

PROGRESS MADE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF WPDCS13

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 14 NOVEMBER 2018

PURPOSE

To provide participants at the 14th Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS) with an update on the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the previous WPDCS, which were endorsed by the Scientific Committee (SC), and to provide alternative recommendations for the consideration and potential endorsement by participants.

BACKGROUND

At the 13th Session of the WPDCS, participants agreed on a series of actions to be taken by participants, CPCs, and the IOTC Secretariat on a range of issues. The subsequent table developed and agreed to by the WPDCS was provided to the SC for its endorsement at its 2017 meeting.

DISCUSSION

The Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee include the following seven core tasks, which are to be supported by the various Working Parties.

- a) recommend policies and procedures for the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of fishery data;
- b) facilitate the exchange and critical review among scientists of information on research and operation of fisheries of relevance to the Commission;
- c) develop and coordinate cooperative research programmes involving Members of the Commission in support of fisheries management;
- d) assess and report to the Commission on the status of stocks of relevance to the Commission and the likely effects of further fishing and of different fishing patterns and intensities;
- e) formulate and report to the sub-commission, as appropriate, on recommendations concerning conservation, fisheries management and research, including consensus, majority and minority views;
- f) consider any matter referred to by the Commission;
- g) to carry out other technical activities of relevance to the Commission.

Noting the core tasks of the SC, and hence the WPDCS, participants are reminded that any recommendations developed during a Session, must be carefully constructed so that each contains the following elements:

- 1) a specific action to be undertaken (deliverable);
- 2) clear responsibility for the action to be undertaken (i.e. a specific CPC of the IOTC, the Secretariat, another subsidiary body of the Commission or the Commission itself);
- 3) a desired time from for delivery of the action (i.e. by the next working party meeting, or other date).

Recalling that the SC, at its 16th Session adopted a set of reporting terminology SC16.07 (para. 23), which was subsequently endorsed by the Commission at its 18th Session in 2014 (S18, para 10), to further improve the clarity of information sharing from, and among the science bodies, the following two term levels should be noted when interpreting the Reports and Appendix A to this paper:

Level 1: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to the next level in the structure of the Commission:

RECOMMENDED, RECOMMENDATION: Any conclusion or request for an action to be undertaken, from a subsidiary body of the Commission (Committee or Working Party), which is to be formally provided to the next level in the structure of the Commission for its consideration/endorsement (e.g. from a Working

IOTC–2018–WPDCS14–06

Party to the Scientific Committee; from a Committee to the Commission). The intention is that the higher body will consider the recommended action for endorsement under its own mandate, if the subsidiary body does not already have the required mandate. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for completion.

Level 2: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to a CPC, the IOTC Secretariat, or other body (not the Commission) to carry out a specified task:

REQUESTED: This term should only be used by a subsidiary body of the Commission if it does not wish to have the request formally adopted/endorsed by the next level in the structure of the Commission. For example, if a Committee wishes to seek additional input from a CPC on a particular topic, but does not wish to formalise the request beyond the mandate of the Committee, it may request that a set action be undertaken. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for the completion.

In addition to the Recommendations endorsed by the SC at its 20th Session, the SC also made several requests which, although are not passed to the Commission for its endorsement, are considered actions which the Scientific Committee has the mandate to issue. The revised recommendations are contained in Appendix A for the consideration and potential endorsement by the WPDCS14.

RECOMMENDATION

That the WPDCS:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2018–WPDCS14–06 which detailed the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the WPDCS13, taking into consideration the recommendations from the SC and decisions of the Commission;
- 2) **AGREE** to consider and revise as necessary, the recommendations, and for these to be combined with any new recommendations arising from the WPDCS14, noting that these will be provided to the SC for their endorsement.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Progress made on the recommendations of WPDCS13

APPENDIX A

Progress made on the recommendations of WPDCS13

WPDCS14 Rec. No.		SC20 Rec. No.	Recommendation adopted / agreed by the SC20	Endorsed at S22	Commission response / suggestions for consideration at WPDCS14
WPDCS13.01 (para. 17)	<p>Progress on the recommendations of WPDCS12</p> <p>Also, the WPDCS NOTED a number of recommendations from the last WPDCS meeting were agreed – but not recommended – during the 19th session of the Scientific Committee. For this reason, the WPDCS RECOMMENDED that the following be reiterated as recommendations at the 20th session of the Scientific Committee:</p> <p><i>(WPDCS12.05 Para. 102) Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a pilot project in view of promoting the regional observer scheme of IOTC</i></p> <p><i>Resolution 11/04 On a Regional Observer Scheme requests the submission of a report after each trip but the WPDCS RECOMMENDED that on the next revision of the Resolution, this should be amended to request the submission of data (instead of the observer trip report) with a given deadline so that information from multiple trips can be provided.</i></p> <p><i>(WPDCS12.09 Para. 109) Update on the implementation of the IOTC interim ROS templates</i></p> <p><i>Due to the difficulties in collecting detailed data on tori line specifications, the WPDCS RECOMMENDED that the trip level data reporting requirements be amended to permit the reporting of this information as optional rather than mandatory, as detailed in paper IOTC-</i></p>	SC20.36 (para. 115)	<p>ROS E-reporting and E-monitoring projects</p> <p>Resolution 11/04 On a Regional Observer Scheme requests the submission of a report after each trip but the SC RECOMMENDED that on the next revision of the Resolution, this should be amended to request the submission of data in an electronic format suitable for automated data extraction (including historic data) with a given deadline so that information from multiple trips can be provided.</p>		<p>Update: while two proposals for a revised version of Resolution 11/04 were discussed, consensus could not be reached so the revision of this Resolution was deferred until the next Commission meeting in 2019.</p>

IOTC–2018–WPDCS14–06

WPDCS14 Rec. No.		SC20 Rec. No.	Recommendation adopted / agreed by the SC20	Endorsed at S22	Commission response / suggestions for consideration at WPDCS14
	<i>2016-WPDCS12-21_Rev_1, in the Observer Template (Form Trip-LL).</i>				
WPDCS13.02 (para. 44)	<p>IOTC Data Dissemination: Discussion of potential improvements</p> <p>The WPDCS REQUESTED feedback to be provided by WPDCS participants on the appropriate figures to be adopted for the Executive summary supporting information, and ACKNOWLEDGED the outcome of the consultation as provided in <u>Appendix VII</u>, RECOMMENDING that the proposed updates become integral part of future Executive Summaries supporting information for Tropical tunas.</p>	N/A	<p>The revised supporting information for the IOTC species Executive Summaries are available here:</p> <p>http://www.iotc.org/science/status-summary-species-tuna-and-tuna-species-under-iotc-mandate-well-other-species-impacted-iotc</p>		<p>Update: the new and revised charts adopted by the WPDCS have now been incorporated into the Tropical Tunas integral part of the Tropical Tuna executive summaries (supporting information) and will be uploaded to the IOTC website following their adoption at the SC21 (December 2018).</p>
WPDCS13.03 (para. 130)	<p>Resolution 17/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock</p> <p>Thus, the WPDCS REQUESTED that (i) collaborative work is carried out by different Purse Seine fleets of the Indian Ocean, so as to increase the frequency of production of corrected estimates of yellowfin tuna catches to monitor yellowfin quota consumption and (ii) RECOMMENDED that alternative management measures (e.g. input control measures) are investigated for the Purse Seiners and other gears that will facilitate the control and monitoring of the management measures adopted by IOTC.</p>	Para. 109	<p>Resolution 17/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock</p> <p>The SC REQUESTED that collaborative work is carried out by different purse seine fleets active in the Indian Ocean, so as to increase the frequency of production of corrected estimates of yellowfin tuna catches to monitor yellowfin quota consumption and REQUESTED the WPTT and WPM to investigate additional or complementary management measures (e.g., input control measures) for purse seiners and other gears that will facilitate the control and monitoring of the management measures adopted by IOTC.</p>	N/A	<p>Update: this was discussed at WPTT20 based on papers IOTC–2018–WPTT20–43 and IOTC–2018–WPTT20–INF01</p>
WPDCS13.04 (para. 154)	<p>ROS E-reporting and E-monitoring projects</p> <p>Therefore the WPDCS AGREED to add this activity to the program of work and RECOMMENDED that funding is allocated for</p>	Para. 112	<p>ROS E-reporting and E-monitoring projects</p> <p>The SC RECOMMENDED that a data exchange be implemented between existing software formats used for the collection of observer data by</p>		<p>Update: Development of a data exchange mechanism has been completed for the custom Japanese data submission format and the ST09 format, and is under development for the ObServe and SWIOFP databases as well as for</p>



IOTC–2018–WPDCS14–06

WPDCS14 Rec. No.		SC20 Rec. No.	Recommendation adopted / agreed by the SC20	Endorsed at S22	Commission response / suggestions for consideration at WPDCS14
	the development of data sharing mechanism between existing software and formats for the collection of observer data (e.g., <i>ObServe</i>) and the IOTC Regional Observer Database.		CPCs (e.g., <i>ObServe</i>), and the IOTC Regional Observer Database, to facilitate the transfer of historical observer data to the IOTC database for future dissemination and analysis.		other custom formats for which a reasonable amount of information is available to the IOTC Secretariat.
WPDCS13.05 (para. 159)	The WPDCS NOTED that EMS can complement physical observer programs and also collect other data that would be useful to the SC. For this reason, the WPDCS AGREED that it would be beneficial to ensure that the different available systems conform to harmonized installation, data collection and reporting protocols, so as to ensure mutual compatibility. Therefore, the WPDC RECOMMENDED that tropical tuna purse seine fleets or CPCs wishing to voluntarily implement EMS follow the guidelines described in the document.	Para. 113	SC noted that EMS are intended to complement human observer programs and also collect other useful information, and encouraged that different – but mutually compatible EMS systems – conform to harmonized standards in terms of installation, data collection and reporting, and REQUESTED that purse seine fleets or CPCs wishing to voluntarily implement EMS in purse seiners follow the guidelines described in document IOTC–2017–WPDCS13–26 and IOTC-2016-SC19-15.		Update: Nil
WPDCS13.06 (para. 160)	The WPDCS NOTED that the ability of Electronic Monitoring Systems to collect specific data fields differs among fishing gears, and RECOMMENDED to develop different standards for different gear types.	Para. 114	SC noted that the feasibility and range of data collected by Electronic Monitoring Systems varies according to type of fishing gear, and REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat, in collaboration with CPCs, develop standards for data collection and reporting applicable to different gear types.		Update: This item is discussed in papers IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-20 and IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-21
WPDCS13.07 (para. 214)	Revision of the WPDCS Program of work (2018–2022) The WPDCS RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee consider and endorse the WPDCS Program of Work (2018–2022), as provided at <u>Appendix V</u> .	Page 216	The SC adopted the WPDCS PoW in Appendix XXXVI f.		
WPDCS13.08	NOTING the very heavy workload at the IOTC	Para. 128	IOTC Secretariat staffing	Page 78	Update: The Commission approved the budget

IOTC–2018–WPDCS14–06

WPDCS14 Rec. No.		SC20 Rec. No.	Recommendation adopted / agreed by the SC20	Endorsed at S22	Commission response / suggestions for consideration at WPDCS14
(para. 216)	Secretariat and the ever increasing demands by the Commission and the Scientific Committee, and also the capacity to respond to requests for assistance by countries, the WPDCS reiterated its previous RECOMMENDATION that the permanent staff of the IOTC Data and Science Section be increased by two (2) (1 x P4 and 1 x P3 level positions), supplemented by additional short-term consultants, to commence work by 1 January 2018 or earlier..		Noting the very heavy workload at the IOTC Secretariat and the ever increasing demands by the Commission and the Scientific Committee, and also the capacity to respond to requests for assistance by countries, the SC RECOMMENDED that the recommendation from the Performance Review PRIOTC02.07(g) is implemented, and that permanent staff of the IOTC Data and Science Section be increased by two (2) (1 x P4 and 1 x P3 level positions), supplemented by additional short-term consultants, to commence work by late-2018 or earlier, and that funding for these new positions should come from both the IOTC regular budget and from external sources to reduce the financial burden on the IOTC membership.		for a P1 Fisheries Officer position to assist the data section of the IOTC Secretariat and a P4 Science Coordinator position to start in 2018.

WPDCS13 Report	WPDCS13 REQUESTS	Update/Progress
Para. 4	<p>Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a pilot project in view of promoting the regional observer scheme</p> <p>(Para. 113) <i>Resolution 11/04 On a Regional Observer Scheme requests the submission of a report after each trip but the SC AGREED that on the next revision of the Resolution, this should be amended to request the submission of electronic data (instead of the observer trip reports) with a fixed deadline so that information from multiple trips can be provided.</i></p> <p>Response: The WPDCS NOTED that no action was taken on this important matter and therefore REQUESTED that the Scientific Committee reiterates the recommendation from the WPDCS12.</p>	<p>Update: while two proposals for a revised version of Resolution 11/04 were discussed, consensus could not be reached so the revision of this Resolution was deferred until the next Commission meeting in 2019.</p>
Para. 4	<p>Update on the implementation of the IOTC interim ROS templates</p> <p>(Para. 114) <i>Due to the difficulties in collecting detailed data on tori line specifications, the SC AGREED that the trip level data reporting requirements be amended to permit the reporting of this information as optional rather than mandatory, as detailed in paper IOTC-2016-WPDCS12-21_Rev_1, in the IOTC Interim observer template (Form Trip-LL).</i></p> <p>Response: The WPDCS NOTED that the requested detail has been indicated as optional rather than mandatory, and that this change will be reflected in the ROS e-Reporting interface, also REQUESTING that the ROS Observer Manual be amended accordingly.</p>	<p>Update: To be reviewed during discussion of the outcomes of the expert peer review workshop in paper IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-35.</p>
Para. 34	<p>IOTC Secretariat Report</p> <p>NOTING that the fisheries detailed above (para. 30) account for a substantial quantity of catches of IOTC species, the WPDCS REQUESTED that all of the listed CPCs address the issues identified, and report progress made at the next WPDCS.</p>	<p>Update:</p> <p>Sri Lanka [pending]</p> <p>Japan [pending]</p> <p>Seychelles[pending]</p> <p>Thailand[pending]</p>

Para. 41	<p><i>IOTC Data Dissemination: Discussion of potential improvements</i></p> <p>NOTING that standardised CPUE series are provided to the Secretariat ahead of each assessment and that these are made available as they are submitted, the WPDCS AGREED that it would be helpful if the history of CPUE series is made available in a dedicated section of the IOTC website. However, given the issues associated with the format in which these are made available and the number of associated caveats, late changes and final review and selection for the assessments, the WPDCS REQUESTED that the Secretariat collaboratively works with concerned Scientists to identify a potential approach to be presented at the next WPDCS.</p>	<p>Update: [pending]</p>
Para. 42	<p>Additionally, the WPDCS NOTED that the Indian Ocean has substantial artisanal fisheries and that IOTC is currently the only tRFMO providing information on the quality of its published datasets. For this reason, the WPDCS REQUESTED that participants consider the current and potential alternative methods of providing information on data quality and seek to build on, and improve this further</p>	<p>Update: [ongoing] The Secretariat has simplified the graphical representation of data quality issues as presented to WPTT in paper IOTC-2018-WPTT20-08</p>
Para. 44	<p>The WPDCS REQUESTED feedback to be provided by WPDCS participants on the appropriate figures to be adopted for the Executive Summary supporting information, and ACKNOWLEDGED the outcome of the consultation as provided in <u>Appendix VII</u>, RECOMMENDING that the proposed updates become integral part of future Executive Summaries supporting information for Tropical tunas.</p>	<p>Update: [completed]</p> <p>The revised supporting information for the IOTC species Executive Summaries is available here: http://www.iotc.org/science/status-summary-species-tuna-and-tuna-species-under-iotc-mandate-well-other-species-impacted-iotc</p>
Para. 60	<p>The WPDCS further NOTED that I.R. Iran has agreed to submit future data in a format and template agreed with the IOTC Secretariat, in accordance with the reporting requirements of Resolution 15/02, including data for the historical time series, and REQUESTED the IOTC Secretariat provide an update for the next WPDCS meeting.</p>	<p>Update:</p> <p>Following a data compliance and support mission in November 2017, the IOTC Secretariat has provided further support to I.R. Iran to ensure that catch-and-effort information could be exchanged in a format as close as possible to the requirements set forth by Resolution 15/02. Data for 2016 and 2017 have already been received by the Secretariat and information for years between 2007 and 2015 is expected soon. See also paper IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-11.</p>
Para. 61	<p>The WPDCS NOTED that I.R. Iran has collected details on vessel licensing and port sampling of gillnetters for over 10 years, including information on catches, effort, fishing grounds, and gear, and REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat collaborate with I.R. Iran to explore options for developing a standardized gillnet CPUE series (e.g., coastal gillnetters targeting neritic tunas) for use in future stock assessments.</p>	<p>Update: [pending] The IOTC Secretariat is currently making arrangements with Iranian IOTC colleagues regarding a mission in early-2019 to explore the data possibilities for a standardised CPUE series.</p>

Para. 74	The WPDCS ACKNOWLEDGED that an IOTC Data Compliance and Support mission has been scheduled to Pakistan in early 2018 to address a number of data related issues, including the revised catch series, and REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat present to the WPDCS an update on the status of Pakistan's catch estimates (including the evaluation of the methodology and rationale of the proposed revisions to Pakistan's nominal catches in the IOTC database).	Update: <i>[pending]</i> A data compliance mission to Pakistan, originally scheduled for July 2018, had to be postponed due to security issues and has been rescheduled for December 2018.
Para. 80	<i>South Africa challenges in data reporting across the IOTC / ICCAT boundary</i> While the WPDCS ENCOURAGED South Africa to continue reporting catches to IOTC as per the agreed area of competence, at the same time REQUESTED that for all matters related to the assessment of such straddling stocks, South Africa takes proper action in combination with scientists from the involved Secretariats, and also NOTED that a similar challenge is encountered in relation to Blue shark, Swordfish, Yellowfin tuna and Albacore.	Update: <i>[pending]</i>
Para. 83	The WPDCS REQUESTED authors <i>[of paper IOTC–2017–WPDCS13–14]</i> to develop a summary table including information that would help identify for which species and tRFMO the issue is particularly evident, e.g. by including a measure of the overlap and inter-annual variability of the stock.	Update: <i>[pending]</i>
Para. 87	<i>Comoros national data collection systems</i> The WPDCS NOTED that nominal catches submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2017 (for year 2016) included sharp increases in catches for a number of species, particularly billfish, and REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat and Comoros explore the reason for the increase (e.g., improvements in the weighing and/or data recording of billfish specimens) and whether catches for earlier years should be scaled upward to ensure consistency with the latest catch estimates.	Update: <i>[pending]</i>
Para. 101	<i>A centralized database for artisanal fisheries in Somalia</i> The WPDCS NOTED the lack of guidance for the implementation of data collection system in Somalia, and REQUESTED that the Secretariat identifies the type of support that could be provided in terms of possible technical assistance to strengthen artisanal fisheries data collection and database management	Update: <i>[pending]</i>

Para. 113	<p>Kenya Catch Assessment Survey</p> <p>The WPDCS REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat continue to provide support to Kenya in order to finalize work on the evaluation of the results of the Catch Assessment Survey; particularly in terms of understanding the differences in catches estimated by the CAS and routine data collection – as well as procedures to revise the historical catch series, if the results of the CAS are formally adopted.</p>	<p>Update: [ongoing] The IOTC Secretariat is currently liaising with Kenya Fisheries Service to finalize the CAS estimates for 2014 and 2015 (the two full years that data is available for).</p>
Para. 115	<p>The WPDCS NOTED that the IOTC Secretariat has scheduled a visit to Kenya in December 2017 to provide an appraisal of the new integrated fisheries database developed by Kenya, which will incorporate data for the Catch Assessment Survey and will include automated procedures for raising to total catches, and REQUESTED that Kenya provide an update at the next WPDCS meeting</p>	<p>Update: Kenya to provide an update [pending]</p>
Para. 122	<p>Potential effects of new length-weight relationships on the species composition and tuna catch at size for purse seine fleets in the Indian Ocean</p> <p>The WPDCS REQUESTED the authors <i>[paper IOTC-2017-WPDCS13-20]</i> investigate and analyse all detected issues, revisit historical catch composition by species and share the results with the WPDCS and eventually, for endorsement, with the Scientific Committee before incorporating any change in the IOTC Database.</p>	<p>Update: [pending] Although no revision to catch series has been provided by the concerned Purse Seine fleet, the potential impacts of these changes in length-weight relationships have been discussed and analyzed during the WPTT20 (2018).</p>
Para. 130	<p>Resolution 17/01 On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock</p> <p>Thus, the WPDCS REQUESTED that (i) collaborative work is carried out by different Purse Seine fleets of the Indian Ocean, so as to increase the frequency of production of corrected estimates of yellowfin tuna catches to monitor yellowfin quota consumption and (ii) RECOMMENDED that alternative management measures (e.g. input control measures) are investigated for the Purse Seiners and other gears that will facilitate the control and monitoring of the management measures adopted by IOTC.</p>	<p>Update: [pending] A preliminary analysis of YFT catch series in the years between 2014 and 2017 shows that the expected reduction in catches was only partially achieved, and that the decrease in industrial catches (although to levels not comparable to Resolution 17/01 requirements) have been compensated by increases in artisanal catches that are not subject to the Resolution. Furthermore, the implementation of data collection mechanisms to achieve close-to-real time monitoring of YFT catches for EU and assimilated PS fleets is still ongoing.</p>
Para. 137	<p>Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a pilot project in view of promoting the regional observer scheme of IOTC</p> <p>The WPDCS NOTED that while good datasets are available, only PDF documents</p>	<p>Update: [ongoing] The Regional Database has been populated with historical information provided to the IOTC</p>

	have been shared with the IOTC Secretariat so far. The WPDCS therefore REQUESTED that processes are established so that the data can be transferred more efficiently to the IOTC Regional Observer Database.	Secretariat in the form of various purse seiners trip reports originally submitted as Word / PDF documents and digitized with the support of a consultant funded by SIOTI ¹ . Another consultant has developed direct transfer mechanisms from several non-standard formats (including ICCAT ST09) that lead to the incorporation of a number of observer trip data (mostly for longliners) and is currently working on the implementation of an <i>ObServe</i> plugin to facilitate the exchange of information between the two systems. Further details to be provided in paper IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-33.
Para. 143	Discussion of observer coverage rates The WPDCS AGREED that more information needs to be collected to highlight the potential issues to the Commission, and REQUESTED interested members of the Working Party to collaborate intersessionally to develop guidance on the matter. This could include maps of fishing effort overlaid with observer effort and distribution of species of interest to illustrate potential spatial biases.	Update: [ongoing] This issue was discussed at the expert workshop on ROS standards (IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-35).
Para. 163	ROS E-reporting and E-monitoring projects The WPDCS REQUESTED that CPCs who are currently exploring EMS in their longline fisheries (Australia and Taiwan, China) provide - at the next meeting of the WPDCS in 2018 - preliminary results which could be useful to design minimum standards.	Update: [ongoing] This item is discussed in papers IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-20 and IOTC-2018-WPDCS14-21.
Para. 168	Resolution 17/08 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species While the required additions and changes to Form 3_FA were not considered an issue by the IOTC Secretariat, at least when considered from a data management point of view, the WPDCS ACKNOWLEDGED that some of the additional details (namely the number of vessels and days at sea within a given grid) are not really needed, and only contributed to increasing the level of stratification of the required	Update: [completed] (SC20. Para. 111) The SC acknowledged the request that, in the interim period, data providers continue to submit FAD activity data using the existing IOTC Form 3_FA and its current categories, and REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat provide clarifications on definitions of FAD activity in the context of the IOTC classifications to ensure consistency in the data submissions. The SC REQUESTED the addition of a <i>FAD ownership</i> field to the list of mandatory information to be collected by IOTC Form 3_FA, as this was considered necessary to model and report the tracking status of all FADs (<i>i) monitored and owned, ii) not monitored, iii) monitored and not owned</i>), subject to a recorded activity. This data field has now been added to Form 3_FA

¹ The Sustainable Indian Ocean Tuna Initiative (SIOTI) has been jointly established by key governments in the region, major tuna processors, producer organisations and their fishing vessels, with the support of WWF. This FIP is a multi-stakeholder effort, and its goal is to support improvement in the management of tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean so that in the future, consumers can be assured that the purse-seine tuna they purchase has been harvested sustainably.



	data. Therefore the WPDCS REQUESTED that the SC considers the addition of the <i>FAD ownership</i> field to the list of required information in form 3_FA.	
Para. 170	However the WPDCS REQUESTED the IOTC Secretariat to work intersessionally with interested scientists and industry partners to agree on the best FAD classifications and data submission forms to be used to provide FAD-related data and activities according to Resolution 17/08 and that these be presented at the next WPDCS.	Update: [ongoing] To be addressed during agenda item 6.2.2 at the current meeting
IPara. 179	<p><i>Capacity Building Activities: Data Collection and Processing in Coastal Countries, and Compliance with Minimum Requirements</i></p> <p>The WPDCS ACKNOWLEDGED the reiterated request, from some CPCs, that the IOTC Secretariat facilitates training courses for the R language in the context of processing, analysis and reporting of fisheries data to the IOTC, and REQUESTED that potential funding sources be identified.</p>	Update: [completed] In 2018, the WPNT08 took the form of a capacity building workshop which involved training in R data processing, exploration and statistical analysis, focussing on the development of standardised CPUE.
Para. 218	<p><i>Date and place of the 14th and 15th Sessions of the WPDCS: 2018 & 2019</i></p> <p>The WPDCS REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat liaise with CPCs to determine the host country for the 14th and 15th sessions of the WPDCS respectively (<u>Table 1</u>).</p>	Update: [completed] As no CPC hosts have yet been found for WPDCS in 2018 and 2019, the 2018 is to be held in the Seychelles.