

---

**DRAFT: ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 16<sup>TH</sup> WORKING PARTY ON  
ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH**

LAST UPDATED: 09 JUNE 2020

**Date:** 7- 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**Location:** Online

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams

**Time:** 12:00 – 16:00 (Seychelles time) daily

**Chair:** Dr Sylvain Bonhommeau (EU, France) **Vice-Chair:** Dr Mariana Tolotti (EU, France)/Mr  
Mohammed Koya (India)

**1. OPENING OF THE MEETING (Chair)**

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION (Chair)**

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-01a: Agenda of the 16<sup>th</sup> Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-01b: Annotated agenda of the 16th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-02: List of documents of the 16th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch

**3. THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**

3.1. Outcomes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-03: Outcomes of the 22nd Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)

3.2. Progress on the recommendations of WPEB15 (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-06: Progress made on the recommendations and requests of WPEB15 and SC22 (IOTC Secretariat)

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

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-04: Outcomes of the 23th Session of the Commission
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-05: Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish

**4. REVIEW OF DATA AVAILABLE ON ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH**

4.1. Review of the statistical data available for ecosystems and bycatch species (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-07 Review of the statistical data and fishery trends for ecosystems and bycatch species (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-08: Update on the implementation of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme (IOTC Secretariat)

**5. REVIEW OF NATIONAL BYCATCH ISSUES IN IOTC MANAGED FISHERIES AND NATIONAL PLANS OF ACTION (sharks; seabirds; marine turtles) (CPCs and IOTC Secretariat)**

- 5.1. Updated status of development and implementation of NPOA for seabirds and sharks, and the implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations (CPCs)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-09: Status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations (IOTC Secretariat)
- 5.2. Species identification tools

## 6. NEW INFORMATION ON BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA RELATING TO ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH SPECIES

- 6.1. Review new information on the environment and ecosystem interactions and modelling, including climate change issues affecting pelagic ecosystems in the IOTC area of responsibility (all)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-11: 8 years of Best Practices onboard French and associated flags tropical tuna purse seiners: an overview in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans (Maufroy A., Gamon A., Vernet A.-L. and Goujon M)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-12: Trend in bycatch in the tuna longline fishery in India with reference to the biology of dominant species of pelagic sharks occurring in it (Kar A B, Silambarasan K, Solomon S, Varghese S and Ramalingam L.)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-13: Feasibility study on applying CK abundance estimates to an IOTC shark species (Rodríguez-Ezpeleta N, et al.)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-14: Genome scan allows discriminating independent populations in blue shark (Nikolic N, Delvoo-Delva F, Bailleul D, Noskova E, Rougeux C, Liautard-Haag C, Hassan M, Marie A, Borsa P, Feutry P, Grewe P, Davies C, Farley J, Fernando D, Biton Porsmoguer S, Poisson F, Marsac F, Arnaud-Haond S)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-24: Distribution and abundance of sunfish (Family Molidae) in the Northern Arabian Sea based on data collected through the Observer Programme of WWF-Pakistan (Moazzam M)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-INF01: The third progress report on the implementation of the IOTC bigeye thresher shark post-release mortality study project (IOTC BTH PRM Project) (IOTC BTH PRM Project Team)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-INF02: Report of the 2019 joint Tuna RFMO bycatch meeting (Anon)

## 7. STOCK ASSESSMENT FOR SHORTFIN MAKO SHARK

- 7.1. Review of indicators for shortfin mako shark (all)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-15: Updated Fishery Indicators for Shortfin Mako Shark (*Isurus Oxyrinchus*) Caught by the Portuguese Pelagic Longline Fishery in the Indian Ocean: Catch, Effort and Standardized CPUEs (Coelho R, Santos C and Rosa D)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-16: Standardized catch rates of shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) caught by the Spanish surface longline fishery targeting swordfish in the Indian Ocean during the period 2001-2018 (Ramos-Cartelle A, Fernández-Costa J, and Mejuto J.)
- 7.2. Stock assessment models (all)

---

**IOTC-2020-WPEB16-01b\_Rev2**

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-17: Preliminary Modelling for the Stock Assessment of Shortfin Mako Shark, *Isurus oxyrinchus* using CMSY and JABBA (Bonhommeau S, Chassot E, Barde J, de Bruyn P, Fiorellato F, Nelson L, and Fu D. and Nieblas A.E.)

7.3. Review of the proposed stock assessment of shortfin mako shark (IOTC Secretariat)

7.4. Recommendation and executive summary for shortfin mako shark (all)

## **8. INDICATORS FOR OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK AND MOBULID RAYS, DATA PREPARATION FOR BLUE SHARK**

8.1. Review of indicators for oceanic whitetip shark

8.2. Review of indicators for mobulid rays

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-18: The impact of the IOTC fisheries on mobulid rays: status and interactions, data availability, and recommendations for management (Flounders L)

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-19: A review of mobulid ray interactions with fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean (Martin S)

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-26: Safe Handling and Release Guide for Gillnet Fisheries: Whale sharks, Manta & Devil Rays, Sea turtles (WWF Pakistan)

8.3. Review of data for blue shark for assessment

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-20: Updated CPUE of blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the Indian Ocean estimated from Japanese observer data between 1992 and 2019 (Kai M and Semba Y)

- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-21: Trend of catch and effort on the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) as bycatch of Indonesian tuna longline fishery (Wujdi A)

## **9. ECOSYSTEM MODELLING AND REPORT CARDS**

9.1. Update on development of indicators for a system of ecosystem report cards (all)

## **10. BYCATCH, SPECIES INTERACTIONS, AND ECOSYSTEM RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR MARINE MAMMALS, SEABIRDS, AND SEA TURTLES**

10.1. Marine mammals (all)

- Review new information on marine mammal biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all);
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-22: Cetacean bycatch in Indian Ocean tuna gillnet fisheries (Anderson R.C., Herrera M., Ilangakoon A.D., Koya K.M., Moazzam M., Mustika P.L. and Sutaria D.N.)
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-25: Guidelines for the Safe and Humane Handling and Release of Bycaught Small Cetaceans from Fishing Gear (CMS, IWC, WWF)
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-INF03: Whale distribution in the Northern Arabian Sea along Coast of Pakistan in 2019 based on the information obtained through fisheries crew-based observer programme (Moazzam M, Nawaz R, Khan B, Ahmed S)
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-INF04: Summary prepared for the IOTC 15th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch – Report of the IWC Workshop on Bycatch Mitigation opportunities in the Western Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-INF05: Report of the IWC 68B Scientific Committee – abridged excerpt
- IOTC-2020-WPEB16-INF06: Draft report: Meeting on collaborative activities for cetacean bycatch, IOTC-IWC
  - Development of management advice on the status of marine mammal species (all).
  - Report on the IWC meeting on bycatch

- 10.2. Seabirds (all)
  - Review new information on seabird biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all)
- 10.3. Sea turtles
  - Review new information on marine turtle biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-23: Species Estimation of Unidentified Bycatch Sea Turtles in the Indian Ocean using RandomForest (Sato Y, Masubuchi T, Yamamoto A, Shibano A, Kanaiwa M, Okamoto K, Ochi D, Kanaiwa M)

## **11. WPEB PROGRAM OF WORK (RESEARCH AND PRIORITIES)**

- 11.1. Revision of the WPEB Program of Work 2021–2025 (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
  - IOTC-2020-WPEB16-10 Revision of the WPEB Program of Work (2020–2024) (IOTC Secretariat & Chairperson)
- 11.2. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPEB meeting (Chairperson)

## **12. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 12.1. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 16th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Chair)