

ELEVENTH REGULAR SESSION

Faleata Sports Complex, Apia, SAMOA 1 - 5 December 2014

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WCPFC11-2014-09 23 November 2014

Paper by the WCPFC Secretariat

This paper reports on the Secretariat activities during 2014. Operational issues with WCPFC MCS programmes relevant to the TCC were reported in TCC10 paper: WCPFC-TCC10-2014-12. The outcomes of TCC's consideration of recommendations therein can be found in the TCC10 Summary Report.

KEY OUTCOMES

- I. WCPFC financial accounts for 2013 have been responsibly managed and this is reflected in the unqualified accounts from the Auditors.
- II. The Secretariat continues to work actively with the local community so that they better understand the role and contribution that the Commission makes in Pohnpei. The ability to be able to fund small community programs and initiatives has been very useful. Also in 2014, some WCPFC staff volunteered their personal time to assist with preparations for and during the Micronesian Games, hosted in Pohnpei.
- III. In 2014, SPC conducted new stock assessments for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas and SC10 provided management advice to the Commission.
- IV. The core activities of the West Pacific East Asia (WPEA) project including tuna catch data collection continued in 2014 and the Inception Workshop for the second 3-year GEF-funded WPEA Project convened in Da Nang, Vietnam, during 4-5 November 2014. UNDP, WCPFC and country representatives from Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam attended the workshop.
- V. The Secretariat continues to maintain the Commission buildings and surrounds in good condition
- VI. On 25 October 2014, the Fisheries and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission signed an Execution Agreement for a 3.2 million USD package of work designed to mitigate the adverse impacts of bycatch on biodiversity in global tuna fisheries. This work, which will run through early 2019, is being conducted under FAO's Global Environment Facility-funded Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Tuna Project. On 1 June 2014, Dr Shelley Clarke was appointed to the position of GEF ABNJ Tuna Project Technical Coordinator-Sharks and Bycatch; a role which will facilitate collaborative work between WCPFC/ IATTC and FAO to implement this important program of work.
- VII. In 2014, the Secretariat continued to maintain, expand and refine the online compliance reporting facilities on the WCPFC Information Management System network hosted at WCPFC headquarters. This meant that CCMs to could submit Annual Report Part 2 and associated reports (version 2.0), the Secretariat could develop and disseminate draft Compliance Monitoring Reports, CCMs could submit replies to draft and provisional Compliance Monitoring Reports, and the records of the 2014 full Compliance Monitoring Report including TCC10 outcomes are all maintained on the online system databases accessible

to the Secretariat and authorized CCM users; this was all in accordance with timeframes in CMM 2013-02.

VIII. In June 2014, the Record of Fishing Vessels Standards, Specifications and Procedures (RFV-SSPs), was successfully implemented in accordance with CMM 2013-03, which included an updated RFV database that is "fully and readily searchable by public users" and "includes electronic photographs of the vessels" and two electronic mechanisms for CCMs to use for submitting updates to their vessel records on the RFV (electronic data file submission and online data entry using web portal).

1. <u>Introduction</u>

In response to Rule 13 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, which requires the Executive Director to make a report to the Commission at its regular session on the work of the Commission, this paper summarises the main activities of the Commission during 2014. During this period the work of the Commission included:

- a) conduct of the Commission's Eleventh Regular Session and the Tenth Regular Sessions of the Commission's subsidiary bodies, Scientific Committee (SC), Northern Committee (NC), Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC) and the Eighth Session of the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) to be convened in association with WCPFC11; and working group meetings including Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting Working Group (EM and ER WG), Catch Documentation Scheme Intersessional Working Group (CDS-IWG), a third Management Objectives Workshop (MOW3) and a Workshop on Implementation of CMM 2013-06 and Disproportionate Burden, the latter two workshops will both be held immediately prior to WCPFC11;
- b) continuing engagement and consultation with other organisations including the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), SPC-OFP, the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Living Marine resources (CCAMLR) the Northern Pacific Anadromous Fisheries Commission (NPAFC) and the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), including through participation in the informal network of secretariats for tuna-RFMOs (t-RFMOs; www.tuna-org.org) and the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC). In 2014 the Commission was represented at the FFA MCS Working Group and the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders meeting;
- c) continuing efforts to establish logistic and administrative support functions at the office of the Secretariat, and securing acceptable housing for staff;
- d) ongoing work by the Secretariat to improve the Commission buildings and the general site;
- e) engagement with the other t-RFMOs, the GEF and the FAO on the implementation of the GEF program for Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) focusing on tuna fisheries;
- f) continuing engagement with UNDP, Indonesia, Philippine and Vietnam as part of WCPFC's support to the West Pacific East Asia (WPEA) project including tuna catch data collection, and convening the Inception Workshop for the second 3-year GEF-funded WPEA Project;
- g) in-house workshop was held on 13 and 14 June 2014 at the WCPFC Secretariat headquarters in Pohnpei, FSM. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss approaches to integrating MCS data, including the application of GIS tools to support analysis of the data. Participants consisted of

Secretariat staff and representatives from the National Oceanic Resource Marine Authority (NORMA) and FSM Maritime Police, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Office of Law Enforcement (NOAA-OLE), Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR), Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Oceanic Fisheries Programme (SPC-OFP). The group discussed a range of topics relating to data integration including data management, data formats and standards, data quality control, data analysis; and

- h) In 2014, the Secretariat has received commitments for some voluntary contributions from two CCMs. These are expected to support four priority work areas which have been identified by the Secretariat for future IMS development within the Secretariat:
 - i) support ways to improve the collection of accurate and timely data, including through electronic reporting (ER) and electronic monitoring (EM);
 - ii) continuing to expand the analytical capability and business intelligence of the WCPFC IMS, including adding a GIS/map for displaying and integrating various WCPFC data;
 - iii) improving the access and capability of the Secretariat to review ROP observer data, and ensure that the Secretariat's internal MCS operating procedures and IMS systems adequately cater for record-keeping, handling of evidence and notices to CCMs of possible violations;
 - iv) review procedures and propose tools, including through the website, so that the Secretariat is better equipped to provide timely access to MCS-relevant information in support of member MCS activities and to share MCS data with CCMs, in accordance with the WCPFC data rules and procedure.

These priority work areas align closely with the proposals that the TCC10 provided support for the Secretariat undertaking in 2015/16 related to IMS developments and website enhancements.

2. Work of the Commission's Subsidiary Bodies

Scientific Committee

The Tenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC10) took place at Majuro, Marshall Islands during 6-14 August, 2014. Mr Ludwig Kumoru from Papua New Guinea chaired the meeting. A full record of the meeting is available on the website and the outcomes and recommendations will be discussed at WCPFC11.

Northern Committee

The Tenth Regular Session of the Northern Committee (NC10) took place at Fukuoka, Japan, 1-4 September 2014. Mr Masanori Miyahara (Japan) chaired the meeting.

A full record of the meeting is available on the website and the outcomes and recommendations will be discussed at WCPFC11.

Technical and Compliance Committee

The Tenth Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC10) was held at Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from 24 -30 September 2014. The meeting was chaired by Ms Rhea Moss-Christian from FSM and over 160 participants representing CCMs and observers attended the meeting.

A full record of the meeting is available on the website and the outcomes and recommendations will be discussed at WCPFC11. The Provisional CMR documentation is available to authorized CCM users through the WCPFC intranet and a copy has also been posted on the secure side of the WCPFC website. The recommendations will be discussed at WCPFC11.

Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting Workshop (ErandErW)

The Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting Workshop met in Honiara, Solomon Islands from 31 March – 1 April 2014, chaired by Ray Clarke (United States of America). SC10 and TCC10 received the EmandErW Chairs Report of the workshop, updates from CCMs and a paper from the Secretariat on proposed next steps for the development of draft electronic standards. The outcomes will be discussed at WCPFC11 under TCC issues.

CDS-IWG

WCPFC9 established the Catch Documentation Scheme Intersessional Working Group (CDS-IWG). The CDS-IWG met in Pohnpei Federated States of Micronesia on 24th September 2014, chaired by Alois Kinol (Papua New Guinea). The CDS-IWG Chair provided a report of progress to TCC10. The outcomes will be discussed at WCPFC11 under TCC issues.

Finance and Administration Committee

The Eighth Finance and Administration Committee (FAC8), chaired by Paul Callaghan (United States of America) will meet just prior to, and throughout, WCPFC11, as necessary. In addition to personnel, work programme and budget matters, the FAC considers a range of administrative matters relating to the work of the Commission including issues associated with the headquarters office.

Implementation of CMM 2013-06 and Disproportionate Burden Workshop

The Implementation of CMM 2013-06 and Disproportionate Burden Workshop will be chaired by WCPFC Chair, Dr Charles Karnella, and is to be held on 27th November 2014 (just prior to WCPFC11). The outcomes in the form of a Chairs report will be presented to WCPFC11.

MOW3

The third Management Objectives Workshop will be facilitated by Mr Ian Cartwright and is to be held on 28th November 2014 (just prior to WCPFC11). The outcomes in the form of a Facilitators report will be presented to WCPFC11.

3. <u>Secretariat Activities</u>

Secretariat administrative and establishment matters

Staffing matters

The total Secretariat staffing level is 22 staff positions: there are 9 professional staff, including the Executive Director, and 13 support staff. The updates on Secretariat staff for 2014 are:

Science Manager: Dr SungKwon Soh from the Republic of Korea was appointed to the position of the Commission's Science Manager in March 2014. The position was advertised in August 2013 as per the Staff Regulations. The Secretariat received one application for the position.

Executive Director: The Executive Director Glenn Hurry's contract ended on 25 October, 2014. The recruitment of a new Executive Director is underway and the appointment process will be completed during WCPFC11. In accordance with the instructions of the WCPFC Chair, the Interim Executive Director arrangements are a rotation among the three senior managers, as follows:

- Dr SungKwon Soh: 26 October, 2014 to 25 November, 2014
- Dr Lara Manarangi-Trott: 26 November, 2014 to 25 December, 2014
- Mr Aaron Nighswander: 26 December, 2014 to 25 January, 2015

Observer Programme Coordinator: The position of Observer Programme Coordinator was advertised in late July, 2014 as per the Staff Regulations. Noting that the Commission would be appointing a new Executive Director in December 2014, the decision on staffing this position has been delayed until after the new Executive Director commences official duties. For the interim period, the incumbent Mr Karl Staisch from Australia, has been given a one year contract and the recruitment process is expected to be resumed in mid-2015.

Other:

- Ms Kerry Smith was seconded from Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) from January December 2014. Kerry was an instrumental part of the team that provided support to the preparation and successful delivery of the WCPFC Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting Workshop early in 2014. She has assisted the Secretariat in a number of areas, including work to progress the development of draft e-reporting standards, with an initial focus on ROP data and transshipment reporting (TCC10-2014-12), input into the CMM handbook for ROP observers, and provided project planning and monitoring and evaluation support of some of projects that have been developed for some of the voluntary contributions we have received to support both MCS and Science areas of the WCPFC work programme.
- In June 2014, Dr Shelley Clark was recruited as GEF ABNJ Tuna Project Technical Coordinator-Sharks and Bycatch; a role which will facilitate collaborative work between WCPFC/ IATTC and FAO in the areas of sharks and bycatch under the Global Environment Facility-Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (GEF-ABNJ) project.
- Ms SureAnn Poll was recruited for the local staff position of Data Control Technician in February 2014.

IT systems

In 2014, the corporate network at Pohnpei again logged a full year of operational stability with all operational systems have maintaining more than 99% systems availability. The network virtualization improvements which were installed in 2013, have effectively supported the CCM online reporting of Annual Report Part 2, generation by the Secretariat of draft Compliance Monitoring Reports and CCM online replies to the draft and provisional Compliance Monitoring Reports. The online systems have also supported the implementation of an upgraded Record of Fishing Vessels system, including a publicly accessible database with photographs, as well as online systems for CCMs to submit updates to their vessel records.

In response to the recommendations in the 2013 security review of the Commission VMS and IMS, the Secretariat now has improved the encryption and security to ensure that all transmissions of data between all its major host sites fully meets the standards and requirements of the WCPFC Information Security Policy.

The commitments made by the Commission since 2012 to support the Secretariat IMS developments and associated IT infrastructure has taken the WCPFC forward in terms of efficiencies and effectiveness to support MCS and compliance monitoring work. Prior to 2012, an incremental approach had been used to develop information management system and its support architecture. Following approval by WCPFC9, the Secretariat commenced a phased investment to increase the integration of MCS information in the WCPFC IMS and required website enhancements. The Secretariat expects that further work in 2015/16 to continue the integration of databases under a single data warehouse framework, and supported by the

development of IT analysis tools, has and will enable the Secretariat to undertake MCS and compliance reviews that will better support the WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme, and potentially better support WCPFC member MCS non-public domain data requests. All of the Required Reports which were tabled at TCC10, and the draft Compliance Monitoring Report and related-work, have benefitted and have been supported by the IMS developments to date.

Financial and administrative arrangements

Financial and administrative arrangements operated satisfactorily during the year with the continued use of QuickBooks Enterprise as the Commissions financial management system. Management of the headquarters building services and grounds continues to be a challenge; however, by implementing a regular maintenance schedule the buildings are now in good repair and the grounds landscaping completed. The electrical system for the headquarters building approved at WCPFC10 was competed under budget and with minimal downtime. The addition to the current solar system at the headquarters building was delayed but is currently being installed.

Annual Accounts and Contributions

The 2013 financial statements were completed, audited and made available through Commission's website within the specified time frames, together with the External Auditor's Reports. The Auditor reported that the statements and accounts complied with the required accounting standards as well as the Commission's Financial Regulations, and presented a fair view of the financial position.

Article 18 (3) of the Convention provides that if a member's contributions are in arrears for the preceding two full years it shall not participate in the taking of decisions by the Commission, subject to the Commission permitting such a member to vote. Currently there are no Members who are in arrears for the previous two (2) years.

New Bank Accounts

A Euro account was opened with Banque de Nouvelle Calédonie (BNC) to handle voluntary contributions from the EU.

The Secretariat is currently opening two new accounts with the Bank of Guam. One of the accounts will be used for the second phase of the WPEA project. The second account will be used for the Global Environment Facility-Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (GEF-ABNJ) project.

Headquarters Agreement

There have been no issues with the headquarters agreement.

4. Contracts and Consultancies during 2014

Commission's Science Services Provider, the SPC-OFP

The SPC-OFP continued in the role of conducting data management, statistical analysis, stock assessment and related analytical services, management analyses and CMM performance monitoring, and other advisory and technical services. In 2014, the SPC-OFP conducted stock assessments for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas in the WCPO and SC10 reviewed the assessments and provided agreed management advice to the Commission. For the stock assessment of North Pacific blue shark, SPC collaborated with ISC and reported the results to SC10. SPC-OFP provided 39 papers, reports and data summaries for the SC9, mostly related with assigned science services. SPC-OFP also

provided a broad area of other advice services for the Secretariat's inter-sessional activities, notably including support for the data collection in East Asian countries through WPEA Project, scientific database services including reports used in draft Compliance Monitoring Reporting prepared by the Secretariat, and support for the scientific elements of the WCPFC Management Objectives Workshop.

Other contracts and consultancies

Commission-related activities

- Legal advisory services: David Angyal
- Rapporteuring: Dr Jane Broweleit
- Audits of the Commission's financial statements and IMS/VMS systems were conducted by Deloitte & Touche, Inc., Guam.
- The Commission's public website is covered by an SLA with Eighty Options of
 - Tasmania, Australia which provides for technical support and hosting;
- Taz-e of Australia continues to work with the Secretariat to develop the Commission IMS.
 In addition, an SLA with Taz-e provides specialist technical support to the Compliance IMS and Record of Fishing Vessels (RFV) applications. These are necessary given the mission-critical nature of these systems and their importance to the work of the Commission;
- The Secretariat also has an SLA with BMC of Pohnpei, Micronesia, for the technical support of the corporate network;
- Greg Pritchard provided a training course for most staff on Management / Leadership Development and communication.
- Dr Ian Knuckey and Steve Dunn were engaged to support the EmandER Workshop and present their consultancy report.
- Ian Cartwright was engaged to support the MOW3 as a facilitator.
- Dr Ian Knuckey was contracted to provide a consultancy report and provide direct support to the CDS-IWG workshop.

SC-related activities

SC work programmes conducted in 2013-2014 include:

- (*Project 15*) West Pacific East Asia Project: While the Secretariat is preparing another WPEA Project, core WPEA activities such as data collection from port sampling and convening annual tuna catch estimates workshops continued. A new GEF Project called "Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas" has commenced on 28 October 2014 and an Inception Workshop was convened in Da Nang, Vietnam, during 4-5 November 2014.
- (Project 35) Refinement of bigeye parameters Pacific-wide (A comprehensive review and study of bigeye tuna reproductive biology): WCPFC had a three-year contract with SPC-OFP on this project (Jan 2013-Dec 2015), subject to decisions of the WCPFC11. Proposed budget for 2015 is USD 125,000, which includes sampling data and analysis of otoliths/gonads for assessment.
- (*Project 42*) *Pacific-wide tagging project*: A PTTP Steering Committee meeting was convened during SC10 and SPC-OFP presented a progress report on 2013-2014 tagging activities and the status of tag recovery. The Commission supports \$10K to assist operations and activities related with the PTTP including tag recovery.
- (*Project 57*) *Limit Reference Points:* SPC-OFP presented an evaluation of risks of exceeding LRPs for south Pacific albacore, bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tunas using south Pacific albacore as a case study.
- (*Project 60*) *Purse Seine Species Composition:* SPC-OFP submitted a proposal for funding support from 2013 unobligated budget of \$39,985 for the extension of purse seine species composition research. The government of Papua New Guinea funded \$10,000 to this project. SPC-OFP provide the results of logsheet, spill sampling, grab sampling and unloading-based

- estimates of purse-seine species composition for vessels unloading in Solomon Islands and Japan, and a progress report on the comparison of observer sampling with port sampling estimates for vessels unloading in Madang, PNG.
- (Project 69) Improvement of MultiFan Catch at Length (in line with recommendations from the report of the Peer Review for the 2011 Bigeye Tuna Stock Assessment): This is the second year of the 2-year project and SPC provided a final report to SC10 on the developments in Multi-Fan CL software 2013-2014
- (Project 70) Improvement of stock assessments in line with recommendations from the report of the Peer Review for the 2011 Bigeye Tuna Stock Assessment: This project is funded \$160,000 per year for three years for SPC to hire an additional staff member to focus on this work. This is the second year and an overview of the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the bigeye tuna assessment review was presented at SC10.
- (*Project 71*) South Pacific Swordfish Biology: Along with the SC9 recommendation for additional work to be undertaken on age, growth and age validation of SP swordfish, the Secretariat arranged a contract with the CSIRO to partly support their project (Determination of Swordfish growth and maturity relevant to the southwest Pacific stock), which includes the requests from SC9. The CSIRO's project proposal was presented at SC10 for CCM's comments/suggestions to refine the requests from SC9.
- (*Project 72*) Development of Limit Reference Points for Elasmobranchs: Identifying LRPs for key shark species has been the Commission's high priority and the Secretariat funded a research from 2013 unobligated budget to propose the most appropriate limit reference points for elasmobranchs in the WCPO. A project report was presented at SC10.
- (Project 73) Development of a best practice approach to standardise CPUE indices for use in stock assessments: This research was selected as a high priority project to be funded by 2013 unobligated project and the outcome was presented at SC10.
 - Range dynamics in tuna and billfish targeted by longline fisheries: A consultancy contract was made to support the consultant's travel to SC10 to present range contraction issues outlined as the relationship between abundance and range size in longline target species

TCC-related activities

- Finalisation of the by-catch mitigation database (SPC-OFP);
- The Commission has a SLA with the FFA for the provision of VMS services to the Commission through Absolute/Polestar; and maintains contracts with Satcomms/Vizada, Satcom/Iridium and CLS Argos for air time services for direct reporting vessels;
- The VMS data integrity audit was combined with a security audit of the IMS, RFV procedures (Deloitte).
- The commitments made by the Commission since 2012 to support the Secretariat IMS developments and associated IT infrastructure has taken the WCPFC forward in terms of efficiencies and effectiveness to support MCS and compliance monitoring work. Following approval by WCPFC9, the Secretariat commenced a phased investment to increase the integration of MCS information in the WCPFC IMS and required website enhancements. These efforts have successfully supported the online systems for Annual Report Part 2 and Compliance Monitoring Reporting in 2013/14. The Secretariat expects that further work in 2015/16 to continue the integration of databases under a single data warehouse framework, and supported by the development of IT analysis tools, has and will enable the Secretariat to undertake MCS and compliance reviews that will better support the WCPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme, and potentially better support WCPFC member MCS non-public domain data requests.
- In June 2014, the Record of Fishing Vessels Standards, Specifications and Procedures (RFV-SSPs), was successfully implemented in accordance with CMM 2013-03, which included an updated RFV database that is "fully and readily searchable by public users" and "includes electronic photographs of the vessels" and two electronic mechanisms for

CCMs to use for submitting updates to their vessel records on the RFV (electronic data file submission and online data entry using web portal).

In addition to the meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission, the Secretariat participated in the following meetings and workshops during 2014.

- The Pacific Islands Forum Leaders meeting (July 2014), Palau
- FFC MCS Working Group, including one-on-one assistance with Annual Report Part 2 (March 2014) Honiara, Solomon Islands
- WWF/FFA Emerging Technologies Workshop (March 2014), Honiara, Solomon Islands
- FFA VMS Tender Panel meetings (March 2014), Honiara, Solomon Islands;
- FFA/SPC Regional Observer Coordinators Workshop and TUBS Workshop (Feb 2014), Noumea, New Caledonia;
- FFA/SPC Data Consultative Committee (March 2014), Noumea, New Caledonia;
- PNA Observer Coordinators Workshop (August 2014) Nadi, Fiji;
- Observer training (Majuro, Marshall Islands and Philippines);
- Observer programme Audits (Philippines, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu);
- Tuna Data Workshop (March 2014), Noumea, New Caledonia
- In-country visit to assist with CMR potential issues, (November 2014) Vanuatu;
- ISC14, Taipei, Chinese Taipei;
- SPC Pre-Assessment Workshop, Noumea, New Caledonia;
- WPEA Project related meetings and workshops in Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam;
- Tuna Congress, General Santos, Philippines;
- ISSF Workshop on Purse Seine Capacity Transfer (March 2014), Barcelona, Spain.
- UN Small Island Developing States meeting in Apia, Samoa;
- Tuna Conference, Bali, Indonesia;
- PACIOCEA, SPREP Workshop, Nadi Fiji;
- Consultation meeting between WCPFC/SPC and China on fishery data submission to WCPFC, and informal discussions on CMR potential issues (Oct 2014), China.

5. Relations with other organisations

Regular dialogue was maintained with the ICCAT, IATTC, IOTC and CCSBT to share information and exchange views on areas of common interest. There were some intersessional discussions between the tuna RFMO Secretariats and tuna RFMO Chairs that occurred in 2014, and which WCPFC participated. IATTC remains one of our key relationships and the GEF-ABNJ project is expected to provide greater opportunities for closer workings between the WCPFC and IATTC, as well as with FAO and other tuna RFMOs.

Other organisations with which collaborative activities occurred throughout 2014 in the areas of IMS and IT tools included the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, CCAMLR, Honolulu office of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Office of Law Enforcement (NOAA-OLE), FFA, SPC and FAO.

- The Consolidated List of Authorised Fishing Vessels (CLAV) operates between the five tRFMOs and the Secretariat hosted an IT specialist from FAO who worked with the IT Manager and IT-contractors to establish an automatic update facility from WCPFC offices to the CLAV databases.
- The CCAMLR IT Manager generously assisted WCPFC IT Manager and IT Contractors, and contributed to the successful updates and enhancements of the Record of Fishing Vessels databases and online systems to implement the WCPFC RFV SSPs (CMM 2013-03).

- WCPFC received expert assistance on set-up of GIS display tools, and VMS analysis tools
 in 2014 through a visit to Pohnpei offices by two staff from the Honolulu office of
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Law Enforcement (NOAAOLE);
- Through the in-house workshop hosted by WCPFC and held at WCPFC offices on 13 14 June, provided an opportunity for closer collaboration between WCPFC, NORMA, FSM Maritime Police, NOAA-OLE (Honolulu), CCAMLR, FFA and SPC-OFP in the areas of data integration, data management, data formats and standards, data analysis, IMS development including GIS displays, as well as other areas of common interest.

6 Future Work of the Commission

This year's Annual Regular Session deliberations will consolidate the Secretariat tasks associated with implementing outcomes from Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting Workshop, SC10, Catch Documentation Scheme Intersessional Working Group, TCC10, Disproportionate Burden Workshop, Third Management Objectives Workshop, FAC8 and the WCPFC11 meeting. As was the case in recent years, there is expected to be a focus on the Compliance with Conservation Measures, continued development of the supporting WCPFC integrated-Information Management System IMS and agreement on programs of work on Regional Observer Programme, VMS, electronic reporting standards development and catch documentation scheme development. A new Executive Director will be appointed to commence duties as the Head of the Secretariat in 2015.

In addition to these tasks, the Secretariat has responsibility for the Commission headquarters in Pohnpei and will continue to ensure that the headquarters buildings and grounds are kept in good working order through a regular maintenance schedule for both buildings and grounds.

The Secretariat will continue to implement the WPEA-Sustainable Management Project and the ABNJ-Shark and Bycatch Project.

The Commission has again been able to offer its internship program this year and will continue to accommodate interns from member countries and from Universities as appropriate.
