

**4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee**

The Hague, Kingdom of the Netherlands  
10 - 15 October 2016

**SC-04-13**

**The United States of America's Annual Report**

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**Annual Report of the United States to the  
4<sup>th</sup> Scientific Committee Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management  
Organization (SPRFMO)**

The United States is currently a Cooperating non-Contracting Party of SPRFMO. The United States was an active participant in the international and Preparatory Conference meetings to establish SPRFMO and is a signatory to the Convention. Our process for final ratification under domestic law is ongoing. We submit this Annual Report to the 4<sup>th</sup> Scientific Committee Meeting of SPRFMO.

The United States currently has no vessels participating in the fisheries managed by SPRFMO. The United States had a limited squid jig fishery that may have been operating on the high seas in the Convention Area over 10 years ago, and information regarding this historical fishery has been provided to the Secretariat in the past. As such, the United States has no data or information to provide regarding U.S. fisheries operating under SPRFMO jurisdiction in 2016 or recent years. The United States has a continuing interest in the fisheries managed by SPRFMO and may have vessels that enter these fisheries in the future. If U.S.-flagged vessels enter SPRFMO-managed fisheries, the United States would provide the Commission with all relevant data and information and abide by all relevant measures adopted.