

Provisional Agenda
Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG) Meeting
28 - 30 July 2015
Canberra, Australia

1. Opening of the Meeting
 - 1.1. Welcome
 - 1.2. Confirmation of Chair
 - 1.3. Introduction of Participants
 - 1.4. Adoption of Agenda

2. Funding arrangements for the CCSBT's Scientific Research Program (SRP)

At its 2014 meeting, the Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) developed a three-year indicative budget for its Scientific Research Program (SRP). In addition, Australia has advised that it cannot continue to operate its Scientific Aerial Survey without a major funding increase from the CCSBT. The proposed three-year SRP together with full funding of the Scientific Aerial Survey would add approximately AUD \$1.03 million, \$1.48 million and \$1.38 million to the CCSBT's annual budgets for 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively. For 2015, the CCSBT agreed to fund the proposed SRP excluding the aerial survey (except for a \$100,000 contribution to the aerial survey). Consequently, the aerial survey is not being conducted in 2015. No decision has been made on SRP funding from 2016.

Intersessional discussion (CCSBT Circulars #2014/052, #2015/007 and #2015/011) in relation to funding of the aerial survey did not reach consensus on funding, but has indicated that funding arrangements for the SRP, including the aerial survey, was a complex matter and should be included on the SFMWG's agenda for discussion. If the Extended Commission wishes to conduct an aerial survey in 2016, a decision on funding will need to be made at the SFMWG meeting or soon after the SFMWG meeting to allow sufficient time to tender and implement the aerial survey.

Participants at an informal ESC web meeting during March 2015 agreed that the CCSBT's Management Procedure (MP) can be run to recommend a TAC for 2018-2020 if an aerial survey index (ASI) is obtained for 2016. However, the lack of the 2015 ASI may trigger exceptional circumstances for the 2018-2020 outcome and possibly also for the 2016-2017 TACs. In addition, the web meeting agreed that if both the 2015 and 2016 ASIs are missing then: (a) the MP cannot be used to set the 2018-2020 TAC; and (b) there is not sufficient time to do a proper management strategy evaluation to evaluate alternative MPs for setting the 2018-2020 TAC. Further advice on all these matters will be developed by the MP Technical Group for provision to the SFMWG meeting.

3. Development of a revised CCSBT Strategic Plan

CCSBT 21 agreed that development of a revised Strategic Plan would be progressed at this meeting. Members have been invited to provide comments to New Zealand in relation to sections 1 ("Introduction") and 2 ("Objective, Vision, and Goals") of the current Strategic Plan in order to inform development of a revised plan. New Zealand will provide a first draft of these sections for the revised CCSBT Strategic Plan in advance of the SFMWG meeting to help focus discussion.

 - 3.1. Introduction to the Strategic Plan

The introduction to the draft revised Strategic Plan will be reviewed here. The introduction is a factual section so this should be the least substantive of the Strategic Plan discussions.
 - 3.2. Objective, Vision, Goals and Priorities

This sub agenda item provides an opportunity to discuss and review the objective, vision, goals¹ and priorities in the draft revised Strategic Plan.

¹ In the context of the Strategic Plan, goals are the desired future states, while strategies are the suggested approaches to achieving particular desired future states.

3.3. Strategies to meet Goals in the Strategic Plan

The strategies¹ for achieving the goals will be discussed in detail. It is not yet certain whether there will be sufficient time to adequately discuss all the strategies at this meeting.

3.4. Process and timeline for further development of the Strategic Plan

This sub agenda item is to consider and recommend a process and tentative timeline for finalisation of the Strategic Plan. This will include any further discussion required in relation to the above sub agenda items together with preparation and/or completion of the Action Plan².

4. Consideration of a Fisheries Management Plan

The 2014 Performance Review of the CCSBT suggested that the CCSBT may wish to consider adopting an operational management plan, the elements for which are readily available. The 2008 Performance Review of the CCSBT also recommended that the CCSBT develop a management plan, but work on the Management Procedure and the first Strategic Plan took priority.

New Zealand will provide a discussion paper on the possible content of a fisheries management plan for the SFMWG's consideration. It is expected that the SFMWG will develop a common understanding of the purpose and content for a CCSBT fishery management plan and provide a recommendation on how this matter should be progressed.

5. Discussion of revised Minimum Performance Requirements for Ecologically Related Species

New Zealand will develop a set of revised ERS MPRs for consideration at the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group meeting as agreed at CCSBT 21.

6. Other Business

7. Close of Meeting

7.1. Adoption of report

7.2. Close of meeting

² The Action Plan is the 3rd section of the Strategic Plan and it specifies the timeline for when each of the strategies identified in the Plan are to be implemented.