

**North Pacific Fisheries Commission  
1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Scientific Committee**

**25-27 April 2016**

**Tokyo, Japan**

**FINAL REPORT**

Agenda Item 1. Opening of Meeting

1. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Scientific Committee took place in Tokyo, Japan and was attended by Members from Canada, China, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Chinese Taipei, a party that has not yet ratified the Convention (United States of America) and observers (Vanuatu, NPAFC, and FAO).
2. The meeting was opened by Shigeto Hase, Deputy Director General of the Fisheries Agency of Japan who noted the significant progress made by the Small Scientific Committees for Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME), North Pacific armorhead (NPA) and Pacific saury (PS), and wished the Scientific Committee a successful meeting (Annex A).

Agenda Item 2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

3. The Executive Secretary proceeded to the selection of the Chair and Vice Chair. Dr. Joji Morishita was selected to Chair the Scientific Committee, and Dr. Janelle Curtis was selected as the Vice Chair.

Agenda Item 3. Nomination of Rapporteur

4. Mr. Peter Flewwelling was nominated as Rapporteur with support provided from Japan.

Agenda Item 4. Adoption of Agenda

5. The provisional agenda was adopted without amendment.

Agenda Item 5. Meeting arrangements

6. The Chair provided information on procedural matters including the meeting schedule, document list, and administrative arrangements.

Agenda Item 6. Review of recommendations of the Small Scientific Committee (SSCs) meetings

*Agenda Item 6.1 – Small Scientific Committee on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems*

7. SSC and recommendations on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME) - Chair of the SSC VME01, Dr. Loh-Lee Low, summarized the results of the meeting. Discussions focused on interim and voluntary measures and encounter protocols resulting in the following recommendations to SC:

- a. VME taxa – no change, VME indicators remain as *Alcyonacea*, *Antipatharia*, *Gorgonacea*, *Scleractinia*, with the potential for addition of new taxa if research so indicates.
- b. Encounter threshold - no change, the threshold remains at 50 kg per haul resulting in a mandatory move-on rule and a proposal for an immediate, temporary closure of the area until further analysis or a survey could be conducted.
- c. Move-on rule – a change from 5 nm to 2 nm noting that the former limit caused significant problems for fishers.
- d. Reporting Requirements – no change as there were sufficient reporting data required by onboard observers at this time.
- e. Voluntary Measures for NW Pacific Ocean – no change as there were no new data upon which to justify any change at this time.
- f. Interim Measures for the NE Pacific Ocean – refers the Measures to the SC for consideration
- g. Exploratory Fishery Protocol in the North Pacific Ocean – no change, again as there were no new data upon which to justify any change at this time.

8. SSC VME could not scrutinize the draft Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) (NPFC01-2016-SSC-NPA01-WP03a) due to lack of time, nor did it address the scientific merits of closure of the area to fishing north of 45°N, the

prohibition of fishing below 1500m, the closures of C-H seamount and part of the southeastern slope of Koko Seamount in the NW Pacific. SSC VME recommended no change and further discussion on this point at SC. SSC VME recommended the interim measures for NE Pacific Ocean be updated for consideration by SC.

9. It was noted that FAO shared its information on VME and the VME ecosystem database with the SSC VME and encouraged NPFC to actively participate in the exercise. This was again reiterated by the FAO representative attending SC.
10. The SSC VME report was accepted by SC.

*Agenda Item 6.2 – Small Scientific Committee on North Pacific Armorhead (NPA)*

11. The Chair of SSC NPA, Dr. Taro Ichii, summarized the discussions in the SSC NPA noting that: in 2015, NPA catch was the lowest since 2003; the progress on stock assessment and adaptive management (AM) approach for NPA (Annex C of SSC NPA report); and the challenges to be addressed.
12. SSC NPA was a landmark meeting in that the NPA fishers were fully involved in the discussions and raised their concerns with respect to the AM approach, namely, the facts that: initial catch limit for AM is critical for business planning; a mechanism for timely revision of the catch limit is required to minimize delays in operations; and the need for equitability and acceptance of the AM scheme across all Members was a pre-requisite for acceptance by the fishers from Japan.
13. SSC NPA reviewed the current Interim and Voluntary Measures and provided the recommendations to SC. SC recommends the following to the Commission:
  - a. Although NPFC continues to investigate various management strategies, in the interim, SSC NPA recommends it be tasked to develop the Adaptive Management approach for NPA and refine data collection schemes accordingly;
  - b. On the proposed CMM on Bottom Fisheries to formalize the interim measures for the Northwestern Pacific, the paragraph on measures be changed as follows:

- i. Paragraph 4 A – Limit Fishing effort in bottom fisheries in the western part of the Convention Area to a level agreed in February 2007 in terms of number of fishing vessels and other parameters which reflect the level of fishing effort, fishing capacity or potential impacts on marine ecosystems.
- ii. Paragraph 4 G - C-H Seamount is closed for conservation of fish stocks. Part of the southeastern slope of Koko Seamount is closed as a precaution for potential VME conservation (Coordinates are noted in SWG 6, Para 5(b)(i)). Fishing in these areas requires exploratory fishery protocol
- iii. Paragraph 4 I – Bottom fisheries closure from November to December. All other clauses under paragraph 4 remain unchanged.

14. China suggested that such changes should not be made to the proposed CMM revised from the interim measures until conclusions based on best scientific information available would be reached by consensus.

15. The report from the SSC NPA was accepted by SC. SC requested the Commission to clarify the ‘agreed number of fishing vessels and other parameters’ referred to in the above paragraph 13(b) (i).

16. SC confirmed that adoption of recommended changes to the CMM is the responsibility of the Commission and SC would only input science-based recommendations on the CMM to the Commission. This applies to the recommendation of both SSCs - VME and NPA.

*Agenda Item 6.3 – Small Scientific Committee on Pacific Saury (PS)*

17. The Chair of SSC PS, Dr. Toshihide Iwasaki, summarized the results of the meeting noting that the focus was on four key points:

- a. Review of Pacific saury fisheries through Annual Reports;
- b. Progress on stock assessment (NPFC01-2016-SSC-PS01-WP01 & WP03 Rev1 – Japan; NPFC01-2016-SSC-PS01-WP02a & b - Chinese Taipei; and NPFC01-2016-SSC-PS01-WP04 – Russia);
- c. Ways to improve reporting and data collection; and
- d. Recommendations to the SC.

18. SSC PS agreed that size composition data are important for stock assessment and that Stock assessment should be a two-step process: provisional assessment for 2017 and a longer term assessment exercise.
19. The following issues were recommended to SC. SC recommended the following to the Commission:
  - a. catch data presented in the annual report be separated into two columns for each Member – one being total catch taken by the Member (including catch in the CA, catch in national waters of the Member and catch in national waters of another Member) and the second column to include that portion taken in the Convention Area (CA). Total catch of Korea will not include catch in Korean national waters. The fishing days and numbers of vessels by area were also to be split accordingly, if possible;
  - b. the proposal to form a technical working group to work intersessionally through a workshop to develop a Pacific saury stock assessment for the presentation to the Commission in 2017 and identify the research and data required to develop the next assessment. The composition of the working group, its terms of reference and timing were submitted for approval of SC (Annex D of SSC PS Report) noting that Korea agreed to host the workshop.
20. It was noted that the Convention also tasks the SC to address the management of species that are part of the same ecosystem and that are impacted by the fishing operations. Although this component activity has not yet been fully addressed by the SSCs or SC, it was generally agreed to consider species interactions as a longer term objective for the Pacific saury stock assessment exercise.
21. The report of the SSC PS was accepted with the comments as noted.

#### Agenda Item 7. Progress and update on stock assessment

##### *Agenda Item 7.1 Bottom Fish Stocks*

22. Chair of SSC NPA, Dr. Toro Ichii, summarized the results of the stock assessments and management approaches for Northwestern Pacific Ocean bottom fisheries referring to documents NPFC01-2016-SSC-NPA01-WP01 and WP02 of Japan on adaptive management approaches and stock recruitment respectively.

23. The following recommendations resulted from these assessments:
- a. The assessment by the SSC NPA as noted in Agenda Item 6 was accepted by the SC and noted the necessity of further improvement of the stock assessment.
24. SC noted that although there has been work on stock assessments for alfonsino by Japan in 2009, it was noted that there does not appear to be enough data available to complete stock assessments at this time. SC pointed out the necessity to continue collecting data from fisheries using different fishing gear for future stock assessment of other bottom fish species.

*Agenda Item 7.2 Pelagic Fish Stocks*

25. The Chair noted the work done by Japan on chub mackerel (NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP01(Rev1)) and spotted mackerel (NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP02 (Rev 1)).
- a. Japan presented information on the spawning seasons and migration patterns of chub mackerel and noted that 80% of fishing grounds are in the Japanese EEZ. A stock recovery project launched in 2003 and stock has been recovering with annual catches of 270,000 mt in 2014 with an estimated biomass of 1.47 million mt in this same year. Japan noted the importance of limiting fishing effort to the current level.
  - b. Japan also presented its stock assessment on spotted mackerel. The spawning grounds and fishing areas were noted as being almost entirely within Japanese EEZ. Annual catch in 2014 was 119,000 mt and the estimated biomass was 791,000 mt.
26. The discussion highlighted the issues associated with current VPA-based stock assessment and the need for further work on the stock assessments for these two species including retrospective analyses and examining the influence of stock structure. Russia and Japan expressed the idea that this work should not be delayed.
27. Japan proposed the establishment of a SSC for Small Pelagic Fish Stocks (NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP03) that was linked to identification of prioritized species for the work of the Commission and SC. Most Members supported the proposal. China tentatively supported the proposal from Japan for possible future

action, but proposed that the SC should focus its efforts on the stock assessment of Pacific saury first, and then consider such future work. Russia proposed an alternative to merge the current SSC PS into a SSC Pelagic Fish Stocks to undertake analyses on all priority pelagic fish stocks with initial focus on Pacific saury and mackerels. Chinese Taipei supported the idea of further scientific research on mackerel.

28. Japan expressed its concern for a timely assessment for chub mackerel due to the rapidly increasing fishing effort directed to this species, and suggested not to increase, but rather to decrease fishing effort in the Convention Area in accordance with Convention Article 3(h). China pointed out that any issues related to management or compliance should not be discussed in SC.

29. SC agreed to hold a small *ad hoc* workshop for the scientific analyses of the chub mackerel stock. There was agreement to progress through a workshop. Japan would present the objective and terms of reference for the workshop prior to the Commission meeting in August with the expected report of the outcomes to be presented to the next SC meeting.

#### Agenda Item 8. Refinement of Interim and Voluntary Measures on VMEs and Marine species

30. It was noted that due to delays in the work of the Corresponding Group on CMM formed by NPFC Circular 003/2015, the Secretariat had proposed a draft CMM in an attempt to incorporate current interim and voluntary measures into a formal document for consideration by the Commission.

31. There was discussion on the paper submitted by Canada (NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP08) to review and compare the interim measures of NE and NW Pacific Ocean with respect to objectives in the Convention text. The intent of this paper was to enable SC to identify which issues it could address and which would need to be addressed by TCC and the Commission.

32. The SC encouraged the CMM Corresponding Group to commence its work as soon as possible. It was suggested that the Corresponding Group addresses:

- a. editorial issues, e.g., change SWG to SC, etc.;

- b. the recommendations from SC to the Commission;
- c. Canada's paper (NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP08), and
- d. Compile a draft CMM for consideration at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual session of the Commission.

Agenda Item 9. Discussion on the progress of Scientific Works

*Agenda Item 9.1 - Development of standardized reporting templates (Korea)*

- 33. Korea presented the detailed work it had done to develop data forms for the NPFC fisheries as assigned by the Commission. SC recognized that standardized data collection would assist both in the implementation of the CMM as well as progressing the work of the Scientific Committee.
  
- 34. SC recognized that the CMM exercise was progressing in the Commission and that the results of that exercise will clarify the instruction to SC and Korea as to:
  - a. the objective for the data collection; and
  - b. whether it was to be reported by observers or fishers, or both.
  
- 35. This clarification from the Commission would facilitate timely development of standard forms for both statistical and scientific data collection.

*Agenda Item 9.2 - Development of encounter protocols for VMEs (USA)*

- 36. The USA presented a summary explaining the rationale behind the need for an encounter protocol based on Resolutions from the United Nations in 2006 and thereafter, the areas of interest and the concern that data deficiencies made it difficult to respond to the requirements of the SWG at that time. The USA noted the recent discussion on encounter protocols in SSC VME and the recommendations highlighted earlier under Agenda Item 6. USA proposed that a Small Working Group under the SSC VME be established in order to continue these discussions through correspondence during the intersessional period.
  
- 37. SC therefore:
  - a. noted the need for continuing work on the tasks for the SSC VME; and
  - b. proposed intersessional work by e-mail correspondence under the leadership of Dr. Masashi Kiyota to continue work on the SSC VME issues of VME identification, the list of VME taxa, encounter thresholds and 'move-on'



distances, and a framework for managing encounters for the NE Pacific Ocean. Participants were requested to provide the names of their representatives to both the Secretariat and Dr. Kiyota by the end of April.

*Agenda Item 9.3 - List of priority species*

38. The Secretariat presented NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP04 on priority species for the NPFC. SC noted that the list is a tool to establish the common understanding between SC and the Commission regarding priorities for the NPFC. The priority species for SC recommended to the Commission, included:

- North Pacific armorhead *Pseudopentaceros wheeleri*,
- Splendid alfonsino *Beryx splendens*,
- Pacific saury *Cololabis saira*,
- Neon flying squid *Ommastrephes bartramii*,
- Japanese flying squid *Todarodes pacificus*,
- Chub mackerel *Scomber japonicus*,
- Spotted mackerel *Scomber australasicus*,
- Japanese sardine *Sardinops melanostictus*.

*Agenda Item 10. Collection of data and information from fisheries*

39. The Chair noted that this issue was extensively discussed and recorded in the previous sections of the current report. SC notes there was a desire to have a similar degree of data collection for all fisheries. SC also notes data and information needs for more sophisticated scientific analysis for the future.

*Agenda Item 11. Terms of Reference and work plan of the Scientific Committee*

40. Canada presented its paper NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP06 on proposed Terms of Reference for the SC and subsidiary committees. There was general understanding on the importance and the need for peer review of stock assessments and other research products. China raised the concern that lack of explicit reference to the process of peer review in Terms of Reference may affect the credibility and acceptance of the stock assessment results. However, the lack of consensus did not enable this to be included in the Terms of Reference. NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP06 Rev 1 was sent to the Commission for its consideration.

41. The Chair thanked Canada for NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP07 on the proposed 5-

year Research Plan and noted that it had been submitted almost two years ago. The current situation has changed, consequently the Chair noted that it might not be appropriate to address this paper at this time. Further, the Chair asked if it was appropriate to place this responsibility on one Member as the responsibility should move to the SC as a whole. The Chair proposed that he now organize the discussion of this paper, instead of Canada. The Chair requested that he be permitted a short time to revise the document and submit it to the next meeting of the SC. There was consensus for this approach.

#### Agenda Item 12. Cooperation with other organizations

42. The Secretariat presented a draft paper NPFC01-2016-SC01-WP05 on cooperation with other organizations for discussion. SC noted that there are two levels of cooperation:

- a. Mutual observers to each other's meetings to strengthen scientific information exchange and cooperation;
- b. Higher level and more formal cooperation through a memorandum of understanding whereby there is cooperation and active exchange of information or cooperative actions between organizations.

It was suggested that SC limit its cooperation at this time to the more informal observer status at the meetings of each other.

43. It was recognized that inclusion of some organizations in the list of cooperation would not prejudice the positions of Participants regarding the membership or any other character of the organizations.

#### Agenda Item 13. Advice and Recommendations to the Commission

44. The recommendations from the Scientific Committee are shaded in the body of the report.

#### Agenda Item 14. Other matters

45. Japan raised the issue of data management policy which could include protection of data ownership, and other issues related to data and publication handling by SC. There was general agreement on the need for a NPFC data management policy. Japan will submit a proposal for a draft document for a data management policy for discussion by the next SC meeting. The Chair encouraged other members to submit any further suggestions and proposals to Japan to assist their preparation

of the proposal.

46. The SC was reminded that the deadline of submission of meeting documents should be respected in accordance with the NPFC Rules of Procedure.
47. Canada noted the opportunity for NPFC to participate in, and support the *International Symposium on Drivers of Dynamics of Small Pelagic Fish Resources*, that will be held in Victoria, Canada, from 6-11 March 2017.

Agenda Item 15. Date and Place of next meeting

48. The next Scientific Committee Meeting, along with SSC meetings are recommended to be held in the spring of 2017 after the workshop of the Technical Working Group on Pacific Saury Stock Assessment, and possibly the workshop on chub mackerel. Dates and places of the next meetings will be confirmed by the Secretariat by correspondence.

Agenda Item 16. Adoption of the report

49. The First Scientific Committee Final Report was adopted by consensus on 27 April 2016.

Agenda Item 17. Close of Meeting

50. The SC01 Meeting closed at 13:11 on 27 April 2016.
51. The Participants thanked the Chair for his able leadership and guidance during the meeting.

**Annexes**

Annex A – Opening Remarks by Deputy Director General Shigeto Hase

Annex B - Agenda

Annex C – Annotated Agenda

Annex D – Participants List



**FISHERIES AGENCY**

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES, GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN**

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**First NPFC Scientific Committee  
Tokyo, Japan  
25 April 2016**

**OPENING REMARKS  
BY  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL SHIGETO HASE**

Good morning, Colleagues. I am Shigeto HASE, Deputy Director-General of the Fisheries Agency of Japan, representing the host country of these Scientific related meeting,

I would like to send you my warmest welcome to you all to Tokyo and NPFC.

I see that the schedule of the meetings has extended considerably. I heard some of you are staying in Japan more than 2 weeks for all the meetings. I hope therefore, that each of you will find the time to enjoy the spring in Japan through the weekends or on the days you are not participating the meetings.

I wish to thank everyone for their very hard work. I heard there have already been many fruitful discussions and positive outcomes. I also heard there was a good attempt to formalize the current Interim and Voluntary Measures for vulnerable marine ecosystem (VME) and deep-sea fisheries into a formal Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) and this will be further addressed at this meeting. I look forward to the discussions of SC (Scientific Committee) resulting in many positive recommendations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission meeting and I must emphasize that if we have a formal VME Measure as a CMM, it will be a very important indicator for the international community as to our commitment to the UNGA Resolutions, especially with the UN Bottom Fisheries Review this year. It will send the message that NPFC is now established and functioning satisfactorily.

Another noteworthy event in these sessions was the meeting between scientists, managers and the industry. The efforts to hear direct input from the fishing industry is very meaningful for the transparency and participatory management of North Pacific armorhead, considering this species has distinct character for which it is difficult to develop management schemes.

Thirdly, I heard the Small Scientific Committee on Pacific Saury(SSC-PS) has reached very constructive agreement to establish a Technical Working Group which complete the provisional stock assessment for 2017. I believe this process will help to build the scientific foundation for future management of Pacific saury, including TAC.

For Japan, the North Pacific Ocean is the most important ocean as it cultivates saury and mackerels, which are historically very popular in Japan's food culture. Currently, Japan is concerned that the catch of chub mackerel and other pelagic fish in the North Pacific is rapidly increasing. Thus, NPFC is a very important RFMO for Japan. I sincerely wish that the NPFC adopts and implements the resource management for this stocks as soon as possible using the wisdom and the expertise of the NPFC scientific community. Japan has submitted a proposal to establish SSC-Small Pelagic as a part of its objective to further assist in this exercise.

The results of this SC will be submitted as recommendations to the Commission. As NPFC is in the very early stages of its development, these recommendations will form a very important scientific base for the Commission's future decisions.

I wish the Scientific Committee has a very fruitful discussion and results.

Thank you.

**North Pacific Fisheries Commission**

**1<sup>st</sup> Scientific Committee**

**25-27 April, 2016**

**Tokyo, Japan**

**AGENDA**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of Chair and vice Chair
3. Nomination of Rapporteur
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Meeting arrangements
6. Review of recommendations of the Small Scientific Committee meetings
  - 6.1 SSC and recommendations on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems
  - 6.2 SSC and recommendations on North Pacific Armorhead
  - 6.3 SSC and recommendations on Pacific saury
7. Progress and update on stock assessment
  - 7.1 Bottom fish stocks
  - 7.2 Pelagic fish stocks
8. Refinement of Interim and Voluntary Measures on VMEs and Marine species
9. Discussion on the progress of Scientific Works
  - 9.1 Development of standardized reporting templates (Korea)
  - 9.2 Development of encounter protocols for VMEs (USA)

### 9.3 List of priority species (Secretariat)

10. Collection of data and information from fisheries
11. Terms of Reference and work plan of the Scientific Committee
12. Cooperation with other organizations
13. Advice and Recommendations to the Commission
14. Other matters
15. Date and Place of next meeting
16. Adoption of the report
17. Close of the meeting

**North Pacific Fisheries Commission  
1<sup>st</sup> Scientific Committee**

**25-27 April, 2016  
Tokyo, Japan**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA**

Agenda Item 1. Opening of Meeting

*The meeting will open at 0900 hrs on 25 April 2016.*

*Government of Japan will present an opening address to welcome the participants.*

Agenda Item 2. Election of Chair and vice Chair

*Participants will consider to elect Chair and Vice Chair.*

Agenda Item 3. Nomination of Rapporteur

*Participants will consider to nominate a Rapporteur.*

Agenda Item 4. Adoption of Agenda

*The provisional agenda will be reviewed, amended as appropriate, and adopted.*

Agenda Item 5. Meeting arrangements

*The Chair will outline procedural matters including the meeting schedule, document list and administrative arrangements.*

Agenda Item 6. Review of recommendations of the Small Scientific Committee meetings

6.1 SSC and recommendations on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems

*Chair of SSC on VME will summarize the outcome of the meeting with recommendations to be considered by the Scientific Committee.*

6.2 SSC and recommendations on North Pacific Armorhead

*Chair of SSC on North Pacific armorhead will summarize the outcome of the meeting with recommendations to be considered by the Scientific Committee.*

6.3 SSC and recommendations on Pacific saury

*Chair of SSC on Pacific saury will summarize the outcome of the meeting with recommendations to be considered by the Scientific Committee.*



## Agenda Item 7. Progress and update on stock assessment

### 7.1 Bottom fish stocks

*Chair of SSC on North Pacific armorhead will summarize the progress in the development of stock assessments and the adaptive management approach for North Pacific Armorhead.*

*Participants will discuss the stock status of bottom fish stocks and future works to improve stock assessment.*

### 7.2 Pelagic fish stocks

*Chair of SSC on Pacific saury will summarize the progress in the development of stock assessments for Pacific saury and other pelagic fish and squids.*

*Participants will discuss the stock status of pelagic fish stocks and future works to complete stock assessment of Pacific saury by 2017.*

## Agenda Item 8. Refinement of Interim and Voluntary Measures on VMEs and Marine species

*As SWG13 recommended, participants shall initiate the process for refinement of the formal NPFC Interim Measures and the Voluntary Measures to bring them up to formal Conservation and Management Measures (CMM). Japan, Korea and Russia will be invited to update and present any progress from their measures currently implemented. Participants will agree on a set of measures to be endorsed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission meeting for approval.*

## Agenda Item 9. Discussion on the progress of Scientific Works

### 9.1 Development of standardized reporting templates (Korea)

*Korea will present its progress in developing standardized reporting templates by comparing NPFC objectives and the proposed templates will be further considered at the TCC meeting.*

### 9.2 Development of encounter protocols for VMEs (USA)

*USA will present their progress in developing encounter protocols for VMEs.*

### 9.3 List of priority species (Secretariat)

*The Secretariat will present the draft list of priority species in the Convention Area as requested by the USA at the last SWG meeting.*

Agenda Item 10. Collection of data and information from fisheries

*Chair will summarize ways to improve reporting and information collection regarding all fisheries based on discussions from SSC meetings and participants will be invited to discuss further on this issue.*

Agenda Item 11. Terms of Reference and work plan of the Scientific Committee

*Canada will update the five-year research plan and brief participants on a draft Terms of Reference for the Scientific Committee for endorsement to, and adoption by the Commission.*

Agenda Item 12. Cooperation with other organizations

*Participants will be invited to discuss ideas and strategies on cooperation with other organizations such as regional fisheries management organizations and other relevant organizations.*

Agenda Item 13. Advice and Recommendations to the Commission

*Participants will agree on advice and recommendations to be submitted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission meeting for endorsement.*

Agenda Item 14. Other matters

*Participants will also consider any other issues that are raised under agenda item 4.*

Agenda Item 15. Date and Place of next meeting

*Participants will decide the date and place of the next meeting.*

Agenda Item 16. Adoption of the report

*The record of the 1<sup>st</sup> SC meeting will be adopted.*

Agenda Item 17. Close of Meeting

*The meeting will close at 1800 hrs on 27 April 2016.*

NPFC01-2016-SC01-IP06

**NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION  
1<sup>ST</sup> SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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