



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2025-COM09-IP02

Information Paper submitted by the Secretariat

Timing and Location of the Commission and its Committees in 2026 and 2027

Abstract: This paper provides a list of historical and agreed meeting times of other related organizations to facilitate the discussion by members of dates and location for the next meeting of the Commission (Appendix 1). The current approach based on COM08 decision is that the Secretariat organize meetings in a location other than Tokyo using resources allocated by Members if no Member agrees to host the meetings. To date, the funds have been drawn from the Working Capital Fund. In the proposed budget, you will note that it is proposed to transition to include the costs as a recurring item in the General Fund rather than an occasional expense with funds drawn from the Working Capital Fund.

Potential dates are proposed for 2026 and 2027 in Appendix 2 and Members are asked to consider committing to dates that allow for advance booking of facilities and / or offers to host these sets of meetings. This is common with other RFMO. The proposed timing takes into account the Lunar New Year Spring festival in China as well as fisheries operations (notably Pacific saury).

Context: The timing and location of NPFC Commission and associated subsidiary body meetings are determined by Members. The requirement is outlined in the NPFC Convention:

Article 5.3 The Commission shall hold a regular meeting at least once every two years at a time and location to be decided by the Commission and may hold such other meetings as may be necessary to carry out its functions under this Convention.

Taking into account factors such as the opening of fisheries, the Lunar New Year and availability of the Commission Chair, the Secretariat notes possible timing of the Commission meetings in April 2026 and 2027. For the next two years the period between the Lunar New Year dates is at least 44 days.

The Commission is asked to consider a fixed timing for future years to facilitate planning and indicate to other organizations our meeting schedule.

Appendix 1: Dates of other meetings for comparison (2025)

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Appendix 1(continued)

Meeting Schedules for Other Organizations (2024 and 2025)

FYI, meetings of 2023 are written in *grey italics*

[illegible]

Appendix 2

[illegible]