

Report of the Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Project

The third meeting of the Indonesia and Philippines Data Collection Steering Committee was held on 4 and 8 August 2006, in Manila Philippines, during the second regular session of the Scientific Committee of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. The meeting was attended by participants from Indonesia (Dyah Retnowati, Wudianto) and the Philippines (Winifredo Amandy, Noel Barut, Elaine Garvilles, Estella de Ocampo, Romeo Recide, Cynthia Vallesteros); donor CCMs including Chinese Taipei (Chung-Hai Kwoh), New Zealand (Kim Duckworth) and the United States of America (Ray Clarke, Robert Skillman); the chairman of the Scientific Committee (Dae-Yeon Moon); the WCPFC Secretariat (Andrew Wright, SungKwon Soh); and the SPC Oceanic Fisheries Programme (Tim Lawson, Peter Williams). Mr Duckworth also attended in his role as chairman of the Statistics Specialist Working Group of the Scientific Committee. Participants from Japan (Yuji Uozumi) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (Sachiko Tsuji) also attended.

1. Appointment of chairman and rapporteur

Mr Lawson was elected chairman of the Steering Committee. Mr Lawson and Mr Williams were appointed rapporteurs.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda presented in Appendix I was adopted.

3. Status of financial contributions

Actual and anticipated contributions and expenditures are presented in Appendix II. USD 140,000 have been received from Chinese Taipei, New Zealand and the United States, and USD 131,047 have been used for activities in the Philippines during 2005 and 2006, in accordance with the decision made at the first meeting of the Steering Committee, which was held on 21 April 2004 on Bali, Indonesia, during PrepCon VI.

The current balance of IPDCP funds is USD 8,953. It is anticipated that a contribution of USD 40,000 from France will be transferred to the Commission during 2006. However, the anticipated balance of USD 48,953 will not be sufficient to fund activities in Indonesia, for which USD 147,651 have been budgeted. The IPDCP activities in Indonesia will consist primarily of port sampling; however, in contrast to the Philippines, where a port sampling programme already existed, a port sampling programme will need to be established in eastern Indonesia. It is therefore important that the full two years' funding be available before commencing activities in Indonesia. In this regard, an additional USD 98,687 are required.

Mr Recide and Mr Barut reported that funding by the Philippines government of port sampling and surveys in 2007 is unlikely to be at the level of the combined funding by the Philippines government and the IPDCP during 2005 and 2006. Therefore, while the Philippines government is expected to provide some funding, it almost certainly will not be sufficient to maintain port sampling and surveys at the 2005–2006 level.

Mr Wright, Executive Director of the WCPFC, advised that the Global Environment Facility (GEF) had expressed interest in funding a project in Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam. It was noted that anecdotal evidence suggests that catches of pelagic tunas in Vietnam had increased to about 40,000 tonnes in recent years, yet no annual catch estimates, catch and effort data or size data were available. The objectives of the project would be (i) to establish or improve the collection of tuna fishery data and (ii) to promote good governance with regard to the management of tuna fisheries. Funding of USD 1 million may be available for a project of a duration of three to five years; however, if successful, it is anticipated that 18–24 months may be required to develop the project.

The Steering Committee **recommended** that the Executive Director continue to liaise with GEF, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam to develop a data collection and governance project for those countries.

Noting that GEF funding, if forthcoming, would not be available for 18–24 months, the Steering Committee **recommended** that CCMs continue to be invited to contribute, as soon as possible, an additional USD 100,000 to implement port sampling in Indonesia in 2007–2008.

Concern was expressed with respect to the continuity of the collection of data in Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam, given that catches from this area represent about 30% of the catch in the Convention Area and that the lack of data has been an important source of uncertainty in assessments of the stocks of tuna. In this regard, it was **recommended** that the Commission consider funding data collection in this area through its core budget.

4. Review of IPDCP activities in the Philippines

Mr Recide and Mr Barut reported on activities conducted by the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) respectively.

At the second meeting of the Steering Committee in December 2005, it was reported that NFRDI hired 16 enumerators with IPDCP funds, who conducted sampling in 14 ports during 2005, and two encoders to enter the port sampling data. This level of sampling has continued during 2006, although sampling in Region 9 (Zamboanga) ceased in July, due to the uncertainty of the renewal of the contracts of samplers, which is based on the level of funding by the national government.

The Assistant National Tuna Coordinator (ANTC), Ms Elaine Garvilles, was hired in early 2005 and has successfully managed the IPDCP activities implemented by NFRDI. In 2006, she further discussed the establishment of a catch and effort logsheet system with the National Tuna Industry Council, and it is expected that the system will be implemented on purse seiners in 2007. Data collected since the beginning of the port sampling programme in 1997, but which had not been forwarded to NFRDI headquarters, have now been compiled, under Ms Garvilles' supervision,

although data from some regions are still missing or need to be converted to the current database format.

BAS has continued the level of Commercial and Municipal Fisheries Surveys that was achieved during 2005, when 32 Contractual Data Collectors (CDCs) and three Contractual Data Processors (CDPs) were hired. However, a delay in the disbursement of funds in early 2006 meant that surveys did not commence until March.

The meeting considered the need for an external review of the port sampling and surveys, and a meeting to review IPDCP activities in the Philippines at the conclusion of the initial two years of the project at the end of 2006. It was agreed that the funds allocated to the external review and the meeting in the project budget would be better used for continuing the port sampling and surveys in case, as expected, insufficient funds are available from the Philippines government for 2007. Instead of a meeting to review the initial two years of the project, a review document will be prepared and circulated for comment by email. It was also agreed that it would be appropriate for NFRDI to allocate funds (about USD 600) originally budgeted for supplies to the hiring of samplers.

It was also agreed that the visit by Mr Williams to the Philippines in late 2006, which was originally proposed to provide programming support for the tuna fisheries database system at NFRDI, would be used to develop statistical procedures to incorporate the port sampling data compiled by NFRDI into the annual catch estimates produced by BAS. It would be appropriate for this visit to take place in early 2007, after BAS has estimated catches during 2006.

5. Plans for IPDCP activities in Indonesia

It was reported that Mr Craig Proctor of CSIRO in Hobart, Australia and Mr Budi Nugraha of the Research Centre for Capture Fisheries in Jakarta, Indonesia have nearly completed their review of the tuna fisheries and the current statistical system in eastern Indonesia. They visited Jayapura, Sorong and Biak in Papua in September 2005, and Bitung, Ternate, Kendari and Bone in 2006.

The meeting discussed whether a workshop to consider recommendations from the review conducted by Mr Proctor and Mr Nugraha and to plan the implementation of port sampling and an observer programme should be held, in spite of the fact that funding for port sampling is not yet available. It was agreed that the meeting should be held, given that it would be useful to consider the recommendations of the review and that the report of the meeting would be a useful document in regard to the development of the GEF proposal. It was decided that the workshop would be held from 27 to 28 November 2006 and that all interested parties, e.g., government, industry and universities, should be invited to attend.

It was noted that a longline observer programme funded by the United States and implemented by the World Wildlife Fund was being conducted in Indonesia. The meeting agreed that representatives of the WWF project should be invited to participate in the workshop.

6. Other matters

There were no other matters.

Appendix I. Agenda

1. Appointment of chairman and rapporteur
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Status of financial contributions
4. Review of IPDCP activities in the Philippines
5. Plans for IPDCP activities in Indonesia
6. Other matters

Appendix II. Contributions and Expenditures

DATE	ITEM	CURRENCY	AMOUNT	RATE	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
					USD	USD	USD
2004	Chinese Taipei					20,000	20,000
2004	United States					60,000	80,000
Nov 2004	Philippines -- Year 1 -- SPC	XPF	290,990	91.10	3,194		76,806
Dec 2004	Philippines -- Year 1 -- NFRDI	PHP	1860000	56	33,131		43,674
Dec 2004	Philippines -- Year 1 -- BAS	PHP	1,337,200	56.13	23,823		19,851
Jan 2005	Philippines -- Year 1 -- BAS	PHP	162800	55	2,958		16,893
Nov 2005	Philippines -- Year 1 -- SPC	PHP	192,800	55.43	3,478		13,414
Dec 2005	New Zealand					60,000	73,414
Dec 2005	Philippines -- Year 2 -- NFRDI	PHP	1,700,000	55.43	30,669		42,745
Dec 2005	Philippines -- Year 2 -- BAS	PHP	1260000	55	22,731		20,014
2006	Philippines -- Year 2 -- SPC	PHP	613,086	55.43	11,061		8,953
2006	France					40,000	48,953
	Indonesia -- Year 1	IDR	672,009,000	9,114	73,734		(24,780)
	Indonesia -- Year 2	IDR	673,678,324	9,114	73,917		(98,697)