in the rebuilding plans for the stock.

Agenda 7 – Harvest Strategy Work Plan

37. WCPFC19 adopted the amendments to CMM 2014-06 on Establishing a Harvest Strategy for Key Fisheries and Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean as proposed by the FFA (set out in **WCPFC19-2022-DP06**) – (**Attachment L**).

Agenda 7.1 – Review of Indicative Work Plan

38. WCPFC19 adopted the updated Indicative Workplan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06 (**WCPFC19-2022-19a_rev2**) – (**Attachment M**).

Agenda 7.2 – Science-Management Dialogue

39. WCPFC19 noted the value of the SMD01 in assisting to progress a Management Procedure for skipjack tuna. Given the heavy workload in 2023, particularly with the review of the Tropical Tuna CMM, WCPFC19 agreed not to hold a SMD in 2023 and agreed to assess the need to hold a SMD in 2024 depending on progress in the Commission's harvest strategy work.

Agenda 8.1.1 – Review of the status of WCPO shark stocks

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 40. | WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the presentations by the Scientific Services Provider and the ISC on the status of WCPO shark stocks. |
|-----|---|

Agenda 8.1.1.1 – Southwest Pacific blue shark

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 41. | WCPFC19 noted the advice from SC 18 “that the Southwest Pacific Blue Shark is unlikely to be overfished and it is unlikely that overfishing is occurring when considered against MSY and depletion-based reference points”. |
| 42. | WCPFC19 endorsed the proposal to allow shark assessments to occur over two years. |

Agenda 8.1.1.2 – Southwest Pacific shortfin mako shark

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 43. | WCPFC19 noted the advice of SC18 that the stock assessment results of Southwest Pacific shortfin mako sharks were preliminary and not robust enough to provide management advice |
| 44. | <p>WCPFC19 agreed to amend paragraph 1 of the Scientific Data to be Provided Decision relating to annual catch data for key shark species to read as follows (Attachment N):</p> <p>1. Estimates of annual catches</p> <p>The following estimates of catches during each calendar year shall be provided to the Commission for each gear type:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • catches of bigeye tuna (<i>Thunnus obesus</i>), skipjack tuna (<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>), yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>), blue marlin (<i>Makaira mazara</i>) and black marlin (<i>Makaira indica</i>) in: 1) the WCPFC Statistical Area (see paragraph #8), and 2) the portion of the WCPFC Statistical Area east of the 150° meridian of west longitude; • catches of albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>), striped marlin (<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>), swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>), Pacific bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus orientalis</i>), thresher sharks (<i>Alopias</i> spp.), blue shark (<i>Prionace glauca</i>) and mako sharks (<i>Isurus</i> spp.) in: 1) the Pacific Ocean south of the Equator, 2) the Pacific Ocean north of the Equator, 3) the WCPFC Statistical Area north of the Equator, 4) the WCPFC Statistical Area south of the Equator, and 5) the portion of the WCPFC Statistical Area east of the 150° meridian of west longitude; and • silky shark, oceanic whitetip shark, thresher sharks, blue shark, mako sharks, porbeagle shark (south of 20°S, until biological data show this or another geographic limit to be appropriate), hammerhead sharks (winghead, scalloped, great, and smooth), and whale shark in the WCPFC Statistical Area (see paragraph #8). |

Agenda 8.1.1.3 – North Pacific blue shark

45. WCPFC19 endorsed the advice of SC18 that North Pacific blue shark is not in an overfished condition and that overfishing is not occurring relative to MSY based reference points (**WCPFC19-2022-23, paragraph 2**).

Agenda 8.1.2 – Review of CMM 2019-04

46. WCPFC19 adopted a revised Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks (**Attachment O**).

Agenda 8.2.1 – Review of CMM 2018-03

47. WCPFC19 noted a global decline in specific Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) seabird population trends, which are vulnerable to threats posed by longline fisheries in the WCPO and the importance of seabird bycatch mitigation measures.
48. WCPFC19 agreed to conduct review of the current seabird mitigation measure (CMM 2018-03) in 2023 or 2024 whereby new bycatch mitigation studies would be evaluated with respect to bycatch mitigation effectiveness and compared against current ACAP Best Practices.

Agenda 8.3 – Graphics for Best Practice for Safe Handling and Release of Cetaceans

49. WCPFC19 adopted the Graphics for Best Practices for the Safe Handling and Release of Cetaceans (**WCPFC19-2022-25 Attachment 1**) – (**Attachment P**)).

Agenda 8.4.1 – Ecosystem and climate indicators

50. WCPFC19 endorsed the following recommendations of SC18 relating to climate change:
- i) SC18 recommended making “Ecosystem and Climate Indicators” a standing agenda item of the Ecosystem and Bycatch Mitigation Theme session. This would provide a mechanism for the Scientific Committee to annually consider adopting candidate indicators presented to the Committee but also review and respond to existing trends/triggers identified in adopted indicators.
 - ii) SC18 recommended the development and testing of “Ecosystem and Climate Indicators” as a project of the Scientific Committee. This would provide a mechanism for the Scientific Committee to easily track its progress towards evaluating and adopting candidate indicators.
 - iii) SC18 recommended that available information and updates on the impacts of climate change be included or combined with status of stocks reporting.
51. Recognizing the urgency of developing a comprehensive approach to understanding and addressing the impacts of climate change on highly migratory fish stocks in the

Convention Area, and any related impacts on the economies of CCMs and food security and the livelihoods of their people, in particular Small Island Developing States and Participating Territories, the Commission agrees to include Climate Change as a standing agenda item and to prioritize discussion of how best to incorporate climate change information and analyses in its work, as well as the work of TCC and the NC.

Agenda 9.1 – CMS-IWG Workplan to progress the CMS future work included in Section IX of CMM 2021-03 Compliance Monitoring Scheme

52. WCPFC19 endorsed the following recommendations of TCC18 on the Compliance Monitoring Scheme Future Work Components (**WCPFC19-2022-16, paragraph 2**);
- (i) TCC18 noted the imbalance between the information available for monitoring compliance between the longline and purse seine fisheries and recommended that the Commission recognise the need to address this imbalance.
 - (ii) TCC18 noted that compliance with some obligations cannot be independently verified from available data sources. TCC18 recommended that WCPFC19 task the Secretariat to develop a paper, which identifies those obligations for which there is a lack of independently verifiable data, as well as potential sources of data that could provide independent verification of those obligations, for review by TCC19.
 - (iii) TCC18 recommended that the Commission prioritize the development of additional data collection mechanisms for some obligations to allow for more timely and verifiable data to feed into the CMR process. TCC18 noted in particular there is ongoing work related to ER&EM and transshipment reporting that will allow for more verifiable data to feed into the CMR process.
 - (iv) TCC18 noted that some quantitative limits and baselines for some CMMs are not easily accessible to CCMs. TCC18 recommended that WCPFC19 task the Secretariat to publish tables of CCM's limits and baselines for all relevant CMMs, and notes on their sources.
 - (v) TCC18 noted that greater clarity about the basis for determining applicability of obligations may assist CCMs with their annual reporting. TCC18 recommended that WCPFC19 task the Secretariat to update and develop additional guidelines to support determining the applicability of obligations for review by TCC19. TCC18 recommended that once the applicability has been reviewed by TCC, it is integrated and held on file in the Annual Report Part 2 reporting system.
 - (vi) TCC18 noted that additional guidance on reporting statements of implementation may assist CCMs with their annual reporting. TCC18 recommended that WCPFC19 task the Secretariat to update and develop additional guidelines to support CCMs reporting of statements of implementation for review by TCC19.

- (vii) TCC18 recommended to WCPFC19 that it task the Secretariat to maintain the information relevant to the Risk Based Assessment Framework, a list of all binding obligations, audit points, data sources, compliance history and other information which supports the dCMR in one place associated with information related to the Compliance Monitoring Scheme and Conservation and Management Measures.

Agenda 9.1.1 – Develop Audit points

53. WCPFC19 expressed its sincere appreciation to the lead of the CMS-IWG work on Audit Points, Rhea Moss-Christian, for her hard work in developing Audit Points.
54. WCPFC adopted the audit points set out in Attachment A (**Attachment Q**) and the checklist in Attachment C of **WCPFC19-2022-CMS_AP_rev1 (Attachment R)**. WCPFC19 agreed to prioritize work on the remaining audit points in 2023.
55. WCPFC19 noted that the Commission at WCPFC18 had agreed in adopting CMM 2021-03 that TCC19, in 2023, shall consider a CMR that assesses CCMs' compliance over the previous 2-year reporting period (RY2021 and RY2022). WCPFC19 agreed that the adopted Audit Points will apply to the 2022 dCMR (covering 2021 reporting) and the 2023 dCMR (covering 2022 reporting).

Agenda 9.1.2 – Develop Risk-based assessment framework

56. WCPFC19 expressed its sincere appreciation to the lead of the CMS-IWG work on the Risk Based Assessment Framework (RBAF), Heather Ward, for her hard work developing a RBAF. The Commission endorsed the RBAF as a useful tool that CCMs may use to guide their consideration of future lists of obligations to review during the Compliance Monitoring Report Review.

Agenda 9.1.3 – Develop Guidelines for Observer participation

57. WCPFC19 was not able to reach agreement on the development of guidelines for observer participation.

Agenda 9.1.4 – Develop Corrective Actions

58. WCPFC19 welcomed the nomination by the United States for Ms. Elizabeth O'Sullivan to lead work through the CMS IWG to develop corrective actions to encourage and incentivize CCM's compliance with the Commission's obligations, where non-compliance is identified, and encourages CCMs to participate in this work.

Agenda 9.1.5 – Review of Aggregate Tables

59. WCPFC19 endorsed the proposed approach from the TCC Chair for the process to review aggregate tables in 2023 and the key work to be undertaken up to and through TCC19 and WCPFC20 as set out in paragraph 24 (i) and (ii) of **WCPFC19-2022-CMS_Agg tables (Attachment S)**.

Agenda 9.2 – Consideration of Compliance Monitoring Report RY2021 and RY2022 in 2023

60. WCPFC19 noted the Secretariat's information on the status of the dCMR prepared by the Secretariat in 2022 for review at TCC19 in 2023 (**WCPFC19-2022-33**).
61. WCPFC19 agreed to continue in 2023 to require CCMs to submit their Annual Report Part 2 at least 100 days prior to TCC19 (which is a date in mid-June instead of 1 July).

Agenda 9.2.1 – List of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2023

62. WCPFC19 endorsed the list of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2023 set out in **Part B of WCPFC19-2022-26**, which is the same list as adopted in 2022 (**Attachment T**).

Agenda 10 – Lifting of Temporary Suspensions of Observer Coverage Obligations due to COVID19

63. WCPFC19 noted the positive progress that has been made in resuming the placement of observers on purse seine vessels during the transitional period of 15 June to 1 January 2023 (**WCPFC19-2022-28**).

Agenda 11.1 – SC18 Report

64. WCPFC19 endorsed the SC18 recommendation that the inclusion of tables of the operational level catch and effort data fields for longline, purse seine and pole-and-line gears, as a guideline and without the column of “binding” and adding the title of “Annex 2, guidelines for data submission of operational level catch and effort data fields for fisheries”, as an additional ANNEX of the “Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission”, with an additional paragraph under Section 3. Operational level catch and effort data as follows:
“Annex 2 provides tables of the guidelines of operational level catch and effort data fields for longline, purse seine and pole-and-line gears in order to clarify and assist members in understanding the requirements of each data field and thereby facilitate the submission of data to the WCPFC.” (**Attachment U**)
65. WCPFC noted paragraph 136 of the SC Outcomes Document, the guidance provided to subsidiary bodies set out in Article 11(4) of the Convention, and that how the views of CCMs are reflected in SC reports is a matter for the SC to determine.

66. WCPFC19 adopted the Summary Report of SC18 (**WCPFC19-2022-SC18**) and endorsed the recommendations not covered under other agenda items (**WCPFC19-2022-29 rev 1.**)

Agenda 11.2 – TCC18

67. WCPFC19 endorsed the following recommendations of TCC18:

Tasking the Intersessional Working Group on the Regional Observer Programme (IWG-ROP)

- i) TCC18 supported the Commission's intention to reactivate the IWG-ROP.
- ii) TCC18 recommended that the Commission task the IWG-ROP, once it is reactivated, to develop draft recommended modifications to ROP data fields with the intention of allowing for more useful consideration of ROP data in the CCFS and in the Compliance Monitoring Scheme processes, and while taking into account their implications, including the impact on observer workloads and observer safety, as well as any related training needs.
- iii) TCC18 recommended that the IWG-ROP, once it is reactivated, prioritize work on issues such as a solution to identifying interactions with whale sharks and cetaceans, and on the inclusion of ROP data fields that were identified in the TCC Workplan 2022-2024 project specific task (j), and to identify any CMM that should also be prioritized in this work.

ROP Minimum Transshipment Observer Data

- iv) TCC18 recommended that the 'Data fields' item of the Agreed Minimum Standards and Guidelines of the Regional Observer Programme be amended to read as follows:
"For transshipment on the high seas, transshipment ROP providers shall send the agreed ROP minimum standards data in forms FC-1 and FC-2 to the Commission Secretariat within 90 days of the disembarkation of the observer from the carrier."
- v) TCC18 noted the Commission has already adopted ER standards for observer data and that the development of standards for ER by transshipment observers or providers in 2023 could significantly shorten the required timeline for ER of transshipment observer data to the Secretariat.

RFV Standards, Specifications and Procedures

- vi) TCC18 recommended to WCPFC19 that the recommended edits in Box 1 in paragraph 6 of TCC18-2022-21 (Attachment 2) are adopted by the Commission (draft TCC18 Summary Report para 180 and Attachment E) (**Attachment V**).

WCPFC IT/VMS Security Audit

- vii) TCC18 supported the Secretariat's recommendation to expand the annual VMS Security Audit budget, to include a more dynamic and continual assessment of the WCPFC information systems, with an estimated budget of \$11,900 USD (draft TCC18 Summary Report para 236).
- viii) TCC18 recommended to the Commission that an additional budget allocation of \$15,000 USD be set aside for annual penetration testing of the WCPFC information systems (draft TCC18 Summary Report para 237).
- 68. WCPFC19 adopted the TCC work plan for 2022-2024, as revised by the TCC Vice-Chair (**WCPFC19-2022-34**) (**Attachment W**).
- 69. WCPFC19 adopted the draft Summary Report of TCC18 (**WCPFC19-2022-TC18_draft**).

Agenda 11.3 – NC18

- 70. WCPFC adopted the report of NC18 (**WCPFC19-2022-NC18**).

Agenda 11.4.1 – E-reporting and E-monitoring (ERandEMWG)

- 71. WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the report of the Chair of the ERandEMWG.
- 72. WCPFC19 adopted amendments to CMM 2013-05 Conservation and Management Measure on Daily Catch and Effort Reporting (**Attachment X**).
- 73. WCPFC19 agreed that after 1 January 2024 those CCMs with vessels not yet implementing electronic reporting of catch and effort data on the high seas provide an update to TCC each year until full implementation is achieved.
- 74. WCPFC19 agreed that those CCMs that cannot electronically report its catch and effort data in accordance with the agreed 'Standards, Specifications and Procedures for Electronic Reporting in the WCPFC – operational catch and effort data' should report to TCC each year on any implementation issues.
- 75. WCPFC19 tasked SC19 and TCC19 to provide guidance to the Commission on how CCMs can provide operational catch and effort data to the Commission more frequently during the year. In particular, this guidance will consider CCMs' implementation of data provision:
 - a. within 30 days of the end of a trip and, where applicable, at the end of every transshipment at sea; and/or
 - b. by 1 July and 31 December with available information for that calendar year.

Agenda – 11.4.2 Transshipment review (TS IWG)

76. WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the report of the Co-Chairs of the TS-IWG and endorsed the following recommendations of the Co-Chairs (WCPFC19-2022-IWG-TS_rev2):
- i) WCPFC19 adopted the Minimum data fields for Observer transshipment monitoring as listed in **Attachment 2 of WCPFC19-2022-32** as data fields to be collected by transshipment observers during transshipment events, as of 1 January 2023 (**Attachment Y**).
 - ii) WCPFC19 requested the Secretariat and Scientific Services Provider to provide a report to TCC19 and WCPFC20 on the outcomes of implementation of the short-term implementation phase (**WCPFC19-2022-32, paragraphs 11-22**).
 - iii) WCPFC19 requested TCC20 (after more than one year of implementation), and the IWG-ROP, consider the ROP data fields in FC-1 and FC-2 data fields and whether any revisions are necessary to the minimum data fields for Observer transshipment monitoring.
 - iv) WCPFC19 recommended FC-3 form be referred to the TS-IWG and the IWG-ROP if it is reinitiated, to consider the data fields required to be collected by carrier vessels to complement the data to be collected by observers as referenced in **Attachment 2 of WCPFC19-WP32 (Attachment Z)**.
 - v) WCPFC19 agreed to amend the 'Data fields' item of the Agreed Minimum Standards and Guidelines of the Regional Observer Programme to read as follows:
 "For transshipment on the high seas, transshipment ROP providers shall send the agreed ROP minimum standards data in forms FC-1 and FC-2 to the Commission Secretariat within 90 days of the disembarkation of the observer from the carrier."
77. WCPFC 19 adopted the TS IWG 2023 Work Plan (**Attachment AA**).

Agenda 11.4.3 – Crew Labour Standards

78. WCPFC noted with appreciation the Report of the Co-Chairs of the Crew Labour Standards IWG and the importance that CCMs attach to progressing expeditiously a CMM on crew labour standards.

Agenda 12 – Adoption of the 2023 IUU Vessel List

79. WCPFC19 agreed to maintain the three vessels currently on the WCPFC IUU Vessel List and adopted the 2023 IUU Vessel List (**Attachment BB**).

Agenda 13.1 – Report of the Sixteenth Finance and Administration Committee

80. WCPFC19 accepted the audited financial statements for 2021 as set out in paper **WCPFC19-2022-FAC16-06**.
81. WCPFC19 supported the appointment of Ernst & Young as auditor for the next 2-years to undertake the audits of the Commission's 2022 and 2023 financial statements and accounts.

82. WCPFC19 adopted an amendment to financial regulation 7.8 to read:
- “7.8. Financial Regulation 7.5 and 7.7 on the application process and reporting requirements, respectively, shall be waived for:
- a) one traveler from each small island developing States and Participating Territories delegation to meetings of the Annual Session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; and
 - b) the travel for the Chairs of SC, TCC, FAC Co-Chair and the WCPFC Vice Chair from SIDS to the Annual Session.”
83. WCPFC19 approved a 5% increase in professional staff salary from 2023, excluding the Executive Director, to align with the recent increase in other WCPFC staff salaries and account for cost of living increases due to inflation.
84. With respect to broader issues related to the tri-annual market review and professional staff remuneration, WCPFC noted WCPFC19-2022-FAC16-10 but determined that additional information on relevant salary benchmarks and further discussion among CCMs is needed to reach consensus in future changes on professional staff salaries. WCPFC tasked the FAC Co-Chairs to work intersessionally with Secretariat and interested CCMs to identify potential recommendations for consideration of FAC17 on the following issues, without prejudice to future decision-making process:
- i) Options to align staff salary including the Executive Director, on a single simplified salary scale and/or other improvements related to the salary scale structure;
 - ii) The advantages and disadvantages of changing the denomination of professional staff salaries from IMF Special Drawing Rights (SDR) to U.S. Dollars for greater clarity and to align with the currency of the Commission's budget and financial accounts;
 - iii) Options to establish automatic cost-of-living increases for staff salaries which could minimize the need for future salary reviews;
 - iv) Changes to the content and frequency of salary market reviews including ensuring clearer comparison to the actual salary ranges comparable position in CROP agencies as well as remuneration of other relevant RFMO secretariats;
 - v) Methods to ensure any changes to staff salaries do not result in lower remuneration for existing professional staff;

- vi) Any necessary changes to the Commission's Staff Regulations or Financial Regulations to accomplish any resulting recommendations.
- 85. WCPFC19 approved \$80,000 for a short-term consultancy to support the increase in the Secretariat's workload in the coming year. FAC16 included this cost in the budget recommended to the Commission. WCPFC19 tasked the Secretariat to report to TCC19 and FAC17 with its views on the necessity of continuing this consultancy or seeking other arrangements for future years, in order to inform further consideration as appropriate at FAC17.
- 86. WCPFC19 adopted the report of FAC16 (**Attachment CC**).

Agenda 13.2 – Budget for 2023 and Indicative Budgets for 2024 and 2025

- 87. WCPFC adopted a 2023 budget of USD8,819,999. The Commission agreed that any additional costs related to Commission decisions that are not already included in the budget, such as relating to costs for hosting potential meetings in 2023, will be added to the draw down from the Working Capital Fund. The Commission adopted the final adopted 2023 budget and Annexes (**Attachment DD**).

Agenda 14.1 – Secretariat's Corporate Plan

- 88. WCPFC19 noted with appreciation the Updated Secretariat Corporate Plan (**WCPFC19-2022-IP17**).

Agenda 14.2 – Appointment of new Executive Director

- 89. The Chair formally announced the appointment of Ms Rhea Moss-Christian as Executive Director of WCPFC.

Agenda 14.3 – Election of officers

- 90. The Commission endorsed the appointment of Dr Josie Tamate (Niue) as Chair of the Commission and Mr Takumi Fukuda (Japan) as Vice-Chair of the Commission.
- 91. The Commission made a number of other appointments to Commission positions commencing after the end of WCPFC19 (4 December 2022):
 - (i) Ms Emily Crigler (United States) was appointed SC Vice-Chair;
 - (ii) Mr Mat Kertesz (Australia) was appointed TCC Chair;
 - (iii) Mr Ilkang Na (Korea) was appointed TCC Vice-Chair;
 - (iv) Mr Masanori Miyahara (Japan) was appointed NC Chair;
 - (v) Mr Michael Tosatto (United States) was appointed NC Vice-Chair; and

- (vi) Mr Harold Villia (Solomon Islands) was appointed IWG-ROP Chair
92. In support of 2022 Intersessional activities, to be progressed electronically, the Commission confirmed the following:
- i) Ms Neomai Ravitu (Fiji) would continue to lead the South Pacific Albacore RoadmapIWG;
 - ii) Dr Alex Kahl (United States) Mr. Felix Toa Ngwango (Vanuatu) would continue to co-chair the Transshipment Review IWG;
 - iii) Mr Jamel James (Federated States of Micronesia) would continue to lead the FAD Management Options IWG;
 - iv) Ms Putuh Suadela (Indonesia) and Ms Sarah McAvinchey (New Zealand) would co-lead the intersessional work on improving labour standards for crews fishing boats; and
 - v) Ms. Elizabeth O'Sullivan would lead work through the CMS IWG to develop corrective actions to encourage and incentivize CCM's compliance with the Commission's obligations.
93. The Chair noted that the positions of ERandEMWG Chair and CDS-IWG Chair remain vacant and that nominations for these positions would be invited intersessionally in 2023.

Agenda 14.4 – Future meetings

94. The Commission agreed on the following meeting venues and dates:
- (i) SC19 would be held from 16 to 24 August 2023 with Palau to confirm its offer to host;
 - (ii) NC19 would be held in Japan (venue and date to be advised);
 - (iii) TCC19 would be held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from Wednesday 20 September to Tuesday 26 September 2023; and
 - (iv) WCPFC20 would be held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands from 4 to 8 December 2023.

Agenda 15 – Other Matters

95. WCPFC19 expressed its sincere condolences at the passing of Dr Tony Lewis, former head of the Oceanic Fisheries Programme of the Pacific Community and significant contributor to WCPFC and the science of fisheries in the Pacific region.

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 96. | WCPFC19 expressed its sincere appreciation to the Chair of the Commission for her tireless work in guiding the work of the Commission over the last four years during the challenging period of the pandemic and two years of virtual meetings. |
| 97. | WCPFC19 expressed its sincere appreciation to the outgoing Executive Director for his leadership of the WCPFC Secretariat over the last eight years and its best wishes for the future. |