



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

**Circular No.: 2013/14  
Date: 07 March 2013  
No. pages: 3**

**Update on Commission issues**

Dear all,

There are a number of issues that I thought it might be useful to update you on.

**1 Location of the Commission meetings**

Thanks to those of you who responded. The overall support for the meeting venue is for Cairns in Australia. I have spoken to Patrick Mackenzie from NORMA here in FSM and discussed in some detail the provision of the Commission regulations that say that the meetings should be at Headquarters unless someone offers to host. We are both aware that since that provision was made that the nature of these meetings has changed considerably in size and that the availability of beds in Pohnpei is limited which would severely restrict the size of this meeting. He notes that there remains interest within Pohnpei to host this meeting; however, he understands the reality of the situation that we now face.

Therefore with Patrick's understanding and with the Chairman's approval, we will finalize negotiations with the International Conference Centre in Cairns, Australia next week and as soon as arrangements are in place you will be notified accordingly.

The SC and TCC meetings will be in Pohnpei as previously agreed and we look forward with NORMA to welcome you to the Commission Headquarters for these meetings.

**2 Contributions**

Just a friendly reminder that contributions are due and we would welcome any payments as the Commission needs payments in so that we do not have to draw from the Working Capital Fund.

### **3 Special Requirements fund**

Each year the Commission Secretariat formally writes to all members to ask them to consider contributing to the Special Requirements fund and to also inform them of the current level of funding available in the fund. I can report that as of today the fund has available USD \$139,321. Could all members who are in a position to do so please consider proving additional funding to this critical support fund?

### **4 Bigeye longline monthly catch reports**

No doubt you are all aware of your requirements to report monthly your longline catch data for bigeye tuna to the Commission Secretariat. It is now March and we have received two (yes 2) reports for January 2013. All other CCMs with a catch limit specified in Attachment F of CMM 2012-01 are not compliant with the requirements of paragraph 27 of CMM 2012-01. Could we have your reports as a matter of urgency please? Just in case you are unsure, the members we have reports from are Korea and China. If we have missed any, please let Lara and I know as a matter of urgency.

### **5 Management Objective Workshop**

The Secretariat has been in contact with the MoW facilitator Ian Cartwright and the 2 members of the external panel Dr Jim Ianelli and Dr Robin Allen. They have agreed that there will be a small workshop to progress the candidate procedures in Honolulu 8-10 May 2013. To date two (2) members have indicated that they may send 1 participant each to this small workshop. Please advise the Secretariat **by 30 April 2013** if anyone else wishes to attend but bear in mind we only have a very small conference room workshop at the offices of the Western Pacific Fisheries Council in Honolulu and this is only to prepare a document for your latter consideration and discussion at MoW2.

### **6 CDS Workshop**

At WCPFC 9 the Secretariat was tasked as follows in paragraph 371:

*371. The Chair noted that the date, location and Chair for the first meeting of the IWG-CDS would be agreed intersessionally and asked the Secretariat to assist with finalizing this decision.*

The regional and international fisheries meeting calendar is rapidly filling up and in discussion between the EU and PNG there have been suggestions made that Mr Alois Kinol chair this workshop and that the meeting be conducted electronically. I am writing to seek your thought on this suggested approach or whether people have a date in mind and a venue at which the meeting could be formally held. I am in your hands on this issue and need your advice on the timing of any perspective meeting and some thoughts on a location **prior to Saturday 23 March 2013**.

### **7 Manual position reporting in event of VMS malfunction**

At WCPFC9, amendments were adopted to the VMS Standards, Specifications and Procedures (SSPs) to apply for twelve months. These amendments to the SSPs became effective on 1 March 2013 (Attachment G of WCPFC9 Summary Report). A standard format for submission of these reports was also agreed at WCPFC9 (Attachment H of WCPFC9 Summary Record). To assist with our record keeping, we ask that VMS manual positions be sent to email: [Manual.vms@wcpfc.int](mailto:Manual.vms@wcpfc.int).

**8      Reminder of 31 March 2013 deadlines in CMM 2012-01 for purse seine fishery measures**

CCMs are to advise the Secretariat **by 31 March 2013**, regarding the choice of the purse seine FAD reduction option (paragraph 11 of CMM 2012-01), and where applicable, notifications of any vessels to which footnote 2 in CMM 2012-01 applied.

That's about all I have for this circular, however, I will send you another separate one tomorrow about some changes that we need to consider for the Guam IT backup site. If you have any questions about any of the above issues please send an email or give me a call.

Thanks again

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Glenn Hurry', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Professor Glenn Hurry  
Executive Director