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Paragraph 1 of Article 29 of the **Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean** provides that “

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## 1. Membership

In March 2019, the SPRFMO Commission had fifteen Members: Australia, Republic of Chile, People's Republic of China, Cook Islands, Republic of Cuba, Republic of Ecuador, European Union, Kingdom of Denmark in respect of the Faroe Islands, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Republic of Peru, Russian Federation, Chinese Taipei, United States of America, and the Republic of Vanuatu.

In addition, four countries held the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties, in The Hague, Kingdom of the N

Over 150 participants (from the 15 SPRFMO Members, 4 CNCs, 2 IGOs, 5 NGOs along with invited experts reviewed and made recommendations concerning the preceding meetings of the subsidiary bodies, including the 6

<sup>th</sup> Scientific Committee (SC6, held in September 2018), the 6<sup>th</sup> Compliance and Technical Committee (CTC6, held in January 2019) and the con-current 6<sup>th</sup> Finance and Administration Committee (FAC6),

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.sprfmo.int/assets/2018-SC6/SPRFMO-SC6-Report.pdf>



The report<sup>2</sup> of the 6<sup>th</sup>



- x CMM 14b-2019: Exploratory Potting Fishery in the SPRFMO Convention Area; where a more conservative lobster and crab (combined) total allowable catch (TAC) for the first fishing year has been set based on the advice of the Scientific Committee at its annual meeting. and,
- x CMM 16-2019: Establishing the SPRFMO Observer Programme, fulfilling the provisions of Article 28 of the SPRFMO Convention, including accreditation 5.6n (i)5.-8.4 3



- x Secretariat for the work that it has done thus far to implement the MCS measures and for its work to develop a new SPRFMO website;
- x use of the Permanent Court of Arbitration as the venue and provider for the Article 17 review panel process;

The report also acknowledged:

- x the scientific work being undertaken to develop assessments for deepwater stocks particularly (Orange roughy) and Squid;
- x the efforts being undertaken to systematically build information enough to undertake assessments for all deepwater stocks;
- x the effectiveness of the consensus-first/vote-later approach used in the SPRFMO Convention;
- x that the Article 17 review panel process is a point of difference between SPRFMO and most other RFMOs and the effectiveness of the Article 17 review panel process in resolving disagreement between Members and in progressing the long-term resolution of disputes;
- x the open and transparent processes adopted by the Commission and its subsidiary bodies;
- x that SPRFMO decisions, scientific advice, and other relevant materials are made publicly available in a timely fashion; and that the SPRFMO website contains up to date information which is accessible and user friendly;
- x that cooperation with other international organisations can be advantageous for SPRFMO and that increasing the cooperation with neighbouring and overlapping RFMOs can bring direct benefits to the organisation;
- x that the Commission could do more to address some of the capacity needs of Members and CNCPs;
- x that Members and CNCPs pay their contributions on time and that this is of great assistance in ensuring the smooth operation of the organisation's finances;
- x that the 2020 review of the budget formula needs to take into account the durability of the formula so that the necessary work of the organisation drives the level of budget, rather than the level of individual contributions; and,
- x the importance of the Secretariat providing support to the Chair of the Commission and subsidiary bodies not only at meetings, but also during the intersessional period.

The Commission and its subsidiary bodies also provided responses to the key findings and recommendations made by the review panel who conducted the 1<sup>st</sup> SPRFMO Performance Review.

### 2.3. International Cooperation

The Commission agreed to extend the arrangement between CCAMLR and SPRFMO reinforcing the cooperation on toothfish tagging research and the Catch Documentation Scheme, providing reciprocal links to each other's IUU vessel list and developing a scientific observer programme knowledge exchange. Furthermore, the Commission

