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Report on STATWG Intercessional Meeting

Statistics Working Group of ISC

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Report on STATWG Intercessional Meeting

The STATWG Steering Group conducted its intercessional meeting since the 2013 ISC Plenary in Busan, Korea. The Chair of the STATWG convened the 4th STATWG steering group meeting from January 21-23 2014 at the NOAA's Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center in Honolulu, US. The participants included the Chair of ISC Dr. Gerard DiNardo, the chair and co-chair of STATWG Mr. Ren-Fen Wu and Mr. Darryl Tagami, data administrator of ISC Dr. Izumi Yamasaki and Ms. Lennon Thomas, the secretary of ISC chair.

The group reviewed the work plan proposed by STATWG at the ISC13 Plenary meeting to determine the status of each assignment, and to update them as necessary.

The items discussed during this meeting are as followed:

1. Report of data inventory exchange with IATTC & WCPFC

The STATWG chair reported the progress on the data inventory exchange with IATTC & WCPFC. Since the group had recommended that ISC publish the data inventory on the website in the coming year, the STATWG chair should inform the data manager of IATTC and data custodian of WCPFC while updating data inventory information on the ISC website. The group also recommended the STATWG chair send a request to IATTC acquiring its data inventory for IATTC not publishing data inventory on its website yet.

2. Review of progress on designing Category III input data format for online data submission

The STATWG chair and DA reported the progress on CIII data format design and development of online data submission program. The group reviewed the CIII data format and made some minor revisions. DA will include the explanation of CIII data into the user's manual of data submission with some examples provided by US and Chinese Taipei.

3. Review of ISC data report card

The Group noted that the current data report card could not reveal the detailed information on the data submitted by members, especially the submitted data is not in ISC data format or data submitted late with incomplete or not in ISC data format. The group revised the data report card to accommodate the situation mentioned above, and recommended STATWG applies the revised one to check fishery data submitted by members in the coming STATWG meeting.

4. Review of progress on the stock assessment file archiving

The group reviewed the progress on this matter and recommended that the STATWG chair distribute a notification with the working paper to the chair of species WGs to remind them archive the stock assessment file according the time frame approved by the Plenary.

5. Discussion on the methodology of comparing data submitted by members in 2013 and before 2013

DA raised the issue on how to compare the members' data submitted in 2013 and submitted before 2013. The group considered the complexity of comparing Category II and Category III data, and recommended DA process this issue in a broader manner. DA will table a working paper according to the recommendation of this group in next STATWG meeting.

6. Review of the data exchange issue concerning IATTC and WCPFC

The group reviewed the data exchange terms in the MoUs between ISC and WCPFC, and between ISC and IATTC; the related documents of data policy of WCPFC and IATTC also had been reviewed by the group. Considering there's no specific clause on the data exchange in the operational manual of ISC, the group recommended that this issue shall be tabled in the coming plenary meeting for further discussion.

7. Discussion on the data revision report format for members

The STATWG chair presented the draft format of the data revision report for members, which will be discussed in the next STATWG meeting and will be applicable in 2015. The group consented to the

draft format proposed by STATWG chair principally, and requested the STATWG chair develop a template for reference.

8. Discussion on the agenda of next STATWG meeting

The group discussed the draft agenda of the next STATWG meeting proposed by the chair of STATWG. Since the items of this draft agenda covered the most of data issues needed proceeding in the coming meeting, there was no additional suggestion from this group.

Next steering group meeting

The group recommended the next STATWG steering group meeting will be held in Honolulu from 27 to 29 January, 2015.