



Western and
Central Pacific
Fisheries
Commission

**TO ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS, COOPERATING NON-MEMBERS,
PARTICIPATING TERRITORIES AND OBSERVERS**

Circular No.: 2025/14

Date: 17 March 2025

No. pages: 3

Dear ERandEM IWG Participants,

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the important work of the Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring (ERandEM) intersessional working group (IWG). The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is honoured to assume the lead for the Commission's initiative on EM, and I look forward to progressing the work of the IWG, alongside you, as the Chair.

Let me take the opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to the outgoing IWG Chair, Dr. Shelton Harley for his leadership and contribution to progressing the work towards the adoption of the Commission's Interim EM standards at WCPFC21 in Fiji.

I have met with the WCPFC Secretariat staff to discuss the Commission's 2025 work plan for the ERandEM IWG. In addition, I have reached out to the Chair of the ROP IWG, recognizing the direct relevance of their work to the tasks ahead for the ERandEM IWG and have also engaged with WCPFC Regional Observer Programme (ROP) consultant, Mr. Karl Staisch to gain a deeper understanding of the WCPFC ROP Audit process which is of relevance to designing assurance and audit mechanisms for the WCPFC EM Programme.

The WCPFC Secretariat has also brought to my attention some other Commission work streams that may be relevant for the work of the ERandEM IWG. These include the intersessional working groups reviewing CMM 2017-02 ([Port State Minimum Standards](#)) and developing High Seas Boarding and Inspection Guidelines. I look forward to further discussions to better understand possible implications for our work as they progress.

In considering how best to approach this year's work plan I have mapped out my proposed pathway which is attached. This takes into consideration the need for some flexibility in scheduling meetings of the IWG but also recognises that progress will invariably depend on taking opportunities within an already demanding regional fisheries meeting calendar. I would welcome your feedback on this approach and intend to coordinate closely with the WCPFC Secretariat to manage this process effectively.

To the extent possible, I aim to advance the IWG work plan electronically, including making use of Commission circulars, email and virtual meetings. The Secretariat will also maintain the [WCPFC webpage for this IWG](#).

I recognize that several years have passed since Commission member officials initially registered their interest in participating in the ERandEM IWG and I would like to ask that you signal your interest with which to update our contact database. If you wish to participate in the IWG, please register by emailing myself at dan.gilmete@norma.fm and the Deputy Compliance Manager, Eidre Sharp, at Eidre.Sharp@wcpfc.int.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Gilmete', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan Gilmete
ERandEM IWG CHAIR

ERandEM IWG Chair's work plan strategy

WCPFC21 Adopted ER&EM IWG 2025 Work Plan*																																																				
	2025 Feb				Mar				Apr				May				Jun				July				Aug				Sept				Oct				Nov				Dec				2026							
WEEK	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	2026									
7th ERandEM IWG (Virtual)	Dates TBA																												Tentative/If required																							
(Tentative) 8th ERandEM IWG (Virtual)																																																				
SC21, Tonga (updates)																	13-21																																			
TCC21, Pohnpei (updates)																													24-30																							
WCPFC22 (Chair's report)																																	1-5																			
Review and/or develop templates for Part 1 EM program reporting and other parts of the EM standards where standardized reporting would be of value to members.																																																				
review Part 1 Reporting with a view to develop templates for EM Program reporting																																																				
prepare a discussion paper																																																				
develop templates to take into account EM Program Reporting standards and other any parts of EM standards																																																				
Work closely with the ROP IWG to further review EM data requirements based on relevant CMM requirements not already covered in the ROP minimum data fields;																																																				
review work of ROP IWG & DCC																																																				
establish links with ROP IWG Chair																																																				
Virtual ROP IWG meeting	7th																																																			
prepare draft revised Appendix 3 Mini EM Data Reqs																																																				
*meeting or info paper on links to work of PSR and HSBI Guide IWGs & amendments to CMM 2022-05 & others?																																																				
Develop advice on potential changes to the interim EM standards to improve harmonization across RFMOs;																																																				
prepare report (incl outcomes ABNJ Tuna II San Sebastian Dec 2024 wkshp)																																																				
circulate report electronically																																																				
observe progress at RFMO EM WGs																																																				
2nd ABNJ Tuna II "EM Tuna RFMO Min Stds Harmonization Workshop" (TBA)																	19-23																																			
IFOMC 11, Iceland	31 Mar - 1 Apr																																																			
MCSWG, Honiara																																																				
Initiate work on EM standards for carrier vessels conducting transhipment with longline vessels.																																																				
review progress at other RFMOs																																																				
consider work of the ROP IWG on transhipment data fields and the work of the TSIWG																																																				
prepare information paper, including proposed strategy to draft EM standards for carrier vessels and LLS transhipping																																																				
Additional Tasks																																																				
An amendment to the CMM 2022-05 Standards, specifications and procedures for the WCPFC RFV would be required to support implementation.																																																				
discuss the elements of CMM 2022-05 that would require amendment																																																				
recommend the amendment of CMM 2022-05																																																				
* To be revised as work progresses after IWG7																																																				
ERandEM IWG input and convening options - WCPFC circular - Emails from the Chair - IWG (virtual, multi day), last IWG May 2024 – 6th ERandEM IWG - IWG convening in the margins of SC and TCC																																																				