

## **Annex 2: Terms of Reference for the Peer Review**

### **Review of length-based stock assessment methods for coral reef fish stocks in Hawaii and U.S. Pacific Island territories**

1. Review the assessment methods used: determine if they are reliable, properly applied, and adequate and appropriate for the species, fisheries, and available data considering that the data itself have been accepted for management purposes.
2. Evaluate the implementation of the assessment methods: determine if data in its current form are properly used, if choice of input parameters seems reasonable, if models are appropriately specified and configured, assumptions are reasonably satisfied, and primary sources of uncertainty accounted for.
3. Comment on the scientific soundness of the estimated population benchmarks and management parameters (e.g., spawning potential ratio,  $F/F_{msy}$ ,  $B/B_{msy}$ , stock status) and their potential efficacy in addressing the management goals stated in the relevant FEP or other documents provided to the review panel.
4. Determine whether the results (such as SPR-based reference points, stock status) in their current form from the assessment methods can be used for management purposes without further analyses or changes considering that the data itself have been accepted for management purposes.
5. Suggest research priorities to improve our understanding of essential population and fishery dynamics necessary to formulate best management practices. Comment on alternative data sources and modeling.
6. Draft a report of the WPSAR Panel conclusions and findings, addressing each Term of Reference.