

South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

2nd Meeting of the Scientific Committee

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

1-7 October 2014

SC-02

Provisional Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Administrative Arrangements
 - 3.1. Meeting documents
4. Nomination of Rapporteurs
5. Discussion of National Reports

As stated in CMM 2.01: In order to facilitate the work of the Scientific Committee, Members and CNCPs shall provide their annual national reports, in accordance with the existing guidelines for such reports, in advance of the 2014 Scientific Committee meeting. Members and CNCPs shall also provide observer data for the 2014 fishing season to the Scientific Committee to the maximum extent possible. The reports shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary at least one month before the 2014 Scientific Committee meeting in order to ensure that the Scientific Committee has an adequate opportunity to consider the reports in its deliberations.

Participants will have an opportunity to present key aspects of their reports, and to ask questions related to National Reports tabled by other participants.

6. Report of the Jack Mackerel Working Group
7. Report of the Deepwater Working Group
8. Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management
 - 8.1. Evaluate the impact of fishing activities (including, *inter alia*, gear type) on Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) and on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs)
From Road map
 - 8.2. VME database project
Intro to the VME mapping application and the FAO request to be able to display SPRFMO footprints
9. Review international best practices in bycatch, incidental catches and mitigation options in pelagic and bottom fisheries, and make appropriate recommendations
Including, inter alia, the potential use of trigger limits to manage the incidental catch of seabirds in the SPRFMO Convention Area and advice on implementing, inter alia, the measures contained in Annex 2 of CMM 2.04 (minimising seabird bycatch)

10. Review CMM 2.02 (data standards) to ensure a full understanding of nature and extent of bycatch interactions across all fisheries

The Road Map requests, in particular, that the SC revise the section on observer data in order to cover collection of data on incidental catches on oceanic sharks included in Annex I of the UN convention on the Law of the Sea. CMM 2.04 asks that observer information from national programmes (specifically trawl) is evaluated

- 10.1. Risk to seabird species in the Convention Area and possible mitigation measures to minimise impacts

From Road map

11. Recommended level and type of observer coverage for demersal longline and trawl fisheries to provide reliable estimates of seabird mortality

From Road map

12. Sampling scheme design for offloading fish in ports

Relates specifically to submission of observed landings and whether this is important and what data is/should be required to be stored etc.

13. Advice to the Commission

13.1. Jack Mackerel

13.2. Deepwater

13.3. Other

14. SC Research Program

15. Next Meeting

16. Other Matters

17. Adoption of Report

18. Meeting Closure

South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

Meeting of the Jack Mackerel Working Group

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1. Jack Mackerel Working Group

1.1. Report on Inter-Sessional assessment/research by Participants

1.1.1. Inter-Sessional Stock assessments of Jack Mackerel

1.1.2. Inter-Sessional Progress with the Jack Mackerel Stock Structure Research Programme

The Commission, in its Road Map, requested the SC to continue the work on evaluating alternative stock structure hypotheses and the consequences of alternative management approaches. Members of the Jack Mackerel Stock Structure Research Programme Task Team will be given an opportunity to provide brief overviews of any inter-sessional progress made.

1.2. Inter-Sessional Progress with Jack Mackerel Age/Growth Task Team

The Coordinator of the Jack Mackerel Age/growth Task Team will be given an opportunity to provide an overview of progress made.

1.3. Commercial Vessel acoustic survey standardization

Participants from a recent workshop on data collection from commercial vessels will be given an opportunity to report their conclusions to the SC

2. Jack Mackerel Stock Assessments – Technical Session

2.1. Updating of data sets for additional stock assessment runs

Participants will report on any updated data sets that were provided for additional stock assessment runs to be conducted at the meeting. Participants are reminded to ensure that they have complied with all of the jack mackerel data submission requirements, and that they submit all updated data prior to this meeting in a format suitable for input into the stock assessment models (in line with the protocol for submission of papers to the SC).

2.2. Selection and specification of base-case assessment, and specification of additional stock assessment sensitivity runs to be conducted

Following review of the inter-sessional assessment work by participants, the SC will specify and conduct additional stock assessment runs, sensitivities or supporting analyses considered necessary to prepare the 2014 advice to the Commission on jack mackerel stock status.

2.3. Conducting of additional stock assessment runs

The SC will continue work on evaluating alternative hypotheses on jack mackerel stock population structure and consequences on alternative management approaches

2.4. Synthesis and summary of key results from all stock assessment runs conducted

Results of all stock assessment runs conducted inter-sessionally or at the meeting will be summarised as a technical Appendix to the SC report.

3. Advice to the Commission on Jack Mackerel stock status

The Road map from the Commission requested the SC to provide advice on the stock status of jack mackerel, based on updated stock assessments continuing and expanding the work under both stock hypotheses considered in the 11th SWG meeting.

The SC will prepare advice on jack mackerel stock status under this agenda item, based on the results of any inter-sessional stock assessments conducted by participants, and additional stock assessment runs under conducted in Agenda item 6.2.

3.1. Review and evaluate the rebuilding plan adopted by the 2nd Commission Meeting

The Road Map requests the SC consider a range of exploitation levels and present the probabilities that the spawning stock biomass will reach target and limit reference points (or their proxies) in 2016, and also 10 and 20 years into the future.

4. Future jack mackerel Research program and identification of short term research and assessment requirements

5. Adoption of Report

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Meeting of the Deepwater Working Group

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1. Stock assessment
 - 1.1. Inter-Sessional assessments of deep-water species
Placeholder for possible papers
2. Applications to fish outside the footprint or above reference period catch levels
Placeholder for possible applications
3. Planning SC activities to inform the review of CMM 2.03 (bottom fishing)
Preparation for the work requested under para 5 of CMM 2.03
4. ABNJ Deepsea program
5. Future Deepwater Research program and identification of short term research and assessment requirements
6. SC Deepwater Research Programme and identification of other short term research and assessment requirements
7. Adoption of Report