2nd Commission Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Organisation (SPRFMO)
Manta, Ecuador, 27-31 February 2013

Comments and Views of the Peruvian Delegation

Regarding the criteria to be applied for estimating the share of the 2014 total catch limit (of 440,000t) recommended by the SC-01 for the entire jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific to be allocated to the area of application of the Convention

One of the tasks of this 2nd Commission Meeting is to discuss and eventually adopt appropriate Conservation and Management Measures for *Trachurus murphyi* in the area of application of the Convention based on the analyses and advice contained in the report of the 1st Scientific Committee Meeting (SC-01), held in La Jolla, California, 21-27 October 2013. This report includes the advice *"that [fishing] effort should be maintained at or below 2013 levels to maintain the likelihood of spawning biomass increasing [indicating that] this results in catches for 2014 on the order of 440,000t or lower"*. The SC-01 report then summarizes its advice in that ***"the Commission is to aim to maintain 2014 catches for the entire jack mackerel range in the southeast Pacific at or below 440,000 t"***.

In following the SC-01 advice, the Commission has the difficult task to decide what share of this total catch limit could be assigned by this Commission to be caught by its contracting and cooperating non-contracting parties within the area of application of the Convention while keeping in mind that the SC-01 clearly refers to the entire range of the species that includes area of application of the Convention as well as the jurisdictional waters of Ecuador and Peru, that are not part of the Convention Area.

The Peruvian Delegation has already expressed its dissent with the procedure that was followed for this purpose during the 1st Commission Meeting, held in Auckland in 2013, and would like to prevent a similar course of events this year. The Peruvian delegation has no doubts that all parties are committed to ensure that the estimation of the share of the total catch limit (of 440,00t) to be allocated to the area of application of the Convention adheres fully to, amongst others, the criteria transparency and being based on the best scientific and technical information and data available, paying particular attention to the results of the analyses and findings reported by the Scientific Committee.

The Scientific Committee, in following the request of the 1st Session of the Commission analyzed the state of exploitation of the jack mackerel in the southeast Pacific applying the JJM model under the two agreed stock-structure working

hypothesis, that is: (a) that there are at least two stocks in the SE pacific (a northern or far-north stock and southern stock); and, (b) that there only one single stock over the whole range. It is clear that while easier to process and use for exemplifying the overall results of alternative exploitation rates and strategies, the model configurations run for the single stock hypothesis doesn't provide any indication of how much of the estimated total catch limits could be allocated to the northern or far-north (stock or fleets) and how much to the southern (stock or fleets). However, the Peruvian Delegation wishes to note that the model configuration 2.4 applied during SC-01 for the northern (Model 2.4N) and for the southern (Model 2.4S) stocks (or fleets) does provide a straight forward way of splitting biomass estimates and estimates of catch limits for both, the northern and the southern stocks (or fleets). The summary results of this Model configuration 2.4 as developed and run during the 1st Scientific Committee Meeting in La Jolla I October 2013 are shown in the following table.

Summary results for the near-term predictions for model 2.4 run separately for the northern (N) and southern (S) stocks. This total results are those resulting from the same model configuration 2.4 as developed and run during the SC-01-2013 La Jolla meeting (ref.: para 7.2.4 & Annex 5 of SC-01-2013 Final Report)

Model 2.4 N+S

Multiplier of F_{2013}	B_{2015} (N+S) in kt	$P(B_{2015}>B_{MSY})$ (N & S)	$Catch_{2014}$ (N+S) in kt	$Catch_{2015}$ (N+S) in kt	$Catch_{2014}$ Ratio S/(N+S)	$Catch_{2015}$ Ratio S/(N+S)
0.00	5,585	1 & 25	0	0	n/a	n/a
0.50	5,065	0 & 13	258	406	0.71	0.57
0.75	4,846	0 & 9	377	560	0.72	0.60
1.00	4,650	0 & 6	490	690	0.73	0.62
1.25	4,470	0 & 4	597	802	0.74	0.64

In suggesting that this type of analyses could be used as a sound basis for deciding on the allocation of the share of total catch limit to be assigned to the area of application of the Convention, this delegation wished to note that during the 1st Scientific Committee assessment runs were evaluated splitting the northern and the southern fleets into two assessments and summarizing results combining the two models. This resulted in scenarios 2.1-2.9 (paragraph 7.2.3 of SC-01 report) and Models 1.4 and complementary Model 2.4 were selected as the base case (paragraph 7.2.4 of SC-01). The SC-01 report also notes that "*the results from two-stock models show similar trends in the biomass compared to those using the same model configurations used for the single stock options. One difference was that the two- stock model showed much higher historical stock abundances [and also catch limits]*." Therefore, the appropriate approach would be to use the ratios, as shown in the table above.

Manta, Ecuador,
28-January-2014