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**DRAFT: AGENDA FOR THE 13<sup>TH</sup> WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH**

**Updated: 27 August 2015**

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**Date:** 1–5 September 2015

**Location:** Olhão, Portugal

**Venue:** Real Marina Hotel and Spa

**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00 daily

**Chair:** Dr Jérôme Bourjea; **Vice-Chair:** Vacant

1. **OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
3. **THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
  - 3.1 Outcomes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.2 Outcomes of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.3 Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.4 Progress on the recommendations of WPB12 (IOTC Secretariat)
4. **NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERIES AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR BILLFISH**
  - 4.1 Review of the statistical data available for billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 4.2 Review new information on fisheries and associated environmental data (general CPC papers)
  - 4.3 New information on sport fisheries (all)
5. **SWORDFISH**
  - 5.1 Review new information on swordfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
  - 5.2 Review of new information on the status of swordfish (all)
    - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
    - Selection of Stock Status indicators for swordfish
  - 5.3 Development of management advice for swordfish and update of swordfish Executive Summary for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)
6. **MARLINS (Priority species for 2015: Striped marlin)**
  - 6.1 Review new information on marlin biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
  - 6.2 Review of new information on the status of marlins (all)
    - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
    - Stock assessments
    - Selection of Stock Status indicators for marlins
  - 6.3 Development of management advice for marlins and update of marlin species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)
7. **INDO-PACIFIC SAILFISH (Priority species for 2015: I.P. Sailfish)**
  - 7.1 Review new information on I.P. sailfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
  - 7.2 Review of new information on the status of sailfish (all)
    - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
    - Stock assessments
    - Selection of Stock Status indicators for sailfish
  - 7.3 Development of management advice for sailfish and update of sailfish species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)

**8. DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE MANAGEMENT MEASURES (INCLUDING CLOSURES) FOR BILLFISH IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

**9. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK**

- 9.1 Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2016–2020) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 9.2 Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPB meeting (Chairperson)

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 10.1 Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the WPB for the next biennium (IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.2 Date and place of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.3 Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)