
PROGRESS ON REQUESTS FOR ACTION MADE BY THE COMMISSION IN 2018

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PURPOSE

To provide the Commission with an opportunity to consider the progress made during the inter-sessional period on its requests for action made during the 22nd Session in 2018.

BACKGROUND

In 2018, the Commission made 20 specific requests for action from a range of commission bodies. The responses to-date are given below.

RECOMMENDATION/s

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC-2019-S23-03 which provided the Commission with information on the progress made during the inter-sessional period on the requests for action made at its 22nd Session in 2018.
- 2) **CONSIDER** whether any of the requests for action need further instructions or guidance.

Action		Status
AI = agenda item from the S22 report. P = paragraph number.		
AI 5. Amendments to the IOTC Rules of Procedure: 5.1 Appointment of an Executive Secretary		
1	P15. The Commission NOTED the need to revise the RoP to secure a flexible recruitment process for the Commission and to do this in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of the FAO Constitution. The Commission RECOMMENDED , and the FAO representative concurred that the Commission should take advantage of the next COFI meeting in Rome to consult with FAO in order to ascertain an acceptable solution.	Completed.
2	P16. The Commission further RECOMMENDED , that depending on the outcome of this consultation, the small drafting group then redraft the proposed text for RoP to reflect those consultations and present a revised text at the next Commission meeting.	Ongoing. The small drafting group will report to S23.
AI 5. Amendments to the IOTC Rules of Procedure: 5.2 Proposal to amend appendix V of the Compliance Committee terms of reference and rules of procedure		
3	<i>The Commission REVIEWED IOTC-2018-S22-04 that outlined proposed amendments to Appendix V of the Terms of Reference for the Compliance Committee.</i> P20. The Commission RECOMMENDED the proposal be referred to the WPICMM and the CoC for further deliberations before any Commission decision on the matter.	On track. The WPICMM in February 2019 commented on the proposal. The CoC and Commission will further discuss the proposal in June 2019.
4	P21 The Chair ENCOURAGED all CPCs with comments on this matter to provide these to the authors of the proposal prior to the next WPICMM.	See above.
AI 7. Report of the 20th Session of the Scientific Committee (SC20)		
5	P24. The Commission NOTED that the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund supported 61 CPC scientists to participate in IOTC Working Parties and the Scientific Committee in 2017 and AGREED that this fund should be continued to enable CPC scientists to participate more fully in the IOTC scientific process.	Completed.
6	P28 The Commission NOTED the importance of the SC report as it informs most of the management proposal discussions. To this end, the Commission requested that the Chairs report be presented before any agenda item relating to the preliminary presentation of proposals.	Completed – the S23 agenda is compliant.

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7	P30. The Commission CONSIDERED working paper IOTC-2018-S22-08 by the European Union and REQUESTED the Scientific Committee to review the effect of the revised interim plan for rebuilding yellowfin tuna in the IOTC Area (Resolution 17/01) as amended in the proposal.	Completed. Yellowfin tuna was addressed by the WPTT and SC in 2018.
8	P31. The Commission NOTED that the revised interim rebuilding plan in Resolution 17/01 <i>On an interim plan for rebuilding the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock in the IOTC area of competence</i> , which directs the Working Party on Tropical Tunas of the Scientific Committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures contained in the resolution, taking into account all sources of fishing mortality and possible alternatives aimed to restore and maintain biomass levels at the target levels, as stipulated in IOTC Resolution 15/10 <i>On target and limit reference points and a decision framework</i> .	Completed. Yellowfin tuna was addressed by the WPTT and SC in 2018.
9	P34. The Commission REQUESTED the SC to review the status of manta and mobula rays and their interaction with IOTC fisheries and to report this to the Commission in 2020. This work should include an evaluation of data availability and data gaps. Where data is insufficient, the SC should propose options for strengthening data collection.	On track. The SC has brought this request forward and will present its advice to the Commission in 2019.
10	P39(dot 2) The Commission AGREED to the requests made to the Compliance Committee and Scientific Committee in working paper IOTC-2018-S22-06Rev1: to identify possible means to improve the submission of complete, accurate and timely catch records for sharks, as well as the collection of species-specific data on catch, biology, discards and trade. (Scientific Committee).	Ongoing. The WPDCS and Scientific Committee discussed this issue in 2018. And the matter is to be further considered by the WPEB in 2019.
11	P40. The Commission ADOPTED IOTC Resolution 18/02 <i>On management measures for the conservation of blue shark caught in association with IOTC fisheries</i> . As a consequence, the Commission REQUESTED the SC to carry out stock assessment on blue shark in 2020.	On track.
12	P48. The Commission NOTED that some CPCs informed that SEAFDEC has been working to improve the collection and reporting of data in SEAFDEC Member countries and ENCOURAGED the Working Party on Neritic tunas to engage with SEAFDEC to find out what has been done and obtain any relevant information to improve understanding of IOTC neritic species.	Completed and expected to be ongoing.

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AI 8. Report of the 4th Session of the Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria		
13	P64. The Commission NOTED the proposed Program of Work (2018-20) to bring the G16 proposal (Proposal K Rev1) to completion, also NOTING that the final Program of Work is described in Appendix 6 .	Completed.
14	P65 The Commission REQUESTED the IOTC Scientific Committee to provide advice as to how an index of relative abundance of each allocated species (as detailed in IOTC-2018-S22-Prop K Rev1) might be constructed, within the area under national jurisdiction of each CPC.	Completed.
AI 8. Report of the 2nd Session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures		
15	P71 The Commission NOTED the importance of the work of the TCMP and in addressing MSE issues. The Commission further NOTED the TCMP workplan for 2019-2020 and the proposed budget of approximately US\$ 91,500 and EXPRESSED its support for this work to continue, provided there is no increase in overall Commission budget. To this end, the Commission REQUESTED the IOTC Secretariat to seek sources of extra-budgetary funds to support the proposed work.	Completed
16	P73. The Commission NOTED the importance of data quality in developing management procedures and RECOMMENDED that the longline CPUE data for swordfish be made available and jointly standardized.	On track – planned for delivery in 2020.
AI 10. Report of the 15th Session of the Compliance Committee		
17	From P39 (dot 1). The Commission AGREED to the requests made to the Compliance Committee and Scientific Committee in working paper IOTC-2018-S22-06Rev1: to analyse and document, wherever possible, whether the practice of shark finning still takes place in IOTC and to what extent, despite the adoption of Resolution 17/05, and to review the compliance with the requirements contained in Res 17/05, including the shark finning prohibition and the fins naturally attached requirement adopted by IOTC (Compliance Committee);	Completed – technical analysis reported to WPDCS in 2018, and the matter will be considered by the CoC in 2019.
18	P84. The Commission RECOMMENDED that the 10 vessels flagged to India shall remain on the IUU Vessels list and that upon receipt of the evidence (as in paragraph 83) submitted by India, the intersessional vessel delisting procedures specified in Resolution 17/03 shall be applied, subject to the following (...)	Completed.

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AI 11. Report of the 1st Session of the Technical Committee on Performance Review		
19	P103. The Commission REQUESTED the TCPR continue to monitor progress on the performance review recommendations at its next meeting.	Completed.
AI 15. Other Business		
20	P130. No host was identified at S22 for the 2019 Annual meeting. The Commission NOTED that if no host can be identified the IOTC Secretariat will be responsible for finding a location and funding for the meeting.	Completed.