

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL (CIAT)  
INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION (IATTC)

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**MEMORANDUM**

21 January 2026

Ref.: 0049-410

To: Commissioners and Heads of Delegation  
c.c.: Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Indonesia and Liberia  
From: Arnulfo Franco, Director  
Re: 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the IATTC-WCPFC *Ad Hoc* Joint Working Group on South Pacific Albacore

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At the 103rd Meeting of the IATTC in September 2025, Members adopted Resolution *C-25-04*, which establishes the terms of reference (TORs) for a joint IATTC–WCPFC *Ad Hoc* working group on South Pacific albacore tuna (SPAJWG). In line with the provisional work plan for the SPAJWG, which anticipated that the first meeting would be held in March 2026, the Secretariats of both Commissions have coordinated with the SPAJWG Co-Chairs—Mr. Guillermo Moran (IATTC) and Mr. Mat Kertesz (WCPFC)—to begin planning for these meetings.

The first SPAJWG meetings are scheduled for 17–18 March 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (PST), which corresponds to 18–19 March 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (UTC+11). These meetings will be held in a virtual format, as there is currently no host government or budgeted funding within either Commission to support an in-person meeting.

A formal meeting announcement, along with a draft agenda and registration link, will be circulated shortly. In the interim, this message is provided to notify you of the proposed dates and times as early as possible, to allow for their inclusion in your calendars.