

7th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

La Havana, Cuba, 7 to 12 October 2019

SC7-Doc07

2019 Revisions to the Guidelines for Annual reports to the Scientific Committee

Secretariat

During SC5 in Shanghai, China, the Scientific Committee adopted paper [SC5-Doc07_rev3](#) as its new guidelines for annual reports (paragraph 9, [SC5-report](#)).

The (track-changed) draft below incorporates recommendations made in last year's [SC6-report](#) from Puerto Varas as well as decisions taken at this year's Commission meeting in The Hague and includes new text relating to this year's [Final Compliance Report](#) (nil reports and straddling/other stocks), as well as the [Bottom fishing CMM](#), the [Observer programme CMM](#) and the [Marine pollution CMM](#).

The SC is requested to consider the updates presented below and either adopt them as the new guidelines or make additional changes to enable new guidelines to be adopted.



GUIDELINES FOR ANNUAL REPORTS TO THE SPRFMO SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (~~Sept~~ July 2019)

1. Purpose of Annual Reports

Participants should submit reports to the Scientific Committee (SC) on an annual basis in order to keep the SC informed, in a concise format, of their fishing, research and management activities over the previous year. A “nil report” is still required in cases where there was no fishing inside the Convention Area.

Provision of information on straddling stocks (and for stocks other than jack mackerel) is strongly encouraged due to the value of those reports for SC deliberations.

Annual reports are also intended to assist Members and CNCPs in meeting obligations detailed in the SPRFMO Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) including, *inter alia*, CMM 01 (*T. murphyi*, para 18), CMM 02 (Data standards, para 2d), CMM 03 (Bottom fishing, para 18), ~~and~~ CMM 09 (Seabirds, paras 8 & 9), CMM 16 (Observer programme, paras 15 & 44) and CMM 17 (Marine pollution, para 2).

Such annual reports are not intended to replace data submissions under CMM 02 on Standards for collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data, or submission of detailed scientific papers. Catch and effort data should still be submitted to the SPRFMO Secretariat in accordance with the prescribed data submission standards and procedures. Detailed information or scientific analyses on aspects of fisheries should be presented in specific scientific papers to SC meetings.

2. Annual Report Sections

Annual Reports for Members and CNCPs fishing in the Convention Area should include the following sections of specific relevance to the work of the Scientific Committee¹:

2.1 Description of Fisheries

A general overview description of the fisheries of the flag State concerned over the previous five years, providing summarised information on:

- Fleet composition (number of vessels by gear type and size) and how this has changed by year.
- Summary tables of effort and total catches by year, gear-type, season and area.
- Brief description of significant changes and new developments in fisheries over the past year.

2.2 Catch, Effort and CPUE Summaries

Overview summary figures of trends in nominal effort, catch and CPUE in the SPRFMO Area over the history of the fishery, including:

- Trends and estimates for nominal fishing effort by gear type over time.
- Trends and estimates for catch by species for the main target, by-catch, as well as associated and dependent species².
- Trends and estimates for nominal CPUE by gear type for the main species contributing to catches.

¹ Reports for Members and CNCPs with no activity in the Convention Area may instead comprise of an overall summary.

² All species should be reported by scientific names throughout these reports and identified taxonomically as far as possible.



- [For Jack mackerel CPUE considerations the time spent searching should be included.](#)

2.3 Fisheries Data Collection and Research Activities

Brief description of the fisheries data collection systems implemented, and the research and assessment activities conducted, including:

- Description of the statistical data collection systems in use, and how these have changed or been improved over the past year.
- Description of surveys conducted, scientific analyses and stock assessments undertaken, or other relevant research activities conducted.
- Description and coverage levels for fisheries sampling programs (eg. self-sampling or conducted in port), and how these have changed or been improved over the past year.
- Information on other SPRFMO-related research activities over the past year.

2.4 Biological Sampling and Length/Age Composition of Catches

- Overview summary of the coverage of biological and size-frequency sampling conducted.
- If available, simple summary table or figure showing length and age-frequency distribution of the target species by gear, and how this has changed over the past five years.

2.5 Ecosystem Approach considerations

- Description of the seabird mitigation measures used by each vessel (refer CMM 09³) as well as those used for other taxa.
- Reporting of observed bycatch by species, fishery and location for all seabirds, marine mammals, reptiles and other species of concern.
- Summary of observed seabird interactions, bycatch per unit effort, number of live birds released vs estimate of total birds killed (and potentially for other taxa).
- [VME encounters](#), including a summary of relevant State processes.
- [Information relating to Abandoned, Lost, Discarded or Retrieved Fishing Gear \(ALDFG, refer CMM 17⁴\).](#)

2.6 Observer Implementation Reports (refer CMM 02⁵ and CMM 16⁶)

- Programme design and coverage [including observer allocation methods](#).
- Training.

³ Paragraph 9 of [CMM 09 \(Seabirds\)](#) requires Members and CNCPs to report annually, on the seabird mitigation measures used by each vessel flying their flag and fishing in the Convention Area, as well as any observed seabird interaction data and the level of observer coverage focussed on recording seabird bycatch

⁴ Paragraph 2 of [CMM 17 \(Marine pollution\)](#) requires Members and CNCPs to compile information relating to Abandoned, Lost, Discarded or Retrieved Fishing Gear and include it in its annual national report.

⁵ Paragraph 2d) of [CMM 02 \(Data standards\)](#) requires provision of annual observer implementation reports adequate enough to allow the SC or the Commission to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of such programmes.

⁶ Paragraph 15 of [CMM 16 \(Observer programme\)](#) requires Members and CNCPs to document and provide information on the methods used to allocate observers on fishing vessels. Paragraph 44 requires Members and CNCPs to include a brief overview of the national observer programmes or service providers covering their fishing activity.



- Type of data collected, including information on overall coverage rates achieved by observer programmes.
- Information on the level of observer coverage solely focussed on recording bycatch of seabirds, marine mammals, reptiles and other species of concern⁷.
- Any problems encountered (including safety issues) as well recent programme changes or improvements.

3. Submission Deadlines

Consistent with the Protocol for ~~papers to be submitted~~ submissions to the SC, these reports should be provided to the Secretariat in electronic form at least 30 days prior to the SC Annual meeting (normally held September/October).

It has become customary to also provide a short (1-2 paragraph) executive summary which is ultimately collated into an Annex for inclusion into the Scientific Committee's final report.

⁷ "Other species of concern" are defined in Annex 14 of CMM 02 (Data standards)