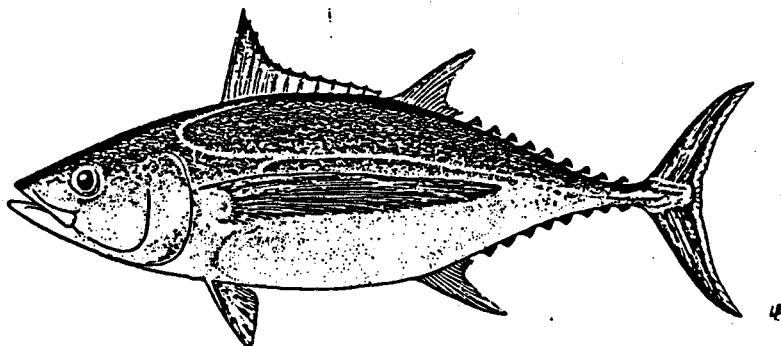


**REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF SECOND CONSULTATION ON ARRANGEMENTS
FOR SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
Honiara, Solomon Islands, 2-7 March 1990**

**Forum Fisheries Agency
Honiara
Solomon Islands**

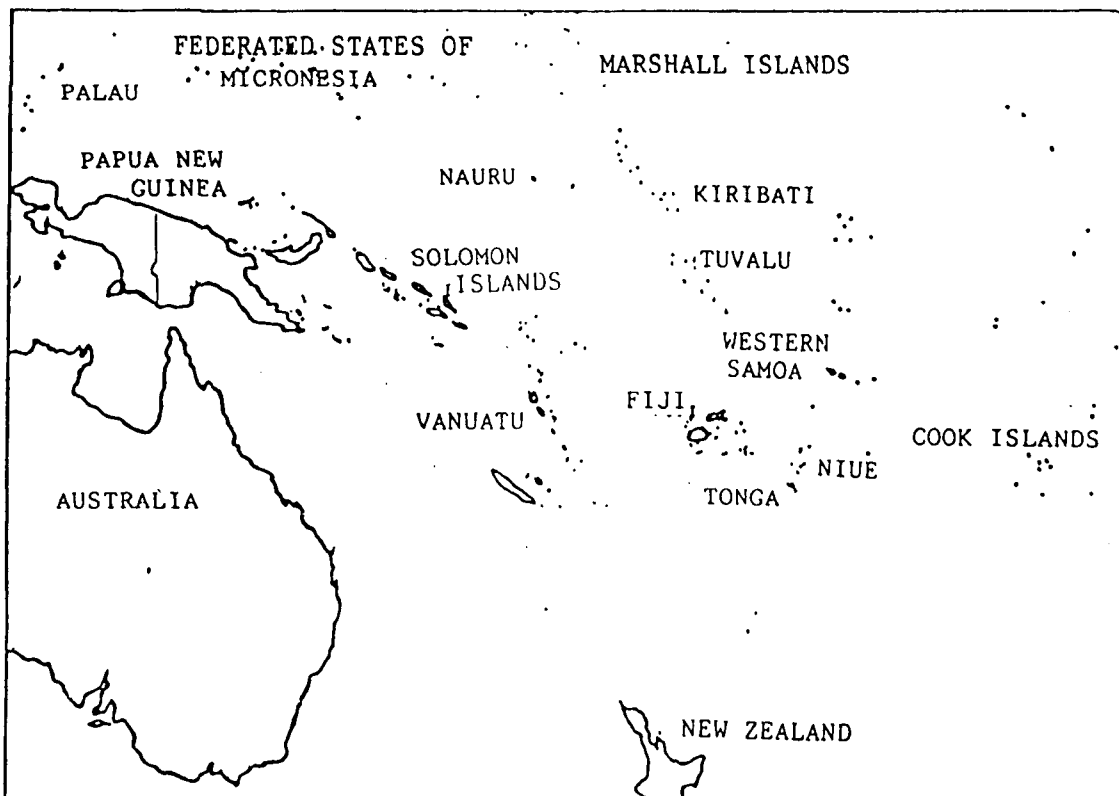


**Third South Pacific Albacore Research Workshop
Working Paper No. 10**

**South Pacific Commission
Noumea, New Caledonia
9-12 October 1990**

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SECOND CONSULTATION ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Honiara, Solomon Islands
2 - 7 March 1990

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Sponsored by the
AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BUREAU

FFA REPORT 90/13

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SECOND CONSULTATION ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

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Record of Proceedings

1. Representatives from American Samoa, Australia, Canada, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, France represented by French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna, Japan, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Republic of Korea, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom (Pitcairn), United States of America, Vanuatu, Western Samoa, the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the South Pacific Commission (SPC), met to discuss recent developments in South Pacific albacore fisheries and management arrangements for South Pacific albacore. Observers were present from the European Communities (EC) and the Food and Agricultural Organisation/United Nations Development Programme Regional Fisheries Support Programme (RFSP). A list of participants is appended as ATTACHMENT A.

Opening

2. The Meeting was opened by the Hon. Allen Paul, Minister for Natural Resources in Solomon Islands. The text of his speech is appended as ATTACHMENT B.

Selection of Chairman

3. Mr Christopher Beeby, Deputy Secretary of External Relations and Trade, New Zealand, was selected Chairman of the Meeting.

Apologies

4. There were no apologies.

Meeting Arrangements

5. The Director of FFA, Mr D.A.P. Muller AM, advised the Meeting of working hours and services available at FFA in connection with this Meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

6. The Agenda appended as ATTACHMENT C was adopted.

National Statements

7. Dr Timothy Adams, Fiji, presented a statement on behalf of the Pacific delegations, appended as ATTACHMENT D. He also tabled a discussion paper on a suggested framework and associated functions and powers for South Pacific albacore fisheries management. This paper is appended as ATTACHMENT E.
8. Mr Minoru Morimoto presented the Japanese statement appended as ATTACHMENT F. In addition, he presented a paper outlining Japanese suggestions for components of a management regime for South Pacific albacore, appended as ATTACHMENT G.
9. Mr Brian Hallman, representing the United States of America, presented a U.S. statement appended as ATTACHMENT H.
10. Mr Kim Sung Chae presented a statement on behalf of Republic of Korea, appended as ATTACHMENT I.

Review of Recent Developments in South Pacific Albacore Fisheries

11. A group of scientists representing countries and organisations attending the Meeting, reviewed recently available information for South Pacific albacore fisheries and produced a report for the consideration of the Meeting. It was revised after discussion in plenary and resubmitted to the Meeting (ATTACHMENT J).

Management of South Pacific Albacore Fisheries

12. The Pacific delegations met separately to consider the Japanese paper and points of clarification raised by the Japanese delegation. Responses are appended as ATTACHMENT K and ATTACHMENT L.
13. The Japanese delegation prepared a paper which clarified its views regarding some of the points discussed concerning further consultation on a management regime (ATTACHMENT M).
14. A group of scientists representing the countries and organisations attending the Meeting met to examine the structure, elements and procedures of a scientific advisory group that would support a South Pacific albacore management body. A paper for consideration by the Meeting, prepared by the scientists, was tabled in plenary. It was revised after further discussion and resubmitted to the Meeting (ATTACHMENT N).
15. The Meeting examined the proposals put forward at the First Consultation in Wellington, the proposals of the delegations from the Pacific and Japan at this Meeting, and the report of the group of scientists concerning a scientific advisory group supporting a management regime for South Pacific albacore fisheries.
16. After further discussion it was agreed that there was common ground in the proposals for a management regime. It was noted that the following listing of common elements was without prejudice to the proposals of delegations as set out in papers presented at both the first and second rounds of consultations, but, together with the views expressed by delegations during the consultations would provide a good basis for further discussion on the management regime. The issues identified so far requiring

further discussion included the purposes of a regime, the relationship between the regime and driftnet fishing, preserving the legitimate interests of coastal States and distant water fishing nations, the legal nature of measures adopted by the management body, the method of decision-making within the management body, the way in which the secretariat would be established, the parties to the regime and the legal form of the regime.

SCOPE OF REGIME

The regime would cover the South Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) stock.

The regime should encompass the entire geographical range of the South Pacific albacore stock. In the first instance the management regime should include the entire known area of the target fisheries for South Pacific albacore.

STRUCTURE OF REGIME

There should be two main components of the management regime, a management body and a scientific advisory group; and in addition secretariat services to support both bodies.

MANAGEMENT BODY

The management body would consist of all parties to the regime.

The management body would meet on a regular basis.

FUNCTIONS OF MANAGEMENT BODY

The management body would have the following functions:

- i) consider advice from the scientific advisory group;
- ii) adopt management measures taking into account advice from the scientific advisory group. These might include catch limits, catch allocations, closed seasons, closed areas, fishing effort, gear restrictions, and size limits;
- iii) establish within guidelines laid down in the management regime other means for the effective management of the stock, which would include information and reporting requirements and which might include surveillance and enforcement;
- iv) adoption of budget for the management regime.

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP

The scientific advisory group should operate as set out in paragraphs 1 - 10 of ATTACHMENT N.

SECRETARIAT

Secretariat support would include:

- i) collecting and disseminating relevant data;
- ii) servicing meetings of the management body;
- iii) servicing meetings of the scientific advisory group;
- iv) performing such other administrative functions as may be required by the management body.

Secretariat services should be impartial and include a mandate to act in the interests of all the parties to the management regime.

Further consideration needs to be given to ensuring the most efficient use of existing South Pacific organisations.

BUDGET

Appropriate measures will need to be agreed upon to meet the costs of the management regime.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES

Consideration should be given to the means by which cooperation with other bodies concerned with fisheries management could be achieved.

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

An effective dispute settlement mechanism should be included.

INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS

The interim arrangements for data collection and information exchange and interim administrative arrangements are set out in paragraphs 11 - 17 of ATTACHMENT N.

Other Matters

Venue dates for the Next Meeting

17. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held from 17 to 23 October, 1990 at the South Pacific Commission in New Caledonia.

18. Delegations expressed regret that other major participants in the fishery, although invited, did not attend this Consultation.

Press Release

19. The press release appended as ATTACHMENT O was agreed.

Adoption of Record of Proceedings

20. The Meeting approved the Record of Proceedings

Close of Meeting

21. In closing, the Director of FFA, thanked all participants for their courtesy and understanding and the Chairman for his guidance.

22. In response, the delegations from the Marshall Islands and Australia, on behalf of the Pacific delegations, and the delegation from Japan, thanked the Director and staff of FFA for excellent meeting arrangements. The Chairman was also commended for his direction throughout the Meeting.

SECOND CONSULTATION ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR
SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

2 - 7 March 1990
Honiara, Solomon Islands

DRAFT STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE
SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP

Preamble

1. Common features of tuna fisheries can include complex interactions and impacts upon non-target species. To insure that the best scientific advice is available, the Scientific Advisory Group may need to provide advice to the Management Body on a broader range of species and on a wider area than that currently envisioned for the Management Regime. However, in the first instance the scope of the Scientific Advisory Group shall be limited to South Pacific albacore in a geographical area consistent with the best available information concerning the distribution of the stock.

Membership

2. Membership shall be open to national representatives nominated by the respective members of the management body (hereafter referred to as nominated members). Others with relevant scientific interests in South Pacific albacore may be invited to participate as required.

Objective

3. To provide the best available scientific advice for the management of South Pacific albacore, including advice regarding the status of the stock, biology, ecology and all fisheries.

Functions

4. Specific functions of the scientific advisory group include:
 - to plan, coordinate, and support scientific investigations;
 - to collect, analyse, and evaluate all relevant information and data;
 - to report on the results of investigations and the status of the stock to the management body;
 - to provide advice to the management body, as requested.

Data Requirements

5. Various data are required to enable stock assessments of South Pacific albacore to be undertaken in support of management. Data for other purposes will also be required under a management regime.
6. The data for stock assessment purposes may be classified as fisheries data (catch, effort, etc) and data on various biological processes (growth, mortality, recruitment, etc). Although in some situations more precise data will be needed, minimum requirements for assessments of the South Pacific albacore stock are:

Fisheries Data

The fisheries data required are:

- effort and catch by species [including non-target species] for the longline and all surface fisheries in the South Pacific, stratified by 5 degree square and by month;
- size composition of albacore for each gear type, stratified by 5 degrees latitude and 10 degrees longitude areas and by month;
- estimates of incidental mortality [dropout, discards, etc] of albacore associated with all fisheries.

Biological Data

Biological data required for South Pacific albacore relate to:

- growth rates
- natural mortality rates
- recruitment
- seasonality of spawning
- stock structure and migration
- distribution in relation to oceanographic features

Meetings

7. Meetings should be held on a regular basis.
8. Documents for each scientific meeting should be circulated in advance of that meeting.
9. Rules and procedures for the conduct of the scientific

meetings will be established by the scientific advisory group, and will be consistent with those of the management body.

Election of Chairperson

10. The Chairperson of the scientific advisory group will be elected for a two year term by the members of that group.

Interim Administrative Arrangements

11. The South Pacific Albacore Research (SPAR) group should be utilised as an interim scientific advisory group.
12. A meeting of the interim scientific advisory group should take place before the end of 1990.
13. For the interim period SPC will serve as the secretariat to the scientific advisory group, providing a similar service to that currently offered to SPAR.

Interim Arrangements for Data collection and Information Exchange

14. Data will be provided to SPC by all fishing parties in an agreed format. SPC, on behalf of the scientific advisory group, will compile all data and make it available for distribution to nominated members of the scientific advisor group on request.
15. Monthly catch and effort data by 5 degree square will be provided for longline fisheries for each calendar year to be submitted by 30 June, 18 months after the completion of the fishing year. Provisional estimates of total catch and effort will be provided by 1 January, 6 months prior to the submission of detailed data.
16. For surface fisheries monthly catch and effort data by 5 degree square will be provided for the 12 month period 1 July to 30 June, by 1 September of that year. Provisional estimates of total catch and effort will be provided by 1 July.
17. Size composition data will be provided on a 5 degree latitude by 10 degree longitude by month basis at the same time as detailed catch and effort statistics are submitted.