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**PREPARATORY CONFERENCE FOR THE COMMISSION FOR  
THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY  
MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND  
CENTRAL PACIFIC**

First session  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
23 – 28 April, 2001

WCPFC/PrepCon/3  
25 April 2001

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**WORKING GROUP I: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, BUDGET AND FINANCIAL  
CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Terms of Reference**

There are a number of issues associated with these three subjects that require decisions by the Preparatory Conference before an initial budget or scheme of contributions can be finalised. Therefore, the Working Group has been established by the Conference Chair to consider these issues and report back to the conference via the Chair.

The nature of some of the issues is such that there is a need for the Working Group to develop a process to enable issues to be identified and the necessary background information sought and, as appropriate, expert advice provided to enable informed decisions to be made as early as possible.

To assist with the earliest possible development of an initial budget for the Commission, the Working Group may wish to request the Conference Secretariat to prepare studies on items (c) and (d), building upon the decisions of the Working Group with respect to item (a), to be considered by the Working Group at the next session.

Tasks of the Working Group include to:

- a. Identify the service needs of the Commission

What are the needs of the Commission in the initial years and what are the options for the ongoing needs of the Commission?

- b. On the basis of the identified service needs develop an appropriate budget structure and prepare financing options

- c. Provide, in consultation with other Conference Working Groups, appropriate options for delivering services such as science, data collection and data management, observer services, registry services etc

- d. Develop an appropriate Secretariat structure to deliver the functions identified as needed from the Commission Secretariat

- e. Develop costing options for the various Secretariat and service provider structures

- f. Consider appropriate weightings for the three fee components of the funding formula prescribed in Article 18 of the Convention

- g. Consider various approaches for the calculation of the national wealth payment  
And variable fee components of the contributions formula
- h. Consider the issues associated with the administration of the special fund  
established under Article 30 of the Convention for the funding of participation  
by developing states.

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