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## **RESOLUTION ON THE INCIDENTAL CATCH OF SEABIRDS**

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*The Commission For The Conservation And Management Of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks In The Western And Central Pacific Ocean*

*Concerned that some species of seabirds, notably albatrosses and petrels, are threatened with global extinction.*

*Noting advice from the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources that together with illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, the greatest threat to Southern Ocean seabirds is mortality in longline fisheries in waters adjacent to its Convention Area.*

*In accordance with Article 5(e) and 10(c) of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean the Commission decides:*

1. Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members, and participating Territories (called CCMs) shall, as appropriate, implement the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (IPOA-Seabirds) if they have not already done so.
2. CCMs shall report to the Commission on their implementation of the IPOA-Seabirds, including, as appropriate, the status of their National Plans of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries.
3. CCMs shall provide the Commission with all available information on interactions with seabirds, including incidental catches and details of species, to enable the Scientific Committee to estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries to which the WCPF Convention applies.
4. The Commission shall consider measures for the mitigation of incidental catch of seabirds at its annual meeting in 2006.

**Proposed workplan elements for the Report of WCPFC2 to support implementation of the seabird decision**

The Scientific Committee should take the practical steps necessary to improve recording and monitoring of seabird interactions, including species involved and rates of total mortality in the Convention area. The Technical and Compliance Committee should monitor the progress of CCMs in applying this resolution and report to the Commission and develop relevant strategies for the further consideration of the Commission.

The Scientific Committee, in consultation with the Technical and Compliance Committee should: investigate seabird mitigation measures applied and tested by other regional fisheries management organizations, particularly those of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources; investigate the utility of implementing compatible measures; and recommend specific seabird mitigation measures for consideration at WCPFC3.