

5th Meeting of the Scientific Committee

Shanghai, China, 23 - 28 September 2017

SC5-Doc32_rev1

Secretariat Scientific Committee related activities

Secretariat

This paper informs the SC about relevant meetings that the SPRFMO has been formally represented at over the past year.

Workshop on potential impacts of climate change on deep-sea ecosystems and the implications for the management of deep sea fisheries.

26-27 August 2017, Woods Hole, USA.

The aim is to produce a FAO technical report addressing the following types of questions:

- What are the major climate change features affecting the deep ocean and its associated biodiversity?
- What impacts might these features have on the functioning of deep sea ecosystems?
- How might climate impacts affect deep sea fish and fisheries?
- Which regions and fisheries might be most vulnerable?
- Which VME indicator species are most vulnerable (in terms of type, locations, depths etc.)?
- What essential ocean variables are important to monitor in order to assess the risks to deep sea species and communities due to climate change?

SPRFMO was represented by Luoliang Xu from the University of Maine, and Dr Martin Cryer from the Ministry for Primary Industries, New Zealand

Work-share with the CCAMLR Secretariat

29 May – 2 June 2017, Hobart, Australia.

The Data manager took the opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the organisations and stayed for an extra week after the Deepwater workshop. During this time, the Data manager had very useful discussions on a broad range of issues including (but not limited to):

- Operation of CLS Themis (the same software that SPRFMO will use for its VMS)
- Data management and information sharing
- Leveraging CCAMLRs scientific expertise at assessing toothfish stocks
- Management of the Scheme of International Scientific Observation
- Vessels of common interest and MCS
- Website access arrangements and meeting support

The 3rd SPRFMO Scientific Committee workshop: Deepwater working group.

23-25 May 2017, Hobart, Australia.

The Data manager attended this meeting and a draft report is available as paper [SC5-Doc08](#).

ABNJ Deep Seas Project Steering Committee

7 – 9 February 2017, Rome, Italy.

The Project on sustainable Management and biodiversity Conservation of Deep Sea Living Resources in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction has the objective to achieve efficiency and sustainability in the use of deep-sea living resources and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ, through the systematic application of an ecosystem approach for: (i) improving sustainable management practices for DSF taking into account the impacts on related ecosystems; (ii) improving the protection of VMEs and components of EBSAs; and (iii) testing improved area-based planning tools for deep-sea ecosystems.

SPRFMO was represented by Dr Jianye Tang from the Ocean University, China ([report](#)) and Mr Timothy Costelloe from the Ministry of Marine resources, Cook Islands ([report](#)).

In addition the Secretariat participated in the series of stakeholder workshops organised in Wellington, New Zealand to gather and document stakeholder views on the nature and content of a revised conservation and management measure for bottom fisheries in the SPRFMO Area ([SC5-DW05](#)).

The Secretariat also participated in the 6th and final meeting of the VME Stakeholder Advisory Group held in Wellington on the 28 February 2017. This group provided a forum for exchanging ideas and information in order to benefit New Zealand's South Pacific VME project (refer NZ paper [COMM5-INF05](#)).