

International Consultations on the Establishment of the
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

**International Consultations on the Establishment of the South Pacific
Regional Fisheries Management Organization
Seventh International Meeting**

**DRAFT AGENDAS FOR THE SCIENCE WORKING GROUP
and SUB-GROUPS
Lima, Peru, 11 - 15 May 2009**

**SCIENCE WORKING GROUP: PLENARY
DRAFT AGENDA**

The Plenary Meeting of the Science Working Group will review and comment on the reports of the Jack Mackerel and Deepwater Subgroups, deal with overall science issues that span across Sub-Groups, or have not been allocated to Sub-Groups, and will provide research and management advice to the Negotiations.

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Administrative Arrangements

- 3.1. Meeting documents.
- 3.2. Meeting arrangements.

4. Nomination of Rapporteurs

5. Inter-Sessional Work

- 5.1. Report from the Interim Secretariat on status of catch & effort data submission.
- 5.2. Update by the Interim Secretariat on status of the SPRFMO bottom fishing footprint maps, and the SPRFMO GIS database.

6. Report-Back from the Meeting of the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group

The Chair of the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group will report back on the key conclusions and recommendations of the meeting of the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group. The JMSG will provide a summary of these key results for inclusion in the SWG report under this agenda item. Where necessary, the SWG Plenary may add further comment from a Plenary perspective, after review of the JMSG Report. In addition, the detailed report of the JMSG meeting will be appended to the SWG report in full.

7. Report Back from the Meeting of the Deepwater Sub-Group

The Chair of the Deepwater Sub-Group will report back on the key conclusions and recommendations of the meeting of the Deepwater Sub-Group. The DWSG

will provide a summary of these key results for inclusion in the SWG report under this agenda item. Where necessary, the SWG Plenary may add further comment from a Plenary perspective, after review of the JMSG Report. In addition, the detailed report of the DWSG meeting will be appended to the SWG report in full.

8. Species and Habitat Profiles

- 8.1. Review of new species or habitat profiles.
- 8.2. Revisions to existing profiles.

9. Guidelines for Annual National Reports to the SWG

- 9.1. Consideration of draft guidelines for annual National Reports to the SPRFMO SWG.

Further consideration of the draft guidelines for annual National Reports to the SWG, initially tabled and discussed at SPRFMO5 SWG meeting in Guayaquil.

10. Review of Interim Science Processes & Requirements

The SWG has been asked to 'consider the future frequency, location and purpose of the Working Group meetings, and report back to the negotiations on their recommendations'. The SWG Chair therefore intends to table the following questions for discussion under this Agenda Item:

- *Should the SWG and Sub-Groups continue to meet at all until we have an adopted SPRFMO Convention and functioning SPRFMO in place ?*
- *If the SWG and Sub-Groups should continue to meet during the interim period, how often should such meetings occur, where and when should they be held ?*
- *What should be the primary purpose/s of any future SWG meetings in the interim period ?*

11. Future Scientific Work Programme

- 11.1. Identification of short & medium term science requirements.
- 11.2. Identification of research and assessment matters to refer back to each of the SWG Sub-Groups.

12. SWG and SubGroup Chairmanship

Consideration of nominations for Chair of the SWG for the next term of office. Ratify nominations for the Chairs of the Jack Mackerel and Deepwater Sub-Groups.

13. Other Matters

14. Adoption of SWG Report

15. Meeting Closure

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**SCIENCE WORKING GROUP : JACK MACKEREL SUB-GROUP
DRAFT AGENDA**

In accordance with their interim terms of reference, the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group will deal with all matters related to research and assessment of jack mackerel, including related species caught in jack mackerel fisheries, and provide advice to the SWG Plenary on the status of the stocks, and evaluate conservation and management options, for jack mackerel in the SPRFMO area.

1. Opening of the Meeting

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Administrative Arrangements

3.1. Meeting documents.

4. Nomination of Rapporteurs

5. Report on the Jack Mackerel Stock Assessment Workshop

The report from the recent workshop will be tabled for discussion and the results used in considering the next agenda item.

6. Jack Mackerel Stock Assessment and Modelling Approaches

6.1. Data compilation, vetting and dissemination.

6.2. Plan for development of agreed assessment models.

6.3. Management Strategy evaluation.

7. Jack Mackerel Stock Structure Research Programme

7.1. Update on funding.

7.2. Establishment of a Jack Mackerel Research Programme Steering Committee.

7.3. Identification of participants in the Research Programme.

7.4. Revisions to Budget.

7.5. Planning for protocols and methods workshop.

7.6. Timetable of proposed research activities.

8. Process for Provision of Advice to the Science Working Group on the Status of Jack Mackerel in 2009

Following the outcomes of the recent workshop, and the agreed approaches for future assessment work, the subgroup will discuss the process to be followed for the provision of advice on the status of jack mackerel this year.

9. Revisions to the Jack Mackerel Species Profile

The revised jack mackerel species profile will be discussed and a revised summary adopted.

10. Future Jack Mackerel Sub-Group work programme

10.1. Identification of short & medium term research and assessment requirements.

11. Chairmanship of the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group

Nominations for the future chairmanship of the JMSG to be discussed.

12. Other Matters

13. Adoption of Jack-Mackerel Sub-Group Report and Summary

In addition to preparation of a detailed JMSG Report for appending to the SWG Plenary Report, the JMSG will be required to prepare a summary of the key conclusions and recommendations of the meeting to insert into the SWG Plenary Report.

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**SCIENCE WORKING GROUP : DEEPWATER SUB-GROUP
DRAFT AGENDA**

In accordance with their interim terms of reference, the Deepwater Sub-Group will deal with all matters related to research and assessment of deepwater species caught in bottom fisheries, including ecologically related species, and provide advice to the SWG Plenary on the status of the stocks, and evaluate conservation and management options, for deepwater species in the SPRFMO area.

1. Opening of the Meeting

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Administrative Arrangements

3.1. Meeting documents.

4. Nomination of Rapporteurs

5. Chairmanship of the Deepwater Sub-Group

Report back on any email exchanges or proposals for nominations for this position, and consider nominations for Chair of the Deepwater Sub-Group.

It will be necessary to at least nominate a Chair for this meeting for the discussion of Agenda item 6: Review of the New Zealand Bottom Fishery Impact Assessment. The Chair of the SWG cannot Chair this discussion.

6. Review of Bottom Fishery Impact Assessments

Review and comment on any benthic assessments that may have been submitted for proposed fisheries in the SPRFMO area, or discussion of questions which have arisen about these assessment requirements or process since SPRFMO5 in Guayaquil. Assessments will need to be reviewed against the standards in the SPRFMO Benthic Assessment Framework, and at least against the list of questions in Section 8 of the Report of SWG 4 (Noumea, September 2007).

6.1. Review of the New Zealand Bottom Fishery Impact Assessment.

6.2. Review of the Assessments Submitted by Other Participants.

7. SPRFMO Benthic Assessment Standard

Discussion and amendment of the draft SPRFMO Benthic Assessment Standard. Preparation of an amended draft standard for further inter-sessional consideration by participants.

8. Deepwater Species Assessment and Management

Discussion of any new papers submitted on options for assessment and management of low-productivity deepwater species.

9. Other Matters

10. Adoption of Deepwater Sub-Group Report and Summary

(In addition to preparation of a detailed DWSG Report for appending to the SWG Plenary Report, the DWSG will be required to prepare a summary of the key conclusions and recommendations of the meeting to insert into the SWG Plenary Report.)
