



14TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SPRFMO COMMISSION

Panama City, Panama, 2 to 6 March 2026

COMM14 – Report

ANNEX 8b Revised Terms of Reference of the PR2IWG

(COMM14-WP22)



REVISED Terms of Reference for the Intersessional Working Group to Draft the Implementation Plan for the Second Performance Review Recommendations of SPRFMO

1. Background

The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO) is committed to the continuous improvement of its operational and governance frameworks. As part of this commitment, SPRFMO undertook its 2nd performance review in 2024 which resulted in a set of recommendations aimed at enhancing the functioning of the Organization and improving its overall effectiveness.

The 13th session of the Commission agreed to establish a Working Group to draft an implementation plan to ensure that the relevant recommendations are effectively implemented, for the recommendations arising from the Second Performance Review. These Terms of Reference (ToR) sets out the objectives, composition, tasks, and process for the Working Group.

2. Objectives

The primary objective of the Working Group is to develop a draft implementation plan for the recommendations of the Second Performance Review, which includes:

- Assigning each recommendation to the relevant responsible bodies (Commission, Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC), Scientific Committee (SC) and Finance and Administration Committee (FAC);
- Assessing and proposing the level of priority for each recommendation; and
- Proposing viable options for responding to the recommendations.

Acceptance (in full or in part) or rejection of each recommendation is a decision for the Commission – the work of the Working Group outlined in this section is aimed at supporting the Commission to make this determination.

3. Composition

The Working Group will comprise SPRFMO Members, CNCPs and Observers who express interest in participating in the work and the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Commission, CTC, FAC and SC. The Working Group will be chaired by Australia, which will provide leadership and coordination throughout the process. Other Members of SPRFMO may contribute to discussions, provide inputs, and participate in the drafting of the implementation plan. Participation of Observers in the Working Group will be in accordance with the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure.

4. Tasks and Responsibilities

The working group will consider all the recommendations of the Second SPRFMO Performance Review.

The working group will consider the relevance of the recommendations of the first Performance Review in developing responses to the recommendations of the Second Performance Review.

The Working Group will undertake the following tasks:



- **Assigning Recommendations:** The Working Group will assign each of the relevant recommendations from the Second Performance Review (Annex) to the relevant responsible bodies (Commission, CTC, FAC and SC) based on their area of expertise and responsibility.
- **Prioritisation:** The Working Group will assess and propose the level of priority for each recommendation, considering factors such as urgency, resource requirements and availability, and impact on the achievement of the objectives of SPRFMO. Recommendations will be classified as high, medium, or low priority.
- **Responses to recommendations:** The Working Group will propose practical and feasible options for responding to the recommendations, including advice on implementation where recommendations are accepted (partially or fully). This may include specific actions, timelines, and resource requirements. These responses will be developed in consultation with the relevant bodies (SC, CTC, FAC, COMM).

The work of the Working Group will be undertaken electronically, via email exchange, use of the SPRFMO Microsoft Teams platform, and where necessary, virtual meetings.

5. Review of the Implementation Plan

COMM14 confirmed the Commission response to and priority for each of the 24 PR2 recommendations.

Building on the Working Group and subsidiary body discussions undertaken since COMM13 and the advice of COMM14, the Working Group will work intersessionally to prepare a draft Implementation Plan for the review of SC14, CTC14, FAC14 and COMM15.

Once the Working Group has completed the draft implementation plan, the following review process will take place by COMM 14, CTC 13, and SC 13: The Commission, CTC, and SC will review an iterative draft implementation plan, including the assignment of the level of priorities, proposed responses and advice on implementation, and any other adjustments they deem necessary.

6. Monitoring and Follow-up

- The Implementation Plan will be considered as a working document. The Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including CTC, FAC and SC, will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the approved plan. They will track progress, review timelines, and ensure that tasks are being completed in line with the agreed priorities and make any necessary adjustments to the plan as the process unfolds.

7. Timelines

The Working Group will commence its work following the completion of COMM 13 and will circulate an iterative draft implementation plan as a Meeting Document in line with the deadline for papers for each relevant body (SC, CTC, FAC, COMM) in accordance with the SPRFMO Rules of Procedure for the consideration of the Commission and subsidiary bodies. The goal for the working group will be the approval of the implementation plan by COMM15, noting that the Implementation Plan will be considered a working documentCOMM14.



8. Resources

SPRFMO Members are expected to allocate the necessary resources to support the work of the Working Group, including staff time and expertise. Australia, as the chair, will provide leadership and coordination, but all Members are encouraged to contribute to the development of the plan.