



# OPRT

## NEWSLETTER INTERNATIONAL

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FOR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF TUNAS

**The IMO Number Scheme to be extended to cover fishing vessels smaller than 100GT. RFMOs urged to utilize it, as soon as possible.**

## **Fishing Vessels less than 100GT and 12m in length overall and larger can be assigned with an IMO number. Tuna related RFMOs are urged to utilize this new scheme for strengthening fishing vessel identifying and tracking mechanism as soon as possible.**

It is more effective and efficient to identify fishing vessels by utilizing the Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI) than by using the name and other related information. UVI contributes to strengthening tracking and control of fishing vessels, and are also useful in monitoring the status of fishing capacity and combating Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing activities.

In December 2013, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Assembly at its 28th session agreed to amend the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme so that each fishing vessel of steel hull construction of 100 GT and above can obtain a unique IMO number.

The IMO number is made up of the three letters "IMO" in front of seven digits (e.g. IMO8712345) and can be allocated to not only new vessels (on order and under construction) but also to existing vessels. The same number shall be maintained for the vessel concerned regardless of any changes in vessel names, vessel owner, or state of registry until the vessel concerned is scrapped.

This arrangement was created through the cooperation between the IMO and the FAO, in particular, with the view to combating IUU fishing activities.

RFMOs, at their annual meetings in 2013 and thereafter, discussed how to utilize the IMO number as UVI in respective schemes, and developed and adopted relevant measures.

For example, WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2013-04 stipulates the following as the Commission's Decision:

"1. Effective on January 1, 2016, flag CCMs shall ensure that all their fishing vessels that are authorized to

be used for fishing in the Convention Area beyond the flag CCMs' national jurisdiction and that are at least 100GT or 100 GRT in size have IMO or LR numbers issued to them."

[At the same time, a relevant element was added in the Record of Fishing Vessels as follows:]

"3. Paragraph 6 of CMM 2009-01[ WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish] is revised by.....adding a new sub-paragraph (s), with footnote (a copy of the provision text mentioned above as 1.)

(s) IMO number or Lloyd's Register (LR) number, if issued."

Thanks to their efforts, since January 1, 2016, the IMO numbers (if issued) have been included in lists of fishing vessels maintained by respective RFMOs and it has become easier and more accurate to identify fishing vessels by referring to such IMO numbers.

Based on the 2013 arrangement, the size of fishing vessels subject to assignment of the IMO number are limited to those of steel hull and 100 GT and greater. However, fishing fleets consisting of vessels less than 100 GT have increased levels of their fishing capacities and, they show high mobility (they operate in waters under their flag state's jurisdiction, on the high seas, under bilateral access agreements, under arrangements with local companies of coastal states and/or charter arrangements.) but for those vessels less than 100 GT the IMO number identification scheme has not been applied.

Recently however, we have seen good progress in this field. The IMO Assembly at its 30th session held from November 27 to December 6, 2017 agreed to extend the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme to fishing vessels of steel and non-steel hull construction and



to all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 GT down to a size limit of 12 m in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag State.

The relevant resolution is A.1117 (30) IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme.

Now, all RFMOs are urged to amend the current regulations concerning fishing vessel records as soon as possible to make it mandatory to obtain the IMO number for the fishing vessels less than 100GT and 12m or larger authorized to operate outside waters under national jurisdiction of the flag State, and such IMO numbers shall be incorporated in the vessel lists maintained by respective RFMOs.



## ICCAT

### **Increase in TAC for 2018-2020 agreed: Eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna ICCAT agreed to increase Eastern Atlantic Bluefin TAC stepwise for 2018-2020**

The 25th Regular Meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) was held in Marrakech, Morocco from November 14 to 21, 2017. For the Eastern Atlantic Bluefin whose stock level is assessed to continue increasing and, based on the recommendation provided from the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS), the Commission agreed to increase the TAC (23,655 t for 2017) as follows: 28,200 t for 2018, 32,460 t for 2019 and 36,000 t for 2020 (TAC levels and quota by member are described on Page 3). The level of the TAC for 2020 (36,000 t) will be the highest since 2000.



Coping with the serious deterioration of the eastern Atlantic Bluefin Tuna stock, strict conservation and management measures have been implemented since late 2000's. The TAC was reduced to 12.9 thousand t for 2011, which was less than half of the TAC applied for the period from 2003 to 2006. In addition, catch of small bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg has been prohibited in principle since 2007.

As the result, the stock has shown a remarkable recovering trend and the Commission agreed to increase the TAC by 20% annually for the years from 2015 to 2017. The TAC for 2017 was 23,655 t.

For eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna the SCRS at its meeting held in early October adopted a recommendation that the catches be increased using a gradual stepwise approach to 36,000 t in 2020. (See the table and notes on the next page (Page 3))



During the Inter-Sessional Meeting of Panel 2 held from February 5 to 7, 2018 discussions took place in relation to the sentence of the notes described (in boldface) below the table. It was agreed to revised the quota scheme for 2019 and 2020 by allocating 85% of the Unallocated Reserves (550 t for 2019 and 635 t for 2020) and leaving an Unallocated Reserve of 100 t and 115 t for 2019 and 2020, respectively (Refer to Appendix 8 of the "REPORT OF THE INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING OF PANEL 2 (Madrid, Spain, 5-7 March, 2018)"). It was also agreed that the revised quota scheme would be put forward for adoption at the next Commission meeting.

The 21st Special Meeting of the ICCAT is scheduled from November 12 to 19, 2018 in Croatia.

**The total allowable catches (TACs) for the years 2018-2020 shall be set at: 28,200 t for 2018; 32,240 t for 2019 and 36,000 t for 2020, in accordance with the following quota scheme:**

CPC	Quota 2018 (t)	Quota 2019 (t)	Quota 2020 (t)
Albania	100	130	140
Algeria	1,260	1,398	1,600
China	79	89	100
Egypt	181	240	300
European Union	15,850	17,536	19,360
Iceland*	84	112	140
Japan	2,279	2,528	2,801
Korea	160	167	180
Libya	1,846	2,021	2,210
Morocco	2,578	2,892	3,129
Norway	104	152	200
Syria	66	73	80
Tunisia	2,115	2,344	2,590
Turkey	1,414	1,824	2,240
Chinese Taipei	79	84	90
Subtotal	28,195	31,590	35,250
Unallocated Reserves	5	650	750
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,200</b>	<b>32,240</b>	<b>36,000</b>

\*Notwithstanding the provision of this Part, Iceland may catch beyond the quota amount each year by 25% while its total catch for 2018, 2019, and 2020 shall not exceed 336 t (84 t + 112 t + 140 t).

**In 2018 and 2019, the Commission may distribute the unallocated reserves for 2019 and 2020 in consideration of the stock status updated by SCRS and the needs of CPCs, in particular the needs of coastal developing CPCs in their artisanal fisheries.**

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## WCPFC

### Measure for tropical tunas including bigeye relaxed: WCPFC 14.

**T**he 14th Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) was held in Manila from December 3 to 7, 2017.

With respect to a Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) for tropical tuna (bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack) to be applied to 2018 and thereafter, members, other than Japan, including Pacific island members strongly argued that the current measures which had been implemented from 2014 to 2017 should be relaxed quoting the significant change in the stock assessment for the bigeye stock in the western and central Pacific Ocean (WCPO). Namely, the stock status had been assessed as follows: for many years overfishing had been occurring and the stock had been overfished (in the “Red” status in the Kobe Matrix) but the assessment conducted by the Scientific Committee (SC) of WCPFC at its meeting held in August, 2017 (SC13) indicated that overfishing has not been occurring and the stock has not been overfished (in the status of “Green”) for the whole period subject to the assessment.

Only Japan argued that measures should be strengthened or at least the current measures should be maintained quoting that SC13 admitted the new assessment methodology includes high levels of uncertainties and recommended as a precautionary approach that the fishing mortality on the bigeye tuna stock should not be increased from the current level to maintain current or increased spawning biomass until the Commission can agree on an appropriate target reference point.

After the series of prolonged consultations between members, a new CMM was adopted at around three o'clock in the morning of December 8. The core elements of the CMM are effective for only 2018. Purse seine settings associated with Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) are prohibited for 3 months (4 month prohibition in the previous CMM) in EEZs and for 5 months on the high seas (no settings were allowed in the previous CMM).

According to the Fisheries Agency of Japan, during informal consultations debates were heated in particular with respect to restrictions on purse seine setting associated with FADs. Developed state members including the United States argued that the current 12 month prohibition should be thoroughly revised and be relaxed to the maximum extent possible. On the other hand, Pacific Island state members, with the concern that increased availability of the high seas for purse seine settings with FADs would reduce levels of revenues they receive as access fees, insisted on maintaining the current restriction (the 12 month prohibition). Japan also argued to continue the current 12 month prohibition for the reasons mentioned above.

Since the CMM adopted at WCPFC14 for tropical tuna is in principle effective for only 2018, a new CMM shall be consulted and agreed upon at the next Regular Session to be held in December, 2018 (WCPFC 15).

For Pacific Bluefin the Commission endorsed the conservation and management package developed by the

Northern Committee.

The draft CMM for Pacific Bluefin including the second recovery target and work plan to develop the Harvest Strategy was adopted at WCPFC 14.

The next Regular Session of WCPFC (WCPFC 15) will be held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from December 3 to 7, 2018.



## WCPO Bigeye

### **In order to avoid irreversible damage to the WCPO bigeye stock, three areas of action shall be addressed as matters of priority in a timely fashion**

**T**he Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) at its 14th Regular Session held in Manila in early December, 2017 (WCPFC14) adopted a conservation and management measure (CMM) that relaxes conservation and management measures for the bigeye stock in the central and western Pacific Ocean (WCPO).

Apparently, this decision is not consistent with the recommendation from the Scientific Committee (SC) that as a precautionary approach the fishing mortality on bigeye tuna stock should not be increased from the current level because of the high-level of uncertainties included in the new stock assessment conducted in August, 2017 (SC13) (paragraph 238 of the SC13 Summary Report).

In addition there are strong concerns that such relaxed measures may lead to irreversible damage to the WCPO bigeye stock for the following reasons and therefore in order for us to ensure the sustainability of the WCPO bigeye stock it is indispensable that the following three areas of actions shall be adequately addressed as matters of priority in a timely fashion.

**1. The uncertainties with respect to the stock assessment conducted by SC 13 shall be adequately reduced as soon as possible and until the completion of this work a true precautionary approach (PA) should be applied.**

The latest assessment showed a drastic change in stock status, i.e., the long lasting red light status (overfishing has been occurring and the stock is overfished) was suddenly changed and the green light sign is indicated for not just recent years but the whole period subject to assessments. But many questions have been posed to the validities of the major factors newly introduced into the assessment.

According to the SC Summary Report, this sudden change was caused chiefly by two factors, i) the introduction of a new growth curve and ii) the change in areal divisions for the assessment analysis, and there were a lot of doubts expressed in the SC 13 discussions about the suitability of these changes and treatment made with these changes. And the SC itself emphasizes there are significantly larger uncertainties in the new assessment compared with previous assessments.

There are scientists of the view that SC 13 should not have changed the view of the stock condition until concerns about the major uncertainties are adequately resolved.

The principle of the precautionary approach guides us to respect the concept that the larger the uncertainty that is recognized, the more careful and conservative use of the resources should be made for the sake of safety of the fish stocks and fisheries concerned. The fact that SC suddenly concluded a change in the stock assessment to an overly optimistic view while it admitted the large uncertainties included in the assessment is totally inconsistent with the prevailing concept of the precautionary approach.

**2. A new CMM should be developed and adopted at this year's Regular Session of the WCPFC with the view to ensuring the future of the WCPO bigeye stock that can be utilized in a sustainable manner by the fisheries concerned in an effective and equitable fashion, considering the application of the precautionary approach, as necessary.**

As mentioned above, the CMM adopted for the WCPO tropical tuna at WCPFC14 is not consistent with the recommendation from SC13 that as "a precautionary approach" the fishing mortality on bigeye tuna stock should not be increased from the current level. Furthermore results of the assessment which provides the basis for the recommendations including those mentioned above are not considered to abide by the (true) precautionary approach.

Therefore, effectiveness of the key provisions included in that CMM is considered far from robust.

Fortunately, the CMM adopted at WCPFC14 will apply only to 2018.

A new CMM should be developed and adopted at WCPFC15 to be held in December this year to ensure effective and equitable management measures while promoting the sustainability of the WCPO bigeye stock.



### 3. Work for development of Harvest Strategies (HSs) for the WCPO tropical tuna stocks including the bigeye stock should be conducted in a balanced manner taking into full account interactions between the fisheries concerned.

The WCPFC adopted CMM 2014-06 in December, 2014 and updated the work plan for the adoption of HSs under CMM 2014-06 every year thereafter.

In the work for tropical tuna (bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack), discussions for skipjack has preceded those for bigeye and yellowfin in the WCPO.

However, as a reality, interactions exist between fisheries related to these stocks. In particular, purse seine operations targeting skipjack associated with Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) catch a large amount of juvenile bigeye, and the deterioration of the WCPO bigeye stock for about two decades (according to the stock assessments carried out up to 2016) is chiefly attributable to that type of purse seine catch.

These facts including the impact of the fisheries that adversely affect the WCPO bigeye stock shall be fully incorporated in the work to develop HSs and other related elements such as Target Reference Point (LRP), Harvest Control Rule (HCR), Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE), etc., for the WCPO tropical tuna without fail.

Lastly with the view to developing appropriate and workable HSs, the following should be fully accommodated in the process before finalization.

All stakeholders including relevant fishers have an opportunity to digest the outcomes from the MSE simulations conducted in response to various scenarios and then to share desirable HS(s) with managers and scientists involved;

Fishers are expected to fully understand two very important factors: i) Reference Points (RPs) which provide milestones in the process to achieve management objectives (MOs); and ii) HCRs which instruct specific actions in advance in response to the major changes that might take place for the fish stock concerned; and

A clear explanation of benefits for the fishers concerned is necessary prior to the finalization of HS(s).

At the same time the fact that HS(s) will not resolve all problems relating to fishery management must be understood by all stakeholders. In any case, it is most important that all countries comply with relevant management measures.

N.B. Major provisions relevant to application of the precautionary approach from the WCPFC Convention and the UNFSA:

1. CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PA-

CIFIC OCEAN (WCPFC Convention)

#### Article 5

Principles and measures for conservation and management

In order to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks in the Convention Area in their entirety, the members of the Commission shall, .....

(c) apply the precautionary approach in accordance with this Convention and all relevant internationally agreed standards and recommended practices and procedures;

2. AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982 RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS (UNFSA)

#### Article 6

Application of the precautionary approach

1. States shall apply the precautionary approach widely to conservation, management and exploitation of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks in order to protect the living marine resources and preserve the marine environment.

2. States shall be more cautious when information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate. The absence of adequate scientific information shall not be used as a reason for postponing or failing to take conservation and management measures.

## Tsukiji auction

### Highest-priced bluefin tuna fetches JPY 36 million at the year's first Tsukiji auction.

The year's first auction of 2018 was held in Tsukiji Market on January 5.

Since the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Office officially announced that relocation of Tsukiji Market to Toyosu would be conducted during 4 days from October 7 to 10 and operations at Toyosu Market would start on October 11, 2018, this year's first auction should be the last one in Tsukiji. Compared to pre-



vious years the auction hall was much more crowded with the press people from a total of 44 newspaper publishing companies and television stations.

Prior to the auction, on behalf of wholesalers working at Tsukiji Market Mr. Hiroyuki Taguchi( 田口 弘之 ), President of Daiichi Suisan ( 第一水産 ) stated "This year we are expected leave Tsukij Market where we have been working for many years. Each Tsukiji worker has the responsibility to let the world-famous Tsukij Brand be succeeded by Toyosu in an expedited manner after the relocation."

This was followed by another statement made by Mr. Shigeo Yokota( 横田 繁夫 ), President of the Yokyo Tukiji Uoichiba Ohmono Gyokai ( 東京築地魚市場大物業会 : Association of Intermediate Wholesalers for Tunas, Tokyo Fish Market). Mr. Yokota stated "We share the responsibility to establish the Toyosu Brand by succeeding the Tsukiji Brand. It is an honor for me to be part of the historical events, i.e. relocation of Tsukiji Market and commencement of operations at Toyosu market. I would like to open a new chapter with you in the history of Toyosu Market."



At the auction, the highest-priced tuna was a 405-kg fresh bluefin tuna landed at Oma ( 大間 ), Aomori Prefecture ( 青森県 ) and put to the auction by Toto Suisan ( 東都水産 ). The price was 36.45 million JPY, (90,000 JPY per kg.)

Yama-ko ( やま幸 ), an intermediate wholesaler made the successful bid for that tuna. Yamako sold the tuna to Ginza Onodera ( 銀座おのでら ), a sushi restaurant company that operates a number of sushi restaurants in foreign countries including New York, USA as well as in Japan.

The tuna with highest unit price (160,000 JPY per kg) was won by Kiyomura corporation ( 浬喜代村 ) that operates a chain of sushi restaurants Sushi Zanmai ( 寿司ざんまい ). The price for the whole tuna – fresh bluefin tuna landed at Oma that weighed 190kg was 30.40 million JPY.

Historically the highest price was recorded in the 2013 first auction at 155 million JPY for a 222-kg bluefin tuna. Bidding competition has been calming down

since 2014. In last year' first auction, a 212-kg fresh Bluefin tuna landed at Oma, fetched the highest price for that year at 74 million JPY, which corresponds to 350,000 JPY per kg.



## Toyosu Market

### Toyosu Market will open October 11 this year, announced by Governor Koike

Governor of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Ms. Yuriko Koike officially announced at her special press conference held on December, 2017 that the Toyosu Market would start its operation on October 11, 2018. The Metropolitan Government is responsible for establishing and maintaining the buildings and facilities of the Metropolitan Central Wholesale Markets including Tsukiji and Toyosu. The relocation was originally scheduled for early November, 2016.

Wholesale work of the Tsukji Fish Market will cease on October 6, 2018 and a total of 4 days from October 7 to 10 are designated for relocation to Toyosu.

During the press conference, answering a question about the implications of the delay of approximately 2 years for the dates of relocation, she emphasized "With such delay, we can prevent confusion. It is rather favorable. Two years are necessary for us."

Governor Koike had made the official announced in late August, 2016 about the delay in relocation. The Toyosu Fish Market will open after the elapse of one year and three months from that announcement.



## Misaki Tuna Market

### Brand-new wholesale market facilities to deal exclusively with frozen tuna will open shortly in Misaki

Miura City, Kanagawa Prefecture has constructed new wholesale market facilities in the Misaki district that will handle exclusively sashimi grade frozen tuna. The market is to be named “Miura City low-temperature wholesale market”. Such market buildings with facilities specialized in handling only frozen tuna have never before been constructed in Japan. The construction is scheduled to be completed in March this year and to commence operations as a public wholesale market in April. New facilities are designed to be completely sealed in order to keep the auction site at low temperature and prevent contamination, with full consciousness of quality management and hygiene control.

The construction started in December, 2016. The total cost including survey and design costs is 1.96 billion JPY. The wholesale market building is a two-story structure with steel frames. Total floor space of this building is 3,184 m<sup>2</sup>.



The facilities are designed to be optimized to deal with frozen tuna and to promote work efficiency.

In the completely sealed structure building, swing doors are installed between “the auction site section” and “the section for carrying-out and loading of tuna”. Each carrying-out gate of the latter section is installed with double vertically-sliding doors. In the auction section, the air temperature will be set at 15°C (±2°C) and the low speed wind mode will be applied to air conditioning with the view to restraining increase in the temperature of the fish.

Miura City Office held a completion ceremony on March 18, 2018 with the attendance of Mr. Ken Saito, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, prior to the commencement of market operations. In connection with this ceremony, another event was carried out with the view to inviting more off-loadings of sashimi grade frozen tuna at Misaki

Port and promoting sales of “Misaki tuna”, sashimi tuna products dealt with by distributors and/or processors located in Misaki, including expanded exports.



## Tuna - Flamenco

### A “Tuna –Flamenco” Evening in Yuraku-cho

The Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operative Association (Japan Tuna) held an event in the main dining room of the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Japan, in Yuraku-cho, Tokyo on the evening of March 2, 2018. This event was titled “Tuna- Flamenco Evening” and was well-received by the participants (approximately 120 people).

This was the 3rd in a series of the events which targeted adults and were carried out as a part of the “October 10 Day of Tuna” campaign. “Tuna-Japanese Sake-Rakugo” Evening was held in 2016 and “Tuna – Japanese Wine – Bossa Nova” Evening in 2017.

This year’s event was designed to emphasize a Spanish atmosphere in which a Flamenco show played the core role.

Port in Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, Spain is in particular familiar to fishers of many Japanese large scale tuna longline vessels.



This event began with Dr. Yuji Uozumi's brief presentation on the status of tuna stocks in the Atlantic Ocean managed by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), whose headquarters are located in Madrid, Spain, followed by a flamenco show performed by two bailaoras (female dancers), cantaor (male singer), guitarist and violinist. Their performance created a splendid atmosphere in the hall.



Thereafter, there was a session for degustation of sashimi of five tuna species, i.e. bluefin tuna, southern bluefin tuna, bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna and albacore. In addition, Carpaccio of tuna, stewed beef prepared in Spanish style etc., and Spanish wines were served.

Positive reactions and appreciations were observed from the participants: "I saw a flamenco show for the first time today and it was very impressive. I appreciated the variety of dishes using tunas. They were really tasty. I was fully satisfied with this event." "It was a pleasant surprise to me to see that tuna dishes matched flamenco very well. I want to see a flamenco show again soon." "Dr. Uozumi's presentation was informative and easy to understand."



It might be difficult to imagine the background for combination of tuna and flamenco but the Japanese large-scale tuna longline industry has had a relationship with Spain including our vessels' utilization of port facilities of Las Palmas, according to the staff

member of Japan Tuna who had been engaged in designing this event. "I am happy to see the tuna and flamenco offered this evening have been appreciated by the participants" she said.



## Dates and Venues for RFMO's Annual meetings in 2018

### Schedule for Annual Commission Meetings of Tuna-related RFMOs\* —2018—

(as of March 14, 2018)

Dates	RFMOs	Venues
May. 21 (Mon) - 25 (Fri)	IOTC: 22nd Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (S22)	Bangkok, Thailand
August. 24 (Fri), 27 (Mon) - 30 (Thu)	IATTC: 93rd Meeting of the IATTC	Guatemala
Oct. 15 (Mon) - 18 (Thu)	CCSBT: 25th Annual Meeting of the CCSBT	Noumea, New Caledonia
Nov. 12 (Mon) - 19 (Mon)	ICCAT: 21st Special Meeting of the Commission	Croatia
Dec. 3 (Mon) - 7 (Fri)	WCPFC: 15th Regular Session of the Commission (WCPFC15)	Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

Source: Websites of respective Commissions

Note: Date and/or Venue might be subject to change.