

**5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Commission**  
**Adelaide, Australia, 18 to 22 January 2017**

**COMM 5 - DOC-05 rev.1 (23.12.2016)**

**Options for Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with other RFMOs**

Secretariat

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## **BACKGROUND**

At its last meeting in January 2016, the SPRFMO Commission has asked the Secretariat to assess and advise the Commission on options for Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with neighbouring or overlapping RFMOs. Such MoUs are intended to facilitate the cooperation between organisations.

## **Existing Cooperation**

SPRFMO has an “Arrangement” with CCAMLR (ANNEX 4) as well as a MoU between the SPRFMO and ACAP Secretariats (ANNEX 5). It is noteworthy that ACAP contributed extensive expert advice to the development of CMM 4.09 (Minimising Bycatch of Seabirds).

In addition, there exists an informal collaboration among all Secretariats of RFMOs, through

- (a) the Regional Bodies Secretariat’s Network (RSN) (described in ANNEX 1) convened every two years in conjunction with FAO’s Committee on Fisheries (COFI), and
- (b) intersessional communications and consultations.

Since the last Commission meeting, the Executive Secretary has consulted with the Secretaries of neighbouring and overlapping RFMOs (see report in ANNEX 2) and found that all are interested in strengthening the informal collaboration and possibly broadening and formalising it through MoUs.

Summary descriptions of advisory RFBs of possible interest to SPRFMO and operating in the Pacific and some global relevant organisations are given in ANNEX 3.

## **Possible areas of collaboration**

The general scope of collaboration with other RFMOs will be similar and might include the following areas:

- Matters related to IUU fishing, e.g. recognition of each other’s IUU Lists
- Monitoring and surveillance including vessel information, VMS, and observers, e.g. transshipment observers
- Scientific advice and information, including the assessment of shared target and by-catch species as well as environmental assessments in the context of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management
- Harmonisation of conservation and management measures (as desirable and practical)
- Harmonisation of data standards and data requirements (as desirable and practical)
- Informing each other on progress made and evolution of best practices. This includes granting each other observer status at meetings. In accordance with Rule 9(1)(d) of the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure, SPRFMO automatically grants RFMOs and relevant IGOs observer status at its meetings. This is not always the case at other organisations.

## Neighbouring or overlapping RFMOs/RFMO-like organisations

There are seven RFMOs in the Pacific Ocean with competence over areas that are neighbouring to or overlapping with SPRFMO's<sup>1</sup>. These are the “general” RFMOs: NPFC and SIOFA; the tuna RFMOs: CCSBT, IATTC, IOTC, and WCPFC; and CCAMLR, a conservation organisation with RFMO-like characteristics and an area of competence neighbouring to SPRFMO's.

The following provides a brief description of these organisations and their Convention areas as well as some observations related to cooperation with SPRFMO.

### NPFC (North Pacific Fisheries Commission)

<https://npfc.r-cms.jp>



**Objective:** “... to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fisheries resources in its area of competence, while protecting the marine ecosystems of the North Pacific Ocean.”

**Resources:** NPFC covers all fish, molluscs, crustaceans and other marine species excluding sedentary (shelf) species and indicator species of VMEs; catadromous species; marine mammals, marine reptiles and seabirds; and other marine species covered by other RFMOs.

**Bottom Fisheries:** Bottom trawl, longline and gillnet fisheries exist on seamounts, in particular Emperor,

Eickelberg, Warwick, Cobb and Brown Bear; these fisheries target **North Pacific armorhead (*Pseudopentaceros wheeleri*)**, **splendid alfonsino (*Beryx splendens*)**, and mirror dory (*Zenopsis nebulosa*) in the Northwest and sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) in the Northeast.

**Pelagic Fisheries:** The main pelagic species is Pacific saury (*Cololabis saira*); in addition, fisheries target **Chub mackerel (*Scomber japonicus*)**, Spotted mackerel (*Scomber australasicus*), Japanese sardine (*Sardinops melanostictus*), **neon flying squid (*Ommastrephes bartramii*)**, and Japanese flying squid (*Todarodes pacificus*).

**Members:** Canada, **China**, Japan, **Korea**, **Russia**, **Chinese Taipei**, **USA**.

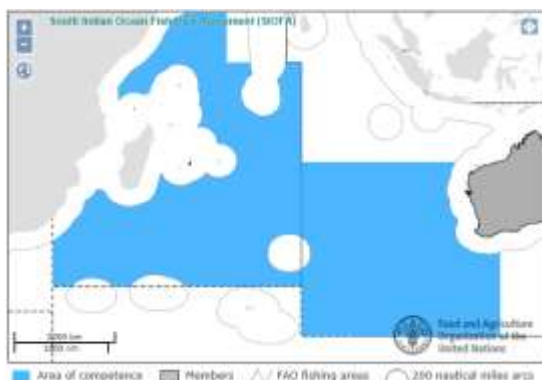
#### Observations:

- NPFC is the counterpart of SPRFMO in the North Pacific and is responsible for bottom (seamount) and pelagic fisheries in the high seas. Many deepsea species and some pelagic species targeted by NPFC are also caught by SPRFMO fisheries and a collaboration related to biology and stock status of these species might be of benefit.
- A collaboration related to ecosystem considerations and climate change issues, in particular in neighbouring tropical areas, could be considered.
- NPFC is more recent than SPRFMO - with the Convention establishing NPFC entering into force on 19 July 2015 - and is not yet fully developed. It might be of value if reporting formats and approaches would be similar to those of SPRFMO to facilitate the implementation of measures in both areas by the five Members and CNCPs common to both organisations.
- Good informal collaboration between the SPRFMO and NPFC Secretariats exists.
- NPFC grants automatic observer status to all RFMOs at its meetings.
- NPFC does not automatically recognise the IUU Vessel List of other RFMOs.

<sup>1</sup> In addition, there are three other RFMOs operating in the North Pacific but not neighbouring to SPRFMO. These are the NPAFC (North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission), the PSC (Pacific Salmon commission) and the IPHC (International Pacific Halibut Commission). The two latter are bilateral (USA and Canada).

## SIOFA (Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement)

<http://www.fao.org/fishery/rfb/siofa/en> (a SIOFA website is under development)



**Objective:** “... to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fishery resources in the area of competence through cooperation among the Contracting Parties, and to promote the sustainable development of fisheries, taking into account the needs of developing States bordering the competence area, and in particular the least-developed among them and small island developing States.”

**Resources:** “Resources of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and other sedentary species within the competence area, but excluding” sedentary (shelf) species and highly migratory species.

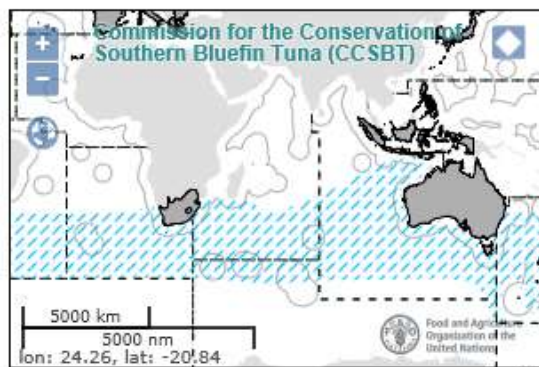
**Members:** Australia, Cook Islands, EU, France, Japan, Korea, Mauritius, Seychelles.

### Observations:

- SIOFA is the counterpart of SPRFMO in the Southern Indian Ocean, primarily managing deep-sea species. The Convention areas converge off Southwest Australia.
- **Orange roughy** and other deep-sea species are of interest to both organisations. A collaboration could be considered regarding stock assessments, EAF and climate change.
- Informal collaboration between Secretariats has started and the SIOFA Executive Secretary plans to attend the Commission meeting in 2017.
- Informal collaboration between Secretariats has started and the SIOFA Executive Secretary plans to attend the SPRFMO Commission meeting in 2017.
- SIOFA grants automatic observer status to RFMOs with competence over high seas areas neighbouring to or overlapping the Agreement Area.

## CCSBT (Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna)

<http://www.ccsbt.org>



**Objective:** “to ensure, through appropriate management, the conservation and optimum utilization of the global Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) fishery.”

**Resources:** Southern bluefin tuna (*Thunnus maccoyii*)

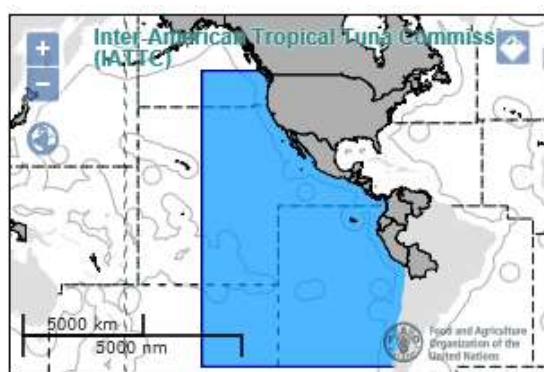
**Members:** Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, South Africa plus (Extended Commission only): EU and Chinese Taipei. **CNCPs:** Philippines

### Observations:

- CCSBT does not grant automatic observer status to other RFMOs and currently SPRFMO is not invited to its meetings.
- CCSBT has a joint observer programme for transshipments (reefers) with IOTC and ICATT.
- CCSBT does not automatically recognise the IUU Vessel Lists of other RFMOs but stipulates that “the Extended Commission may consider cross-listing IUU vessel lists with all other tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and relevant organisations on a case by case basis as agreed by the Extended Commission.” The area overlap makes a cooperation regarding vessel record and IUU matters desirable.
- Good informal collaboration between Secretariats already exists.

## IATTC (Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission)

<http://www.iattc.org>



**Objective:** “to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by this Convention, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law.”

**Resources:** “stocks of tuna and tuna-like species and other species of fish taken by vessels fishing for tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area.”

**Fisheries<sup>2</sup>:** The most important species caught are scombrids (including tunas, bonitos, seerfishes, mackerels). Other targeted species comprise billfishes (swordfish, marlins, shortbill spearfish, and sailfish), **carangids** (yellowtail, rainbow runner, and **Jack**

**mackerel**), dorado, and elasmobranchs (sharks, rays, and skates). Since 2012 total catches of carangids have been below 100 tonnes, in 2015 they were estimated at only 43 tonnes, 15 of which were discarded.

**Members:** Belize, Canada, **China**, **Colombia**, Costa Rica, **Ecuador**, El Salvador, **EU**, France, Guatemala, Japan, Kiribati, **Korea**, Mexico, Nicaragua, **Panama**, **Peru**, **Chinese Taipei**, **USA**, **Vanuatu**, Venezuela. **CNCPs:** Bolivia, Honduras, Indonesia, **Liberia**.

### Observations:

- Half of SPRFMO’s Members (plus 4 CNCPs) are also members or CNCPs of IATTC.
- Large area and membership overlap makes collaboration regarding IUU fishing desirable.
- IATTC does not automatically recognise the IUU Vessel Lists of other RFMOs.
- Relevant IGOs have automatic observer status at IATTC meetings.
- IATTC vessels also target carangids including Jack mackerel, but catches are very low.
- IATTC has a joint observer programme for transshipments with ICATT, IOTC and CCSBT.
- Good informal collaboration between Secretariats already exists.

## IOTC (Indian Ocean Tuna Commission)

<http://www.iotc.org>



**Objective:** “to promote the conservation and optimal utilization of tuna and tuna-like stocks covered by the IOTC Agreement, and to encourage sustainable development of fisheries.”

**Resources:** Tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas (currently 16 species). Data are reported on non-target, associated and dependent species affected by tuna fishing operations, e.g. sharks and sea-birds.

**Members:** **Australia**, Belize, **China**, Comoros, Eritrea, **EU**, France, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep. of), Japan, Kenya, **Korea**, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan,

Philippines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Yemen. **CNCPs:** Bangladesh, Djibouti, **Liberia**, Senegal.

### Observations:

- Only four (out of 32) IOTC Contracting Parties are also Members of SPRFMO (plus 1 common CNCP).
- SPRFMO and IOTC areas overlap off South Australia; no shared fishery resources, though.

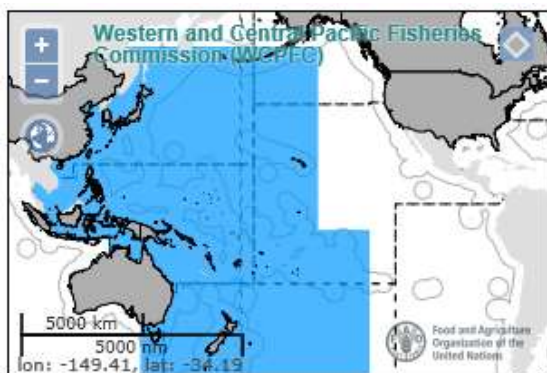
<sup>2</sup>From: IATTC. 2016. Fishery Status Report No. 14. Tunas and Billfishes in the Eastern Pacific Ocean in 2015. <https://www.iattc.org/PDFFiles2/FisheryStatusReports/FisheryStatusReport14.pdf>



- IOTC has a joint observer programme on transshipments with other tuna RFMOs.
- IOTC does not award automatic observer status to RFMOs and SPRFMO is not invited to its meetings. Invitations can be issued following a formal request, but the IOTC Commission has to agree first.

### WCPFC (Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission)

<http://www.wcpfc.int/>



Objective: “to ensure, through effective management, the long-term conservation and sustainable use of highly migratory fish stocks in the western and central Pacific Ocean in accordance with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement.”

Resources: Highly migratory fish stocks, defined as all stocks of the species (tunas, mackerels, pomfrets, marlins, sailfish, swordfish and oceanic sharks) listed in Annex I of UNCLOS, and such other species as the Commission may determine.

Members: **Australia**, Canada, **China**, **Cook**

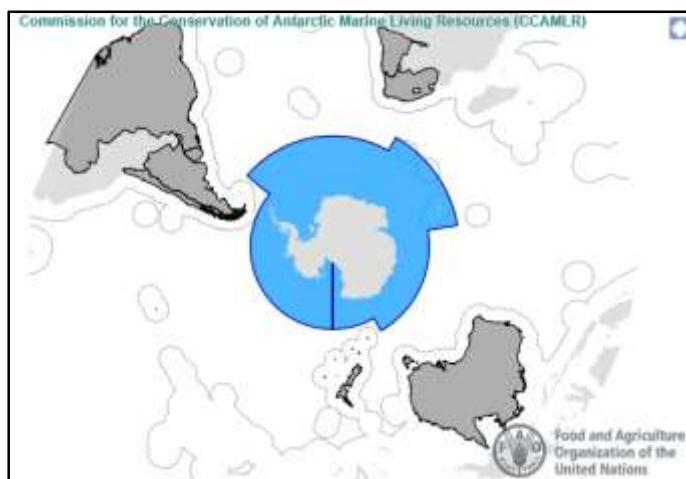
**Islands**, EU, Republic of Fiji, France, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Fed. States of Micronesia, Nauru, **New Zealand**, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, **Korea**, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, **Chinese Taipei**, Tuvalu, **USA**, **Vanuatu**. Participating Non-Independent Territories: American Samoa, C. Northern Mariana Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Tokelau, Wallis & Futuna. Participating Non-Member States: Belize, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, **Ecuador**, El Salvador, Mexico, Senegal, St Kitts & Nevis, **Panama**, Thailand, Vietnam.

#### Observations:

- Eleven SPRFMO Members and CNCPs are also members or CNCPs of WCPFC.
- Large area overlap makes collaboration regarding compliance matters desirable.
- WCPFC does not automatically recognise IUU Lists of other RFMOs.
- Other areas of collaboration may be EAF, climate change and observer programmes.
- The WCPFC Rules of Procedures foresee that “*The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and South Pacific regional organizations invited by the Commission*” may participate as observers in the Commission and its subsidiary bodies. The procedure by which to obtain such invitation is not described.

## CCAMLR (Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources)

[www.ccamlr.org](http://www.ccamlr.org)



**Objective:** “the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources”.

**Resources:** All the populations of fin fish, molluscs, crustaceans and all other species of living organisms, including birds, found south of the Antarctic Convergence, but excluding whales and seals, which are the subject of other conventions.

**Fisheries:** Fisheries currently target Patagonian toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*), **Antarctic toothfish (*Dissostichus mawsoni*)**, mackerel icefish (*Champsocephalus gunnari*) and Antarctic krill (*Euphausia superba*).

**Members:** Argentina, **Australia**,

Belgium, Brazil, **Chile**, **China**, EU, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Namibia, **New Zealand**, Norway, Poland, **Korea**, **Russia**, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom, **USA**, Uruguay. **Acceding Members:** Bulgaria, Canada, **Cook Islands**, Finland, Greece, Mauritius, Netherlands, Pakistan, **Panama**, **Peru**, **Vanuatu**. **CNCPs:** Seychelles

### Observations:

- Arrangement [MoU] with CCAMLR signed in 2016 covers the cooperation regarding:
  - ✓ exchange of documents, data and scientific information (including authorised vessels, IUU vessels, catch data),
  - ✓ harmonise approaches,
  - ✓ consultation and cooperation regarding target and by-catch species, monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) (including VMS),
  - ✓ analysis and research on species of mutual interest,
  - ✓ recognising and supporting each other's conservation measures,
  - ✓ grant reciprocal observer status.
- Shared species: toothfish. Cooperation related to scientific assessment of toothfish assessment has been initiated
- Collaboration regarding IUU matters: Ongoing, by correspondence between Secretariats. **Note:** CCAMLR does not automatically recognise RFMO IUU Vessel Lists; the Arrangement with SPRFMO does not include the recognition of the SPRFMO IUU Vessel List.

## ANNEX 1

### Regional Fishery Body Secretariats Network (RSN)

*From: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/rsn/en>*

Since the first meeting of FAO and Non-FAO Regional Fishery Bodies (RFBs) or Arrangements in February 1999, seven others have been held in the margins of FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI). These meetings have provided valuable opportunities for all RFBs to exchange information on current challenges and emerging issues experienced by RFBs.

During the 2005 meeting of RFBs, participants agreed to change the meeting title to "Regional Fishery Body Secretariats' Network (RSN)". This new title emphasized both network support and ongoing engagement intersessionally between formal meetings. The first meeting of the (RSN) was held in March 2007 as the fifth biennial meeting among RFBs.

#### Objective

The RSN was established to facilitate ongoing information exchange among RFB Secretariats. In part this is facilitated by the distribution of a quarterly newsletter which is published by FAO and based on contributions from the RFBs.

#### RSN and FAO

RSN meetings are autonomous initiatives. FAO provides the venue and secretariat services to the Network meetings. The Chair of the RSN works closely with the Secretary of the RSN provided by FAO, and is responsible for meeting logistics, oversight and functioning. The current chair is Dr. Driss Messki, Executive Secretary of ICCAT. The FAO secretary post of the RSN is currently held by Dr. Piero Mannini, Senior Fishery Liaison Officer of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department of FAO.

#### RSN/RFB Meetings

The biennial RSN meetings have facilitated discussion and information sharing among all bodies. These meetings address the outcomes of COFI and focus on issues of major importance to the RFBs, including the role of RFBs in global and regional fisheries processes. A 1998 High-Level Panel of External Experts in Fisheries addressed FAO's role in working to encourage more coherent management approaches among RFBs, and recommended that FAO should, inter alia, convene a special meeting of FAO and non-FAO bodies in order to:

- identify and address common problems and constraints;
- develop strategies and mechanisms to address constraints;
- share experiences and lessons learned; and
- improve the effectiveness of the RFBs.

The Twenty-third COFI in 1999 commended FAO for conveying a meeting of FAO and Non-FAO RFBs and recommended that such meetings be held on regular basis.

## ANNEX 2

### Informal meeting of Pacific RFMOs' Executive Secretaries in Rome, Italy, 13 July 2016

During the FAO COFI meeting in July 2016 in Rome, Italy, Pacific RFMOs' Executive Secretaries convened a brief and informal meeting to discuss the current and future cooperation of the Pacific RFMO secretariats. The Executive Secretaries attending were: CCAMLR (Andrew Wright), CCSBT (Robert Kennedy), IATTC (Guillermo Compeán with Jean-Jacques Pulvenis), NPFC (Dae-Yeon Moon), NPAFC (Vladimir Radchenko), SPRFMO (Johanne Fischer) and WCPFC (Feleti Teo).

The Executive Secretaries agreed to continue and strengthen their informal collaboration, in particular with regard to information management, compliance evaluation, Catch Documentation Schemes (if any), website developments, data modelling and infrastructure, database development, data exchange protocols and secretariat-administrative matters. It was pointed out that there already exists an ongoing and very useful collaboration on data management among Secretariats of Regional Fishery Bodies in the South Pacific (including the SPRFMO Secretariat).

In addition, the Executive Secretaries thought that improving the collaboration regarding fisheries monitoring and control could be of benefit. Currently IUU vessel lists are shared and vessel records are publicly accessible. Some mentioned that a shared vessel record could be favourable, others cautioned that experience with the shared tuna vessel record has shown that such a joint record is costly and difficult to continuously update. It was therefore agreed to re-visit this item in a year or two and see whether it might be more feasible then.

Furthermore, tuna organisations are closely collaborating with regard to the observation of transshipments and perhaps this could be an area of interest also to SPRFMO.

The Executive Secretaries briefly discussed the possible cooperation on scientific matters, and noted that it might be advantageous to include advisory bodies, such as PICES and FFA, in a collaboration on stock assessment and ecosystem aspects of fisheries in the Pacific.

The possibility of developing a portal website for Pacific RFMOs was also briefly addressed. Such a portal could ease public access to key documents of the different organisations, including conservation measures, vessel records, upcoming and most recent meetings.

Finally, it was noted that in addition to the informal collaboration, there may be scope for a more formal cooperation through the establishment of MoUs. CCAMLR and WCPFC already have a large number of agreed MoUs with other organisations. Others are still exploring the desirability of developing MoUs which will be negotiated separately by the interested organisations.



## ANNEX 3

### Other organisations of possible interest

There are a number of other intergovernmental organisations operating in the Pacific Ocean or globally, such as ACAP, with whom a closer collaboration in some areas could be of interest to SPRFMO. Such organisations include:

#### South-West Pacific

**APFIC (Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission, a FAO body).** [www.apfic.org](http://www.apfic.org)



The Commission is an advisory body, its purpose is to promote the full and sustainable utilization of living aquatic resources through economically viable and environmentally sustainable policies, practices and operations, and finding solutions to emerging regional fisheries issues that affect the member countries. The FAO Secretariat provides support and assists the Member States in implementing their identified priorities. This is done through awareness raising, policy formulation and advice, promoting sustainable fisheries management tools, preparing studies on the status and trends of the fish resources, implementing projects and training and building partnerships. **Members:** **Australia**, Bangladesh, Cambodia, **China**, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, **Korea**, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, **New Zealand**, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Thailand, United Kingdom, **USA**, Viet Nam.

**FFA (Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency).** [www.ffa.int](http://www.ffa.int)



**Members:** **Australia**, **Cook Islands**, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, **New Zealand**, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, **Vanuatu**.

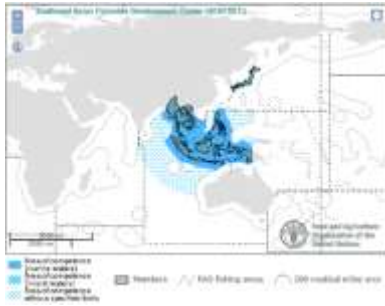
**POA (Pacific Ocean Alliance, under the PIFS [Pacific Islands Forum])**

[www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/strategic-partnerships-coordination/pacific-oceanscape/pacific-ocean-alliance/](http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/strategic-partnerships-coordination/pacific-oceanscape/pacific-ocean-alliance/)



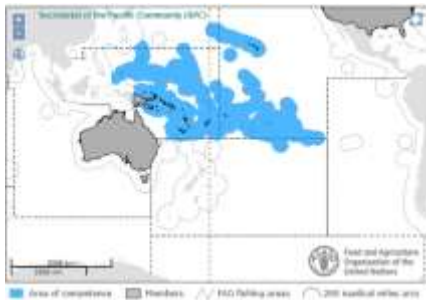
currently being discussed by the Pacific Ocean Alliance partnership is Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, in particular relating to marine biodiversity issues. **Members of the PIF:** **Australia**, **Cook Islands**, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, **New Zealand**, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and **Vanuatu**.

**Observations:** The SPRFMO Executive Secretary followed the invitation to attend the inaugural meeting of the POA, entitled 'High Hopes for High Seas' in March 2015, in Suva, Fiji. No further cooperation resulted from this.

**SEAFDEC (South East Asian Fisheries Development Center).** [www.seafdec.org](http://www.seafdec.org)

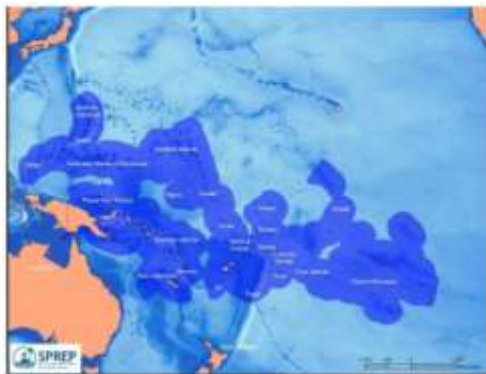
3SEAFDEC is an advisory body with the following strategic objectives: (i) to promote rational and sustainable use of fisheries resources in the region; (ii) to enhance the capability of fisheries sector to address emerging international issues and for greater access to international trade; (iii) to alleviate poverty among the fisheries communities in Southeast Asia; and (iv) to enhance the contribution of fisheries to food security and livelihood in the region.

**Members:** Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Dem. Rep., Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam.

**SPC (Secretariat of the Pacific Community).** [www.spc.int](http://www.spc.int)

3SPC works to help Pacific people achieve their development goals by delivering technical, scientific, research, policy and training services. In addition to its work in agriculture, public health, applied geosciences, education, statistics, energy and transport, SPC also has a Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems (FAME), which provides scientific support for oceanic fisheries management, and technical assistance on the management and development of coastal fisheries and aquaculture.

**Members:** American Samoa, **Cook Islands**, Fed. States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Pitcairn Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, **Vanuatu**, and Wallis & Futuna, plus **Australia**, France, **New Zealand** and the **USA**.

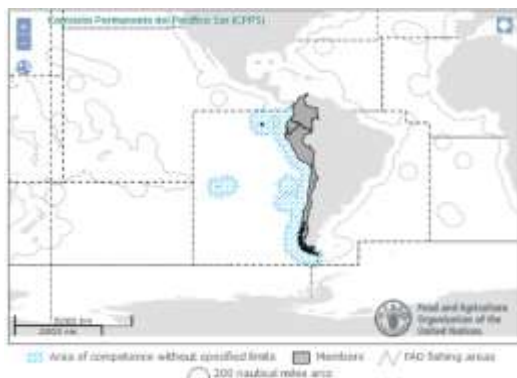
**SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme).** [www.sprep.org](http://www.sprep.org)

The SPREP is an advisory body and has been charged by the governments and administrations of the Pacific region with the protection and sustainable development of the region's environment. The vision is *"the Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures."* Strategic Priorities (as indicated in the Strategic Action Plan 2010-2015) are: Climate Change; Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management; Waste Management and Pollution Control; and Environmental Monitoring and Governance.

**Members:** American Samoa, **Australia**, C. Northern Mariana Islands, **Cook Islands**, Fed. States of Micronesia, Fiji, France, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, **New Zealand**, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, **USA**, **Vanuatu** and Wallis & Futuna.

## South-East Pacific

**CPPS (Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur, Permanent Commission for the South Pacific).**  
[www.cpps-int.org](http://www.cpps-int.org)



Since 1952, the CPPS coordinates regional maritime policies of its Member States. CPPS is engaged in a capacity-building process at the national and regional levels in the areas of science, socio-economic policy and the environment. CPPS's strategic objectives include strengthening science-based policy-making, and contributing to an informed society with social and environmental responsibility. The area of competence of CPPS extends to the territorial seas and EEZs of member countries, including their islands in the Pacific. **Members: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru.**

**Observations:** All CPPS Members are either Members or CNCPs of SPRFMO. There exists an informal cooperation between the two Secretariats. CPPS has regularly attended SPRFMO meetings as observer. The two organisations cooperate in the ABNJ Deep-Sea project (led by FAO).

**OLDEPESCA (Latin American Organisation for Fisheries Development).** [www.oldepesca.com](http://www.oldepesca.com)



OLDEPESCA is an advisory body which supports its member countries in developing the fishery sector to meet food requirements and promotes the strengthening of regional cooperation in this sector. The area of competence of OLDEPESCA extends to the national waters, inland waters and EEZs of its Member States. **Members:** Belize, Bolivia, Costa Rica, **Cuba, Ecuador,** El Salvador, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, **Peru, Venezuela.**

**OSPESCA (Central America Fisheries and Aquaculture Organisation)** [www.sica.int/ospesca](http://www.sica.int/ospesca)



OSPESCA is an advisory body supporting the development and the coordinated management of regional fisheries and aquaculture activities in Central America. The area of competence of OSPESCA extends to the national waters, inland waters and EEZs of its Member States. **Members:** Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, **Panama.**

## North Pacific

PICES (North Pacific Marine Science Organisation) [www.pices.int](http://www.pices.int)



PICES was created to promote and coordinate marine scientific research in the North Pacific, in particular its living resources but also the ocean environment's interactions with land and atmosphere, its role in and response to global weather and climate change, its flora, fauna and ecosystems, and impacts upon it from human activities. PICES also promotes the collection and exchange of information and data related to marine scientific research in the area concerned. The area of competence includes temperate and sub-Arctic regions of the North Pacific Ocean and its adjacent seas, especially northward from 30 degrees North Latitude. Scientific activities of the Organization may

extend farther southward in the North Pacific Ocean. Members: Canada, **China**, Japan, **Korea**, **Russia**, **USA**.

## Global (organisations with whom we already cooperate)

- ACAP (Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels)  
*MoU with SPRFMO in 2014*
- CITES (Convention on International Trade Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)  
*SPRFMO responds to information requests from the CITES Secretariat and the FAO Panel of Experts*
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations)  
*SPRFMO regularly reports to FAO on progress achieved, responds to questionnaires, participates in ABNJ project etc.*
- UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)  
*SPRFMO participates in the ABNJ project together with UNEP and attended the 2016 UNEP/CBD meeting in Korea*
- United Nations, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Seas  
*SPRFMO reports on progress achieved, responds to questionnaires, attended a workshop in 2016, etc.*



## ANNEX 4

### MoU with ACAP

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**between**  
**THE SECRETARIAT OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL FISHERIES**  
**MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION**  
**and**  
**THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE AGREEMENT ON THE CONSERVATION**  
**OF ALBATROSSES AND PETRELS**

The Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (hereafter SPRFMO secretariat) and the Secretariat for the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (hereafter the ACAP Secretariat);

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the *Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels* (hereafter ACAP), developed under the auspices of the *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*, is a multilateral agreement which seeks to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for albatrosses and petrels by coordinating international activity to mitigate known threats to albatross and petrel populations;

**NOTING** that Article X(d) of ACAP authorises the ACAP Secretariat to liaise with non-Party Range States and regional economic integration organisations and to facilitate coordination between Parties and non-Party Range States, and international and national organisations and institutions whose activities are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels;

**NOTING FURTHER** that Article XI of ACAP authorises the ACAP Secretariat to consult and cooperate, where appropriate, with the secretariats of other relevant conventions and international instruments in respect of matters of common interest, and to enter into arrangements, with the approval of the Meeting of Parties, with other organisations and institutions as may be appropriate, and to consult and cooperate with such organisations and institutions in exchanging information and data;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the objective of SPRFMO is Article 2;

**RECOGNISING** that the achievement of the objectives of SPRFMO and ACAP will benefit from cooperation, with a view to strengthening the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;

**DESIRING** to put into place arrangements and procedures to promote cooperation in order to enhance the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;

**JOINTLY DECIDE** as follows:

#### **1. OBJECTIVE OF THIS MEMORANDUM**

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding ('MoU') is to facilitate cooperation between the Secretariat of SPRFMO and the ACAP Secretariat ('the Participants') with a view to supporting efforts to minimise the incidental by-catch of albatrosses and petrels listed in Annex 1 of ACAP within the SPRFMO Convention Area.



## 2. AREAS OF COOPERATION

The SPRFMO Secretariat and the ACAP Secretariat may consult, cooperate and collaborate with each other on areas of common interest that are directly or indirectly relevant to the conservation, including the protection and management, of albatrosses and petrels, including:

- a) development of systems for collecting and analysing data, and exchanging information concerning the bycatch of albatrosses and petrels in the SPRFMO Convention Area;
- b) exchange of information regarding management approaches relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels;
- c) implementation of education and awareness programmes for fishers who operate in areas where albatrosses and petrels may be encountered;
- d) design, testing of albatross and petrel bycatch mitigation measures relevant to fishing operations in the SPRFMO Convention Area;
- e) development of training programmes on conservation techniques and measures to mitigate threats affecting albatrosses and petrels; and
- f) exchange of expertise, techniques and knowledge relevant to the conservation of albatrosses and petrels in the SPRFMO Convention Area and
- g) reciprocal participation with observer status at the relevant meetings of ACAP and SPRFMO.

## 3. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

This MoU may be reviewed or amended at any time by the agreement of both Participants.

## 4. LEGAL STATUS


The Participants acknowledge that this MoU is not legally binding between them.

## 5. COMING INTO EFFECT AND TERMINATION

- (c) This MoU will come into effect on signature.
- (b) Either Participant may terminate this MoU by giving written notice to the other Participant.

## SIGNATURE

Wellington, 28/10/2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Secretary  
SPRFMO

Tasmania, 28/10/2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Secretary  
ACAP Secretariat

wpapworth  
@dev.local

Digitally signed by  
wpapworth@dev.local  
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## ANNEX 5

### Arrangement with CCAMLR



South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management  
Organisation

PO Box 3797, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.

Tel: +64 4 499 9889 - FAX: +64 4 473 9579 –

Email: [secretariat@sprfmo.int](mailto:secretariat@sprfmo.int)



Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine  
Living Resources

PO Box 213, North Hobart 7002, Tasmania, Australia

Tel: +61 3 6210 1111; Fax: +61 3 6224 8744

Email: [ccamlr@ccamlr.org](mailto:ccamlr@ccamlr.org)

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#### Arrangement between the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)

The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (hereafter SPRFMO) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (hereafter CCAMLR):

**Note** that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean (hereafter SPRFMO Convention) is, through the application of the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources and, in so doing, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources occur;

**Note further** that the objective of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (hereafter CAMLR Convention) is the conservation of Antarctic marine living resources;

**Recognise** that Article 31 of the SPRFMO Convention requires SPRFMO, *inter alia*, to cooperate, as appropriate, with other relevant organisations on matters of mutual interest and to seek to make suitable arrangements for consultation, cooperation and collaboration with such other organisations;

**Acknowledge** that the Preamble to the CAMLR Convention recognises the desirability of establishing suitable machinery for recommending, promoting, deciding upon and coordinating the measures and scientific studies needed to ensure the conservation of Antarctic marine living organisms;

**Note** that Article II of the CAMLR Convention requires, *inter alia*, that any harvesting and associated activities in the area to which the Convention applies be conducted in accordance with principles of conservation which include preventing decrease in the size of any harvested population to levels below those which ensure its stable recruitment; the maintenance of the ecological relationships between harvested, dependent and related populations of Antarctic marine living resources and the restoration of depleted populations; and the prevention of changes or minimisation of the risk of changes in the marine ecosystem which are not potentially reversible over two or three decades;

**Desire** to put in place arrangements to promote and facilitate cooperation between SPRFMO and CCAMLR;

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Therefore SPRFMO and CCAMLR record the following arrangements:

### **1. Objective of this Arrangement**

The objective of this Arrangement is to facilitate, where appropriate, cooperation between SPRFMO and CCAMLR ('the Organisations') in order to advance their respective objectives, particularly with respect to stocks and species to which are within the competence and/or mutual interest of both organisations.

### **2. Areas of cooperation**

The Organisations will establish and maintain consultation and cooperation in respect of matters of common interest to both organisations. In particular the Organisations will:

- i. exchange meeting reports, information, documents and publications regarding matters of mutual interest, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Organisation;
- ii. exchange data and scientific information in support of the work and objectives of both Organisations, consistent with the information sharing policies of each Organisation including, but not limited to, information on:
  - a) vessels authorised to fish in accordance with conservation and management measures adopted under the SPRFMO Convention and conservation measures adopted under the CAMLR Convention;
  - b) vessels suspected of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing activity and the IUU Vessel Lists established by each Organisation;
  - c) catch, bycatch and vessel information and/or data consistent with data use, access and confidentiality rules of each Organisation;
- iii. cooperate to harmonise approaches in areas of mutual interest and concern, including, but not limited to:
- iv. target species and bycatch of non-target, associated and dependent species (ecologically related species),
- v. monitoring, control and surveillance policies and systems, including with respect to Vessel Monitoring Systems;
- vi. where appropriate, collaborate on analyses and research efforts relating to species of mutual interest;
- vii. consider methods of recognising and supporting conservation and management measures adopted under the SPRFMO Convention and conservation measures adopted under the CAMLR Convention; and
- viii. consistent with each Organisation's rules of procedure, grant permanent reciprocal observer status to representatives of the respective Organisations in relevant meetings of each Organisation.

### **3. Consultative process**

To facilitate effective development, implementation and enhancement of cooperation, the Organisations may establish a consultative process between the two respective Secretariats that includes, telephone, email and similar means of communications. The consultative process may also proceed in the margins of meetings at which both Organisations' Secretariats are represented by appropriate staff.



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**4. Modification**

This Arrangement may be modified at any time by the mutual written consent of both Organisations.

**5. Legal status**

This Arrangement does not create legally binding rights or obligations.

This Arrangement does not alter the obligations of members of either Organisation to comply with conservation and management measures adopted under the SPRFMO Convention and conservation measures adopted under the CAMLR Convention.

**6. Others**

This Arrangement will commence on the date of the second signature.

Either Organisation may terminate this Arrangement by giving six months' prior written notice to the other Organisation.

This Arrangement will operate for three (3) years. Before the end of the three year period, the Organisations will separately review the operation of this Arrangement to decide whether it should be renewed.

**7. Signatures**

  
 .....  
 Gordon Neil (Australia)  
 Chairperson SPRFMO

Signed at CANBERRA .....

this 17<sup>th</sup> day

of February ..... 2016

  
 .....  
 Dmitry Gonchar (Russian Federation)  
 Chairperson CCAMLR

Signed at Moscow .....

this 15<sup>th</sup> day

of April ..... 2016