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## REVISION OF THE WPDCS PROGRAM OF WORK (2018-2022)

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### PURPOSE

To ensure that participants at the 13<sup>th</sup> Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS13) revise the Program of Work for the WPDCS by taking into consideration the specific requests of the Commission and Scientific Committee.

### BACKGROUND

At the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the *Scientific Committee (SC)*:

- (Para. 169) The SC **NOTED** paper IOTC-2016-SC19-09 which provided the Scientific Committee (SC) with a proposed Program of Work for each of its Working Parties (WP), including prioritisation of the elements requested by each WP.
- (Para. 170) The SC **NOTED** the proposed Program of Work and priorities for the Scientific Committee and each of the Working Parties and **AGREED** to a consolidated Program of Work as outlined in Appendix XXXIVa-g. The Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of each working party shall ensure that the efforts of their working party are focused on the core areas contained within the appendix, taking into account any new research priorities identified by the Commission at its next Session.
- (Para. 172) The SC **AGREED** on the consolidated table of priorities across all Working Parties, as developed by each WP Chair, and **REQUESTED** that the IOTC Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair and vice-Chair of the SC and relevant Working Parties, develop ToRs for the specific projects to be carried out
- (Para. 173) The SC **NOTED** that the consolidated table of priorities does not replace the full programme of work of each Working Party (Appendix XXXIVa-g) and that adequate attention and focus should still be allocated to those activities where possible. The SC further **NOTED** that Table 4 has been developed by the SC and WP Chairs to provide more specific direction to the IOTC Secretariat and the SC Chair as to the priorities of the SC so that if and when external funding becomes available intersessionally it is possible to clearly prioritise across all WPs based on the objectives of the SC (as agreed in IOTC-2014-SC17-R, para. 179).

### DISCUSSION

Participants at the WPDCS13 are requested to consider the priorities set by the Commission and the Scientific Committee, via Conservation and Management Measures, and revise its Program of Work (previously outlined in paper IOTC-2017-WPDCS13-03) to match those priorities.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

That the WPDCS:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC-2017-WPDCS13-09, which encouraged the WPDCS to further develop and refine its Program of Work for 2018-2022 to align with the requests and directives from the Commission and Scientific Committee.
- 2) **RECOMMEND** a revised Program of Work for 2018-2022 to the Scientific Committee for its consideration and potential endorsement.

### APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): DRAFT: Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics Program of Work (2018-2022)

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**APPENDIX A**

**DRAFT: WORKING PARTY ON DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS PROGRAM OF WORK (2018-2022)**

The Program of Work consists of the following, noting that a timeline for implementation would be developed by the SC once it has agreed to the priority projects across all of its Working Parties:

**Table 1.** Priority topics for obtaining the information necessary to deliver the necessary advice to the Commission.

Topic	Sub-topic and project	Priority ranking	Est. budget (potential source)	Timing				
				2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1. Artisanal fisheries data collection	1.1 Assist the implementation of data collection and sampling activities of coastal fisheries in countries/fisheries insufficiently sampled in the past; priority to be given to the following fisheries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coastal fisheries of Indonesia</li> <li>Coastal fisheries of Pakistan</li> <li>Coastal fisheries of Sri Lanka</li> <li>Coastal fisheries of Kenya</li> <li>Coastal fisheries of I.R. Iran</li> </ul>							
2. Assistance to CPCs for the fulfillment of Resolution 17/01 mandate	2.1 Provide support to identified CPCs to increase their level of monitoring and reporting in accordance with paragraph 8 of Resolution 17/01		US\$ 60K (EU cofund.)					
3. Review Size Data Longline Fisheries	3.1 Assistance to historical review of length frequency data for longline fisheries, in particular longliners from Taiwan, China and Japan		US\$ 48K (EU cofund.)					
4. Compliance with IOTC Data Requirements	4.1 Data support missions <p>4.1.1 Identification of indicators to assess performance of IOTC CPCs against IOTC Data Requirements; evaluation of performance of</p>		US\$ 5-10K each					

	IOTC CPCs with those Requirements; development of plans of action to address the issues identified, including timeframe of implementation and follow-up activities required. Priority to be given to the following fisheries:	(EU cofund.)					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pakistan</li> <li>• Indonesia</li> <li>• Sri Lanka</li> <li>• India</li> <li>• Yemen</li> </ul>						
5.	IOTC Data access	5.1 Development of software libraries (in the most widely adopted languages for statistical analysis, e.g. R, Python etc.) to simplify access to the new IOTC Remote data services by scientists	US\$ 8K (TBD)				
6.	ROS – Support for the implementation of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme	6.1 ROS tools					
		6.1.1 Support the adoption of the ROS e-Reporting and ROS national database tools by countries not having any existing observer data collection and management system in place	US\$ ??? (TBD)				
		6.2 ROS Regional Database					
		6.2.1 Incorporate all historical observer data currently available in other proprietary data formats (e.g. ObServe database dumps, ICCAT ST09 and other custom observer forms)	US\$ ??? (TBD - Consultant)				
		6.2.2 Implement dissemination best-practices for all data collected by the ROS Regional Database	US\$ ??? (TBD - Consultant)				
		6.3 ROS Electronic Monitoring Systems					
		6.3.1 Implement pilot EMS system on gillnet / coastal longline vessels for fleets insufficiently covered by on-board observers	US\$ 150 k (CPCs, EU cofunded)				