
DRAFT: ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 18TH WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISHUpdated: 12 August 2020

Date: 2–4 September 2020**Location:** Online**Time:** 12:00 – 16:00 daily (Seychelles time)**Chair:** Dr Denham Parker (South Africa); **Vice-Chair:** Dr Jie Cao (China)

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chairperson)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-01a: Draft: Agenda for the 18th Working Party on Billfish
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda for the 18th Working Party on Billfish
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-02: Draft: List of documents for the 18th Working Party on Billfish
- 3. THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
 - 3.1. Outcomes of the 22nd Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-03: Outcomes of the 22nd Session of the Scientific Committee
 - 3.2. Progress on the recommendations of WPB17 (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-06: Progress made on the recommendations and requests of WPB17 and SC22 (IOTC Secretariat)

Note: The following documents have not been updated since 2019 due to the delay in the S24 meeting

 - IOTC-2019-WPB17-04: Outcomes of the 23th Session of the Commission
 - IOTC-2019-WPB17-05: Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish
- 4. NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERIES AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR BILLFISH**
 - 4.1. Review of the statistical data available for billfish with a focus on swordfish (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-07: Review of the statistical data and fishery trends for billfish species
 - 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 of new information on swordfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-09: Genetic population structure of sailfish, striped marlin, and swordfish in the Indian Ocean from the PSTBS-IO Project (Grewe P, Feutry P, Foster S, Aulich J, Lansdell M, Cooper S, Clear N, Eveson P, Darnaude AM, Nikolic N, Marsac F, Farley J, Davies C)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-10: Microchemistry analyses of Indian Ocean swordfish (Darnaude AM, Labonne M, Petit C and Marsac F)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-INF01: Status of fisheries of billfish in Pakistan with special reference to swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) (Moazzam M)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-INF02: Exploratory Fishery Survey on Billfishes with special reference to Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) along west and east coast of India (Ramachandran S)
 - 5.2. Review of new information on the status of swordfish (all)
 - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-11: Update of the Swordfish Catch, Effort and Standardized CPUEs by the Portuguese Pelagic Longline Fleet Operating in the Indian Ocean, Between 1998 and 2018. (Coelho R and Rosa D)

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- IOTC-2020-WPB18-12: Updated standardized catch rates of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) caught by the Spanish surface longline fleet in the Indian Ocean during the 2001-2018 period (Ramos-Cartelle A, Fernández-Costa J, and Mejuto J)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-13: Standardized catch per unit effort of Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) for the South African Pelagic Longline fishery (Parker D)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-14: Japanese Longline CPUE Standardization (1979-2018) for Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) in the Indian Ocean using zero-inflated Bayesian hierarchical spatial model (Taki K, Ijima H, and Semba Y)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-15: CPUE standardization of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) caught by Taiwanese large-scale longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (Wang S-P)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-19: Standardization of hooking rate for Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) caught around the Western Indian Ocean (Area 51) and Eastern Indian Ocean (Area 57) based on survey data collected through FSI surveys (Gulati S)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-20: Standardized CPUE of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) from Indonesian tuna longline fleets in the north-eastern Indian Ocean (Setyadji B, Parker D, Wang S-P, Fahmi Z).
 - Stock assessments
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-16: Preliminary Indian Ocean Swordfish Stock Assessment 1950-2018 (Stock Synthesis) (Fu D)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-17: Stock assessment of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) in the Indian Ocean using A Stock-Production Model Incorporating Covariates (ASPIC) (Wang S-P)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-18: Preliminary stock assessment of the Indian Ocean Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) using the Bayesian state-space surplus production model JABBA (Parker D)
 - Selection of Stock Status indicators for swordfish
 - Development of management advice for swordfish and update of Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee, including discussion on current catch limits as per standing IOTC Resolutions (all)

6. PROGRESS ON THE SWORDFISH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

7. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK

- 7.1. Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2021–2025) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2020-WPB18-8: Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2020-2024) (IOTC Secretariat)
- 7.2. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPB meeting (Chairperson)

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1. Date and place of the 19th and 20th Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 8.2. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 18th Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)