**Terms of Reference for the Technical Working Group on Pacific Saury Stock Assessment**

**(TWG PSSA)**

1. To review fishery data

- Catch series

- Age/size composition data

- Others

2. To review fishery-dependent and fishery-independent indices

- Review/update the existing CPUE Standardization Protocol

- Review/update the indices

- Evaluate the quality of the indices

- Recommendation for future work

3. To review and update biological information/data

- Stock structure

- Growth

- Reproduction and maturity schedule

- Natural mortality

- Migration pattern

- Others

4. To update the stock assessment using “provisional base models” (i.e. Bayesian state-space

production models)

- Review the existing Stock Assessment Protocol

- Simple update (including projection and evaluation of reference points as well as diagnosis)

- Consideration of scenarios (for base and sensitivity)

- Assessment of uncertainties and the implications for management

- Evaluation/improvement (if necessary) of the models

- Recommendation of the research for future work

5. To explore stock assessment models other than existing “provisional base models”

- Data invention/availability (including the identification of potential covariates)

- Initial (and continued) discussion on age-/size/stage-structure models

- Identification of lack of information/data gaps and limitations

- Recommendation of the research for future work

6. To facilitate data- and code- sharing processes

7. To review/improve the presentation of stock assessment results (including stock status summary reports in a format to be determined by the Working Group)

8. To explore the design of the Management Strategy Evaluation framework.