

Chilean Statement to the SPRFMO-SC

14th of September, 2023

Panama City, Panama

To the Scientific Committee:

- Chile recognizes and values the importance of developing a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for the jack mackerel fishery, which is one of the most relevant fisheries in Chile and a cornerstone of the country's social and economic development.
- Chile appreciates the work done by those who have led the process, and has supported most of the agreements arrived at the technical level.
- However, the Chile delegation has identified some matters of concern, which lead us to not fully endorse the proposed set of operating models (OMs). In particular, referring to the configuration of movement rates of the two-stock with connectivity OMs.
- This objection has been reported multiple times during the MSE technical meetings of the JMWG.
- Chile has repeatedly requested for the most updated scientific evidence to be considered, where recent genetic evidence indicates a highly connected jack mackerel population throughout the South Pacific Region.
- Regarding movement rates, further discussion and analysis should take place on a range of possible values. Chile sustains its position regarding this matter.
- Nevertheless, Chile maintains its commitment to collaborate with this project and will not delay it, understanding that this work is still in progress.