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

**Circular No.: 2018/47  
Date: 9 August 2018  
No. pages: 02**

**A Proposal for a Face to Face Meeting of the IWG – Compliance Monitoring Scheme**

Dear All,

I wish to advise members of the Commission that I have received a request from the Republic of the Marshall Islands in its capacity as the Chair of the intersessional working group on the review of the compliance monitoring scheme (CMS-IWG) for a face to face meeting of the working group on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 immediately prior to the TCC14 meeting in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands from 26 September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018.

As may be recalled this CMS-IWG was established by WCPFC14 to facilitate consideration of the report from the Independent Panel on the Review of the compliance monitoring scheme and to develop a conservation and management measure for the compliance monitoring scheme for consideration at WCPFC15. The CMS-IWG was intended to be a virtual working group and to operate electronically and accordingly there was no budgetary allocation for its meeting.

The CMS-IWG has commenced and progressed its work electronically pursuant to an agreed work plan. It has collated initial comments on the Independent Panels report in view of the IWGs task to develop a CMM; collated comments on a list of principles for the CMS; and initiated informal consultations on the development of a draft measure for the CMS. Despite constructive contributions by members of the CMS-IWG, the Chair of the CMS-IWG is adamant that a face to face meeting is imperative to progress the development of a draft measure for the CMS to a stage that it can be presented to WCPFC15 for consideration for adoption. Towards that objective the IWG Chair has successfully secured a voluntary contribution from the government of New Zealand to cover daily subsistence allowance costs for developing CCMs for a one day meeting of the working group as requested above.

Since there was no explicit decision of the Commission for the CMS-IWG to have a face to face meeting, a formal decision is being sought in accordance with rule 1(3) of the Rules of Procedures of the Commission, which also applies to subsidiary bodies. As requested, I am informing members of the Commission of the request by the Republic of the Marshall Islands to have a one day meeting for the CMS-IWG on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018 immediately prior to the TCC14 meeting in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands. Implicit in the request is the need for further agreement of members to waive strict adherence to the time limits in rule 1(3) of the Rules of Procedures.

May I seek your comment on the request by the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Comments may be provided directly to me on [feleti.teo@wcpfc.int](mailto:feleti.teo@wcpfc.int) by no later than **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2018**. In the absence of any objection to the request by the due date, the request will be deemed to be accepted.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Feleti Teo', with a stylized flourish above the name.

Feleti Penitala Teo, **OBE**  
**Executive Director**

cc: Ms Rhea Moss-Christian, WCPFC Chair  
[Rhea.Moss-Christian@wcpfc.int](mailto:Rhea.Moss-Christian@wcpfc.int)