



**COMMISSION
Twentieth Regular Session**

4-8 December 2023

Rarotonga, Cook Islands (Hybrid)

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA¹

**WCPFC20-2023-02
13 October 2023**

AGENDA ITEM		DESCRIPTION	RELEVANT DOCUMENT(S) ²
1. OPENING OF MEETING	1.1 Adoption of agenda	Commission Chair, Dr. Josie M. Tamate (Niue) will call the meeting to order and invite the Commission to adopt the Provisional Agenda. CCMs will establish small working groups to progress work on certain agenda items throughout the week.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-01 ▪ WCPFC20-2023-02
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of small working groups (CNMs, others) 		

¹ Hyperlinks to relevant meeting documents will be updated throughout this document to support online navigation. Hyperlinks to other documents, such as CMMs and existing reports, are also included for ease of reference.

² Additional relevant Information Papers (IP) will be updated, as available.

	1.2 Request for Observer status	<p>The Chair circulated a letter on 5 October 2023 informing of a request from an intergovernmental organization for observer status at WCPFC20. Relevant intergovernmental organizations are invited to participate in the work of the Commission (Rule 36.1(e)) and may participate at the invitation of the Chair (Rule 36.3).</p> <p>The Commission will consider the request and take a decision. Should the request be approved, a decision at the start of the meeting will enable the observer to begin participating immediately in the proceedings of WCPFC20.</p>	<p>WCPFC20-2023-03 Circ 2023/83</p>
	1.3 Meeting arrangements i. Hybrid meeting protocols ii. Meeting logistics	<p>The Secretariat will share information on meeting logistics such as breakout rooms, morning/afternoon tea breaks, and lunch arrangements. Information on meeting documents, including submission of meeting papers, will also be covered. Protocols to support participants joining WCPFC20 online through Zoom will also be shared.</p>	<p>WCPFC20-2023-04</p>
2. STATEMENTS FROM MEMBERS AND PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES		<p>Delegations may present opening statements or submit statements in writing for the record.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

3. 2023 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR		<p>The Executive Director will present her Annual Report on 2023 Activities of the Commission. The report will outline the work of the Commission in 2023, including Secretariat activities in support of the Commission. The Commission will be invited to consider the ED’s Annual Report and note the Secretariat’s updated Corporate Plan (Agenda 17.1) and anticipated support that the Commission will require into the future.</p> <p>Rule 13 of the WCPFC Rules of the Procedure states that “the Executive Director shall make an annual report, and such supplementary reports as are necessary, to the Commission at its regular session on the work of the Commission.”</p>	WCPFC20-2023-05
4. MEMBERSHIP, OBSERVERS, AND COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS	4.1 Status of the Convention	The Government of New Zealand, as the Depositary of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention, will prepare a report on the status of the Convention (to be taken as read).	WCPFC20-2023-06
	4.2 Update on Observer status	The Secretariat will prepare an updated list of organizations with current observer status to the Commission (to be taken as read).	WCPFC20-2023-07
	4.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member (CNM) status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participatory rights of CNMs 	The Commission will review TCC19’s recommendations with respect to applications for Cooperating Non-Member Status and determine which applicants will have CNM status for 2024. Following the Commission’s decision on CNM status, a small working group will be established to consider the participatory rights of each CNM for 2024.	WCPFC20-2023-08
5. ADOPTION OF THE 2024 IUU VESSEL LIST		In accordance with CMM 2019-07 , the Commission will consider recommendations from TCC19 on the Provisional IUU	WCPFC20-2023-09

		Vessel List and 2023 WCPFC IUU Vessel List, and will adopt a 2024 WCPFC IUU Vessel List.	
	6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROPOSALS	CCMs or IWGs with new proposals will be invited to present them to the Commission. The Chair will provide an opportunity for limited discussion on clarifying questions, and then determine a way forward for each proposal, including the establishment of additional small working groups. CCMs with new proposals or amendments to existing proposals are required to complete an Audit Points Checklist and a CMM 2013-06 Evaluation .	Relevant Delegation and IWG or Working Papers
7. IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 30 OF WCPFC CONVENTION AND CMM 2013-07 (SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES)	7.1 Updated Strategic Investment Plan	The Secretariat will present a report on the implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan in 2023 and the updated Strategic Investment Plan for consideration by the Commission.	WCPFC20-2023-10
	7.2 Western Pacific East Asia – Improved Tuna Monitoring (WPEA- ITM) Project	The Secretariat and WPEA-ITM Project Coordinator will present an update of the project activities in 2023, including the project status and expected activities in 2024.	WCPFC20-2023-11

<p>8. STATUS OF STOCKS</p>	<p>The Commission’s Scientific Services Provider (SSP), the Pacific Community (SPC), and the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) will provide presentations on the status of fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO). This is an annual presentation to the Commission that covers the state of the region’s fisheries resources based on the best available data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SPC Presentation ▪ ISC Presentation
<p>9. INCORPORATING CLIMATE CHANGE CONSIDERATIONS INTO MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF WCPO FISHERIES AND ECOSYSTEMS</p>	<p>WCPFC19 took a decision 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.” (<i>para 343 of WCPFC19 Summary Report</i>).</p> <p>SPC will make a presentation to the Commission on “Ecosystem and Climate Indicators” to share best available scientific data on potential impacts from climate change on WCPFC fisheries and related ecosystems.</p> <p>The Commission will consider the activities of its subsidiary bodies in 2023 to incorporate climate change into its discussions and provide advice to its subsidiary bodies for continuing its work in 2024 to ensure climate change considerations are adequately reflected in the Commission’s work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SPC Presentation ▪ WCPFC20-2023-12

10. HARVEST STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT FOR SP ALBACORE, SKIPJACK, BIGEYE YELLOWFIN, NP ALBACORE, AND PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNAS	<p><i>The Secretariat will present an overview on the Commission’s harvest strategy work to support discussions on 10.1b-d and 10.2a-c. The overview will include a discussion on the Commission’s data collection programmes that support conservation and management decisions.</i></p>		
	<p>10.1 South Pacific Albacore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update on SPA-RM IWG b. TRP c. Management Procedure d. Management Strategy Evaluation e. Review of CMM 2015-02 	<p>The Chair Ms. Neomai Ravitu (Fiji) of the Intersessional Working Group on the South Pacific Albacore Roadmap will present an update on the IWG’s progress in 2023.</p> <p>The Secretariat will present TCC19’s outcomes related to its review of compliance with CMM 2015-02, particularly in relation to the ongoing challenges with a common understanding on how to interpret CMM terms “<i>actively fishing for</i>” and “<i>fishing for</i>” when making a determination of the obligation’s applicability to CCMs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SPA-RM IWG Update ▪ WCPFC20-2023-13
	<p>10.2 Tropical Tunas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Skipjack tuna <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Implement Management Procedure ii. Monitoring Strategy b. Bigeye tuna <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. TRP ii. Develop management procedures iii. Management strategy evaluation c. Yellowfin tuna <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. TRP 	<p>The Commission will review progress in 2023 on development of harvest strategies for skipjack, bigeye, and yellowfin tunas, and consider any updates on the Harvest Strategy Work Plan for 2024, 2025, and 2026, for adoption of any revisions in Agenda Item 10.4. The Commission SSP will provide updates, as required, to support discussions.</p> <p>Based on the updated stock assessments for bigeye and yellowfin tuna at SC19, the Commission will review the progress of TRPs, candidate MPs, and development of MSE for bigeye and yellowfin tuna under the mixed fishery MSE framework, and provide feedback as needed.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WCPFC20-2023-14</p>

	<p>ii. Develop management procedures</p> <p>iii. Management strategy evaluation</p>	<p>The Commission will also review and advise on the proposed monitoring strategy for the skipjack Management Procedure that was developed at SC19 and briefly reviewed at TCC19.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item 10. (continued)</p>	<p>d. Development of CMM 2023-01 (Consultative Draft)</p> <p>i. Evaluation of CMM 2021-01</p> <p>ii. Additional analyses requested at TTMW4</p> <p>iii. Update on progress in FADMO-IWG</p> <p>iv. Indonesia large-fish handline limit</p>	<p>The Chair will introduce the Chair’s Consultative Draft to progress development of a revised tropical tuna measure (CMM 2023-01). SPC will present its full evaluation of CMM 2021-01 and the results of additional analyses requested by CCMs at the 4th Tropical Tuna Measure Workshop (TTMW4) held in September 2023. The Commission will also consider information related to Indonesia’s large-fish handline limit.</p> <p>The Chair of the FAD Management Options Intersessional Working Group, Mr. Jamel James (FSM), will provide an update on 2023 progress, which will inform discussion on the Chair’s Consultative Draft.</p> <p>The Chair may establish a small working group to progress the Consultative Draft throughout the week.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-15 [SPC eval paper] ▪ WCPFC20-2023-16 [SPC analyses paper] ▪ FAD-MO IWG update ▪ WCPFC20-2023-33 [Chair’s Consultative Draft]
	<p>10.3 Process to develop an Allocation Framework under CMM 2021-01</p>	<p>The Chair will present an update on efforts at TTMW4 to progress development of an allocation framework, as called for in paragraphs 27 and 41 of CMM 2021-01. The Commission will consider how to further progress its commitment to developing an allocation framework beginning in 2024, including a work plan.</p>	<p>WCPFC20-2023-17</p>
	<p>10.4 Update Harvest Strategy Work Plan</p>	<p>Following discussions under Agenda Item 10.1b-d and 10.2a-c, the Commission will adopt an updated Harvest Strategy Work Plan, as needed.</p>	<p>WCPFC Harvest Strategy Work Plan</p>

<p>Agenda Item 10. (continued)</p>	<p>10.5 Information and data requirements to support management decisions</p> <p>a. At sea transshipment monitoring and management (consideration of revisions to CMM 2009-06 and activity codes including in Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission)</p> <p>b. Strengthening monitoring: observer coverage on LL fleets and development of electronic monitoring</p> <p>c. WPEA-ITM Project</p>	<p>The Commission will consider the status of continuing work through IWG-ROP, TS-IWG and ERandEM WG to refine and enhance the WCPFC’s monitoring programs and to address monitoring gaps. Discussions will cover SC19 recommendations related to addressing data gaps, including refinements to Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission decision and the importance of the WPEA-ITM project to continuing to support data collection to support management decisions.</p> <p>Discussions will also cover TCC19 recommendations relating to compliance verification and the added value from analytical work to promote heightened understanding and awareness of fishing impacts, as well as the importance of increasing monitoring and observer coverage in the longline fishery, including through the implementation of electronic monitoring.</p> <p>The Co-Chairs of the TS-IWG, Mr. Felix Ngwango (Vanuatu) and Dr. Alex Kahl (United States) will provide an update on 2023 progress. The Commission will consider recommendations from the TS-IWG to improve at sea transshipment monitoring and management.</p> <p>The Chair of the ERandEM WG, Dr. Shelton Harley (New Zealand), will provide an update on 2023 progress. The Commission will consider and provide direction on ERandEM WG work for 2024.</p> <p>The Chair of the IWG-ROP, Mr. Harold Vilia (Solomon Islands) will provide an update on 2023 progress, and the proposed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-18 ▪ TS-IWG update ▪ ERandEM WG update ▪ IWG-ROP update
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		<p>multi-year workplan. The Commission will consider adopting a plan for increasing ROP coverage in LL fisheries.</p> <p>Noting the importance of the WPEA-ITM project to supporting continuing monitoring of fishing activities in the western tropical region, the Commission will consider endorsing next steps for the WPEA-ITM Project.</p>	
<p>Agenda Item 10. (continued)</p>	<p>10.6 North Pacific Albacore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation on revised NP Alb Harvest Strategy (HS 2022-01) <p>10.7 Pacific bluefin tuna</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Recommendation on revised CMM 2021-02 b. Recommendation on revised PBF Harvest Strategy (HS 2021-01) c. Update on Development of Catch Documentation Scheme 	<p>The Chair of the Northern Committee, Mr. Masanori Miyahara (Japan), will present the recommendations from NC19 relating to North Pacific albacore and Pacific bluefin tuna. The report on Pacific bluefin tuna will also include information from the 8th Joint IATTC-NC Working Group Meeting on PBF Management.</p> <p>The Chair of the Joint IATTC-NC PBF CDS Technical Committee, Mr. Shingo Ota (Japan), will provide an update on progress in 2023 to develop a catch documentation scheme for Pacific bluefin tuna.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-19 ▪ WCPFC20-2023-NC19 [NC19 Report]

<p style="text-align: center;">11. BILLFISH STOCKS</p>	<p>Review of Billfish CMMs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. North Pacific swordfish (CMM 2022-02) b. South Pacific swordfish (CMM 2009-03) c. North Pacific striped marlin (CMM 2010-01) d. Southwest Pacific striped marlin (CMM 2006-04) e. Information and data requirements to support management decisions 	<p>The Commission will review its management measures for two billfish species: swordfish and striped marlin.</p> <p>Discussions will also cover TCC19 recommendations relating to the term “<i>fishing for</i>” in CMM 2006-04 and CMM 2009-03, and the challenges associated with differing interpretations on its applicability to CCMs. The SC19 recommendations related to Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission decision will also be considered.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WCPFC20-2023-20</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">12. MITIGATING IMPACTS OF FISHING ON NON-TARGET AND ASSOCIATED OR DEPENDENT SPECIES (NTADS) IN THE WCPO</p>	<p>Review of NTADS CMMs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sharks (CMM 2022-04) b. Seabirds (CMM 2018-03) c. Sea Turtles (CMM 2018-04) d. Cetaceans (CMM 2011-03) e. Information and data requirements to support management decisions 	<p>The Commission will review its current conservation and management measures for non-target and associated or dependent species (NTADS), including outcomes from SC19, TCC19, and relevant intersessional working groups.</p> <p>The Commission will also review plans by the IWG-ROP to refine the data fields collected by ROP observers which may better support reviews of NTADS CMMs, and SC19 recommendations related to Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-21 ▪ IWG-ROP update

13. COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME	13.1 CMS-IWG Workplan a. Finalise audit points b. Develop corrective actions	<p>The CMS-IWG Chair/TCC Vice-Chair Mr. Ilkang Na (Korea) will provide an update on 2023 progress on the activities of the CMS-IWG.</p> <p>The CMS-IWG Lead on the Development of Audit Points, Mr. Viv Fernandez (Australia), will provide an update on the 2023 progress towards the finalization of audit points. The Commission will adopt any remaining audit points that are ready for consideration.</p> <p>The CMS-IWG Lead for Corrective Actions, Ms. Elizabeth O’Sullivan (United States), will provide an update on the 2023 progress towards developing terms of reference for the work. The Commission will consider next steps to develop corrective actions.</p> <p>Discussions will also cover TCC19 recommendations related to the Compliance Verification, Aggregate Tables process, the added value from analytical work and opportunities for further enhancing CCMs participation in the Commission’s work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-22 ▪ WCPFC20-2023-23 [Draft Audit Points] ▪ WCPFC20-2023-24 [Corrective actions]
	13.2 Compliance Monitoring Report RY2021 and RY2022	<p>The Commission will consider the provisional CMR recommended by TCC19 and also taking into account additional information that may be provided by CCMs. A small working group is expected to be established to consider the provisional CMR and compile a Final CMR for the consideration and adoption by the Commission in plenary.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WCPFC20-2023-25</p>
	13.3 Develop list of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2024	<p>The Commission will decide on the list of obligations to be reviewed by the Compliance Monitoring Scheme in 2024.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WCPFC20-2023-26</p>

	13.4 Expiry of CMM 2021-03	The Commission will consider a successor measure to ensure the continued operation of the CMS, beyond the expiry of CMM 2021-03 on 31 st December 2023.	[CMM 2021-03]
14. PROGRESS TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OF A CMM ON CREW LABOUR STANDARDS		The Co-Chairs of the Labour Standards IWG, Ms. Putuh Suadela (Indonesia) and Ms. Sarah McAvinchey (New Zealand), will provide an update on 2023 progress towards the development of a draft CMM proposal. A small working group may be established to progress the draft CMM throughout the week.	Labour Standards IWG update
15. REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES	15.1 NC19 15.2 SC19 15.3 TCC19	Reports from the Commission’s 2023 meetings of the subsidiary bodies will be taken as read. The Commission will consider recommendations from each of its subsidiary bodies that have not been considered under other agenda items. The Commission will also consider an update from the TCC Chair, Mr. Mat Kertesz, on the progress of work in the TCC 2022-2024 workplan, including where additional work may be required.	WCPFC20-2023-27
	15.4 Consideration of changes to scheduling of SC20 and TCC20	The Commission SSP submitted a paper to SC19 entitled “ Options to address time challenges in the SC review of WCPFC stock assessment inputs ”, which highlighted timing challenges faced by SPC in delivering robust stock assessments for SC review. Among the options for consideration is adjusting the annual scheduling of the SC and TCC meetings. The Secretariat will provide information for the Commission to consider in respect of strengthening its support for stock assessment work.	WCPFC20-2023-28

16. REPORT OF THE FAC17	16.1 Report of the Seventeenth Finance and Administration Committee	The Commission will consider the report of FAC17, which will begin its meeting on 3 December and continue in the margins of WCPFC20.	WCPFC20-2023-FAC17 <i>(to be issued during WCPFC20)</i>
	16.2 Budget for 2024 and Indicative Budgets for 2025 and 2026	The Commission will consider FAC17's recommendation on the proposed 2024 Budget, and indicative budgets for 2025 and 2026, for adoption.	
17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	17.1 Secretariat's Updated Corporate Plan 2024-2027	The Commission noted the medium-term Corporate Plan for the Secretariat in 2019, and an updated version was noted by WCPFC19 in 2022. With the current Corporate Plan period ending in 2023, the Executive Director will present an updated Corporate Plan covering the period 2024-2027, for the Commission's consideration and adoption.	WCPFC20-2023-29
	17.2 Relationships with Other Organizations a. MOU with NPFC b. MOU renewal with SPRFMO c. Relations with IATTC	a. The Commission will consider recommendations from SC19 and TCC19 on the adoption of an MOU between WCPFC and NPFC. b. The Commission will consider recommendations from SC19 and TCC19 on the renewal of an MOU between WCPFC and SPRFMO, with a modification to the MOU duration. c. The Commission will consider and note the WCPFC's relations with IATTC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WCPFC20-2023-30 [NPFC and SPRFMO] ▪ WCPFC20-2023-31 [IATTC]
	17.3 Election of officers a. SC Chair and Vice Chair b. NC Vice Chair c. FAC Co-Chairs	CCMs will be invited to nominate officials to fill the Commission's roles of SC Chair, SC Vice Chair, NC Vice Chair, and two FAC Co-Chairs, for 2024-2025.	N/A

	17.4 Future Meetings a. NC20 b. SC20 c. TCC20 d. WCPFC21	The Commission will discuss and agree to indicative dates and venue of its 2024 regular annual session, and those of its subsidiary bodies.	WCPFC20-2023-32
18. OTHER MATTERS	CCMs and Observers who wish to raise any other matters not discussed in the WCPFC20 agenda, may raise them under this agenda item.	N/A	
19. SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC20	The Commission will note and agree to the timeline for reviewing WCPFC20 Outcomes and the Summary Report.	N/A	
20. CLOSE OF MEETING	The Chair will invite closing statements before declaring WCPFC20 as closed.	N/A	