

# South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

## 11th Meeting of the Science Working Group

Lima, Peru, 15-19 October 2012

SWG-11-01 (rev 1)

## DRAFT AGENDAS FOR THE SCIENCE WORKING GROUP & SUB-GROUPS

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### 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 provide collated research and management advice to the Preparatory Conference.*

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

**2. Election of Acting Chair**

*The formal appointment of the Chair will be made at the plenary meeting in January. Nominations for the position are currently open.*

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

**4. Administrative Arrangements**

4.1. Meeting documents

**5. Nomination of Rapporteurs**

**6. Discussion of National Reports**

*The obligation to provide 2012 National Reports to the SWG (one month before the meeting) was re-iterated in the 2012 Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries adopted in Santiago in January 2012. Participants are also required to provide observer data for the 2012 fishing season to the SWG to the maximum extent possible. Reports should be prepared in accordance with the National Report Guidelines adopted by the Negotiations in Lima in May 2009 and should cover the period up to the end of the 2011 calendar year, plus any important information which may be available for the period up to September 2012. Participants will have an opportunity to present key aspects of their reports, and to ask questions related to National Reports tabled by other participants.*

## **7. Report-Back from the Meeting of the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group**

- 7.1. Consideration of the report and summary of the Jack Mackerel Sub-Group meeting  
*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. In particular, the JMSG Chair will report back on stock status advice resulting from any jack mackerel stock assessments conducted inter-sessionally and during the JMSG meeting. The JMSG will provide a summary of the key assessment results for inclusion in the SWG report under this agenda item. Where necessary, the SWG Plenary may add further comment after review of the JMSG Report. The detailed report of the JMSG meeting will be appended to the SWG report in full.*
- 7.2. SWG Advice on Jack Mackerel Stock Status  
*The Request for Scientific Advice annexed to the 2012 Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries (Annex 1) require the SWG to provide advice to the Commission of the South Pacific RFMO on the stock status of jack mackerel, based on updated stock assessments conducted in accordance with that request for advice. The SWG 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, additional stock assessment runs conducted by the JMSG and the report of the JMSG.*

## **8. 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 DWSG Report. In addition, the detailed report of the DWSG meeting will be appended to the SWG report in full.*

## **9. Future Scientific Work Programme**

The 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SWG noted that Dr Rafael Duarte had agreed to prepare a draft SWG scientific work programme incorporating the main components of the Jack Mackerel Stock Structure Research Programme, the components listed in Annex D to the report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Preparatory Conference and proposals for collaborative work on acoustic surveys of jack mackerel.

## **10. Species and Habitat Profiles**

- 10.1. Revisions to existing species or habitat profiles

## **11. Next Meeting**

*It is likely the next scientific meeting will be the first meeting of the Science Committee, and Rules of Procedure for the Committee will have been adopted by the Commission. The meeting should take note of the current draft Rules of Procedure, and may wish to comment on them to the Commission. The Science Working Group should recommend a Chair and vice Chair for consideration of the first meeting of the Commission.*

## **12. Other Matters**

**13. Adoption of SWG Report**

**14. Meeting Closure**

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## South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

### 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**

*The Sub-Group meeting will be opened by Dr Ianelli, the Chair of the JMSG.*

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**3. Administrative Arrangements**

- 3.1. Meeting arrangements
- 3.2. Meeting documents

**4. Nomination of Rapporteurs**

**5. Report on Inter-Sessional Assessment Work by Participants**

*The Request for Scientific Advice annexed to the 2012 Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries (Annex 1) requires participants to inter-sessionally prepare updated assessments of jack mackerel stock status.*

*Participants will be expected to circulate scientific papers on the above inter-sessional assessment work at least two weeks before the SWG meeting, and to provide brief presentations on the key results in their papers to the JMSG meeting.*

**6. Jack Mackerel Stock Assessments – Technical Session**

6.1. Updating of data sets for additional stock assessment runs

*Together with the SPRFMO Data Manager, participants will report on any updated data sets that were provided for additional stock assessment runs to be conducted at the meeting. Participants are requested to ensure that they have complied with all of the jack mackerel data submission requirements, and that they bring all updated data to this meeting in a format suitable for input into the stock assessment models.*

6.2. Conducting of additional stock assessment runs

*The additional stock assessment runs specified above will be conducted during the three days of the JMSG meeting.*

6.3. 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 JMSG report and used to inform the advice on jack mackerel stock status prepared under agenda item 9.*

**7. Advice to the Science Working Group on Jack Mackerel Stock Status**

*The JMSG will prepare advice for presentation to the SWG and Preparatory Conference on the status of the jack mackerel stock in 2012 based on the stock assessments conducted inter-sessionally and under agenda item 8.*

**8. Jack Mackerel Research Programme**

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

*Members of the Jack Mackerel Research Programme Task Team will be given an opportunity to provide brief overviews of any inter-sessional progress made with projects under the Jack Mackerel Stock Structure Research Programme.*

**8.2. Future Jack Mackerel Work Programme**

*The 2nd Preparatory Conference requested the SWG to prepare a draft future SWG work programme, taking into consideration the components listed in Annex D (attached) to the 2nd PrepCon report. The JMSG will be expected to prepare the section of the draft SWG work programme relating to jack mackerel, merging the key components of the existing stock structure research programme, and the suggested jack mackerel components listed in Annex D.*

**8.3. Identification of short term research and assessment requirements**

*Short-term intersessional jack mackerel research and assessment activities to be given priority over the coming year will be identified.*

**9. Revisions to the Jack Mackerel Species Profile**

*An updated jack mackerel species profile prepared by Dr Glubokov was tabled at the SWG8 JMSG meeting. Additional updates may be suggested from the results of the 2010 and 2011 jack mackerel stock assessments and other inter-sessional research work.*

**10. Other Matters**

**11. Adoption of Jack-Mackerel Sub-Group Report and Summary**

*In addition to preparation of a detailed 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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## South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

### 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**

*The Sub-Group meeting will be opened by Dr Serra, the Chair of the DWSG.*

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**3. Administrative Arrangements**

- 3.1. Meeting arrangements
- 3.2. Meeting documents

**4. Nomination of Rapporteurs**

**5. Review of Bottom Fishery Impact Assessments**

*Any additional or updated bottom fishery impact assessment submitted by participants prior to the meeting will be reviewed against the SPRFMO Benthic Assessment Framework, and against the list of questions in Section 8 of the Report of SWG 4 (Noumea, September 2007).*

**6. Deepwater Species Assessment and Management**

*Any papers submitted on options for stock assessment and sustainable management of low-productivity deepwater species will be discussed.*

**7. Report on Eastern Tropical and Temperate Pacific Regional Workshop to Facilitate the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAS)**

*The Chair will report on the workshop and the subgroup will conduct a preliminary discussion on VME identification*

**8. Deepwater Research Programme**

**8.1. Future Deepwater Work Programme**

*The 2<sup>nd</sup> Preparatory Conference requested the SWG to prepare a draft future SWG work programme, taking into consideration the components listed in Annex D (attached) to the 2<sup>nd</sup> PrepCon report. The DWSG will be expected to prepare the section of the draft SWG work programme relating to deepwater fisheries, taking into consideration the suggested deepwater components listed in Annex D.*

**8.2. Identification of short term research and assessment requirements**

*Short-term intersessional deepwater research and assessment activities to be given priority over the coming year will be identified.*

**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.*

## Annex 1 to the SPRFMO 2012 Interim Measures for Pelagic Fisheries

### Request for Scientific Advice

The Third session of the Preparatory Conference for the establishment of the Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) acknowledges the important efforts and the work performed by the SWG to develop the stock assessment of Jack Mackerel and to provide clear scientific advice in the September 2011 SWG report.

The Third session of the Preparatory Conference requests that in 2012 the SWG continues to conduct the following work and provide advice to the Commission of the South Pacific RFMO. This work includes further development and update to the stock assessment for *Trachurus* spp, evaluation of a range of biological reference points which could be used in management and scientific advice on the state of the stock, projections for recovery and the effect of management measures.

The Third session of the Preparatory Conference recognises that this request implies a substantial level of work and is dependent on the human resources available and on the level and detail of data submitted by participants. It is therefore emphasised that inter-sessional preparatory work by flag state scientists will need to be conducted, and the results of such work presented to the next meeting of the Scientific Working Group or Scientific Committee, to allow the scientific working group to make efficient progress on the items below.

### Specifically

The SWG should further develop and update the 2011 jack mackerel stock assessment, following the recommendations given in the SWG October 2010 and September 2011 reports. Where possible and appropriate, the stock assessment should incorporate:

- The most up to date information on ageing, growth rates and size at maturity, including associated uncertainties ;
- Standardized catch-per-unit-effort data to be used in the model as abundance indices. The standardizations should account for historical changes in vessels, fishing areas and seasons, environmental factors and other relevant factors. Standardised CPUE indices will need to be provided by participants;
- All fishery and biological data available for 2011, and 2012 at the time of the assessment.

Further development of the model should consider:

- Further development of the preliminary analysis conducted in 2011 on biological and management reference points, including the evaluation of a range of alternative and appropriate targets and limits for fishing mortality and biomass levels.
  - Evaluation of stock status under alternative stock structure assumptions