



**Third Meeting of the Commission of the  
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation**

**Auckland, New Zealand  
2– 6 February 2015**

**COMMISSION REPORT**

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1. The third meeting of the Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation was held in Auckland, New Zealand, from 2 to 6 February 2015.
2. The meeting was inaugurated by Gerard van Bohemen, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and New Zealand's SPRFMO Commissioner.
3. The Commission adopted Annex A as its agenda for its third meeting.
4. The Government of New Zealand, as the depositary of the Convention, presented the report *Status of the Convention on the Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean January 2015 (COMM-03-03)*.
5. The Commission amended Rule of Procedure 5.1. Following the adoption of this new rule the Commission accepted the Scientific Committee's recommendation to appoint Jim Ianelli (United States of America) Chairperson of the Scientific Committee. The Commission also made some amendments regarding timeframes for the submission of documents in the Rules of Procedure. The Commission adopted the amended Rules of Procedure (Annex B).
6. Jim Ianelli, Chairperson of the Scientific Committee, presented a report on the second meeting of the Scientific Committee.<sup>1</sup> The Commission received this report. In relation to jack mackerel, the report recommended that 2015 catches remain at or below 460,000 tonnes to ensure the rebuilding of the stock. The Commission accepted this recommendation. In accordance with Article 8(m) of the Convention, the Commission provided guidance to the Scientific Committee regarding their work programme (Annex C).
7. Following the presentation of the report of the Scientific Committee the European Union gave a presentation summarising the findings of a hydrographic study on jack mackerel coordinated by the European Union and to which many members contributed. The Commission received the presentation with appreciation and noted

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sprfmo.int/assets/Scientific-Committee-2nd/SC-02-Report/SC-02-Final-Report-21Oct-accepted.pdf>

that the full study would be made available to the Scientific Committee and would form a significant contribution to the Committee's work.

8. Osvaldo Urrutia, Chairperson of the Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC) presented the report of the CTC to the Commission (Annex D). The Commission adopted this report. The Commission accepted the CTC's recommendation that the Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) status of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, the United States of America, Liberia and Panama be continued and that the new request for CNCP status from France in respect of its Pacific Territories also be approved.
9. The Commission considered the Provisional IUU List at Annex 2 of the CTC report. The Commission adopted the Final IUU List at Annex E. The Commission noted that the activities of the vessel *Damanzaihao* had been under active investigation by the new flag state Peru, and administrative procedures in the wake of that investigation were at an advanced stage. The Commission expressed a willingness to engage constructively with Peru regarding an inter-sessional request under paragraph 17 of CMM 1.04 following effective action taken by Peru in respect of this vessel.
10. Gordon Neil, Chairperson of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC), presented the report of the Finance and Administration Committee (Annex F). The Commission adopted this report and the budget for the 2015-2016 financial year. The Government of Chile offered to host the fourth Commission meeting in Talcahuano, Chile, 21-29 January 2016. This offer was accepted by the Commission. The Commission decided that a meeting of the Compliance and Technical Committee would be held for two days before the fourth Commission meeting. The Commission agreed to the FAC's recommendation to amend Decision 1.02 and the Financial Regulations to enable voluntary contributions by CNCPs (Annex G).
11. The Commission adopted the *Conservation and Management Measure for Trachurus murphyi*, CMM 3.01 (Annex H). Ecuador requested that each Member consider transferring to Ecuador 200 tonnes of the Jack mackerel allocation to assist Ecuador's entry into the high seas fishery. Chile made a statement attached in Annex I. It also recorded its view that the table in the CMM should also record the percentage that the allocations in the table constitute of the total catch for the entire jack mackerel stock in 2015. Peru made a statement set out in Annex J.
12. The Commission adopted the *Conservation and Management Measure on Standards for the Collection, Reporting, Verification and Exchange of Data* CMM 3.02 (Annex K), the *Conservation and management measure for the establishment of a Compliance and Monitoring Scheme in the SPRFMO Convention Area* CMM 3.03 (Annex L), *Conservation and Management Measure relating to boarding and inspection procedures in the SPRFMO Convention Area* CMM 3.04 (Annex M), and the *Conservation and Management Measure for the Regulation of Transshipments* CMM

3.05 (Annex N). The Commission also adopted the Terms of Reference for the SPRFMO Working Group on a Vessel Monitoring System (Annex O).

13. In considering its future work programme the Commission recalled the obligation under Article 28 of the Convention to establish an observer programme within 3 years of the Convention coming in to force. The Commission agreed that an item on the establishment of an observer programme be placed on the agenda of the Commission's next meeting and requested the Secretariat to prepare an information paper summarising the observer programmes of relevant international fisheries management organisations.

14. The Commission elected a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the Commission and the following subsidiary bodies:

Chairperson of the Commission	Gordon Neil (Australia)
Vice Chairperson of the Commission	Osvaldo Urrutia (Chile)
Chairperson of the Compliance and Technical Committee	Osvaldo Urrutia (Chile)
Vice-Chairperson of the Compliance and Technical Committee	Wan Chen (China)
Chairperson of the Scientific Committee	Jim Ianelli (United States of America)
Vice-Chairperson of Scientific Committee	Niels Hintzen (EU)
Chairperson of the Finance and Administration Committee	David Dolphin (New Zealand)
Vice-Chairperson of the Finance and Administration Committee	Jiwon Yoon (Korea)

15. The Commission decided that the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson of the Eastern Sub-Regional Management Committee and the Western Sub-Regional Management Committee will be elected when it is decided that these bodies need to be convened.

16. The Commission also adopted the Annual Report of the Commission (Annex P), which is to be published pursuant to Article 29 of the Convention.

17. The Commission approved a logo for the Organisation.

18. The Commission thanked the Government of New Zealand for hosting the third meeting of the Commission.

19. The Commission unanimously commended the Commission Chairperson Bill Mansfield for his years of excellent work and leadership towards the creation of the SPRFMO and his commitment to realising the objective of the Convention.

20. The meeting was closed at 12:30pm on 6 February 2015.

The meeting was attended by the following Commission Members: Australia, Chile, China, Cook Islands, European Union, Kingdom of Denmark in respect of the Faroe Islands, Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Chinese Taipei, Vanuatu; Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties: Ecuador, Liberia, Peru, and United States of America; Observer states: France in respect of its Pacific Territories; Observers: Permanent Commission of the South Pacific Birdlife International, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition, New Zealand High Seas Fisheries Group, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand Incorporated, Greenpeace International, International Coalition of Fisheries Associations, Oceana and Pew Charitable Trusts. A list of attendees is attached as Annex Q.

List of attachments:

Annex

- A. Commission Agenda
- B. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure
- C. Roadmap of the Scientific Committee
- D. Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Compliance & Technical Committee (CTC) meeting
- E. Final SPRFMO 2015 IUU List
- F. Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Finance & Administration Committee (FAC) meeting
- G. Amendments to Decision 1.02 and to the Financial Regulations
- H. CMM 3.01 (*Trachurus murphyi*)
- I. Statement by Chile
- J. Statement by Peru
- K. CMM 3.02 (Data Standards)
- L. CMM 3.03 (Compliance Monitoring Scheme)
- M. CMM 3.04 (Boarding & Inspection)
- N. CMM 3.05 (Transshipment & other transfer activities)
- O. Terms of Reference for the SPRFMO Working Group on VMS
- P. Annual Report of the Commission
- Q. List of Attendees