



1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. LETTERS OF CREDENTIALS

Chair's comments:

- *The meeting will be informed about the number of credentialled Members present in the meeting.*
- *Written statements have been posted on the S24 meeting page. The meeting will be informed about the existence of any statements and responses, and they will be appended to the meeting report.*

3. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

Chair' comments:

- *All approved and credentialled IOTC observers are eligible to participate in the meeting under the usual conditions.*
- *The Executive Secretary will list the credentialled observers present in the meeting.*
- *Statements and papers received from observers are posted on the website*

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

Chair' comments:

- *The agenda (IOTC-2020-S24-01b) has been agreed by the Heads of Delegations.*
- *No additional 'Any Other Matters' were received before the agreed 3 October deadline; therefore, no additional matters will be added to the agenda during the meeting.*

5. UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION IN 2019 (S23)

Document IOTC-2020-S24-03 [\[English\]](#)

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC-2020-S24-03 which provided the Commission with information on the progress made during the inter-sessional period on the requests for action made at its 23rd Session in 2019.
- 2) **CONSIDER** whether any of the requests for action need further instructions or guidance.

6. ITEMS REFERRED TO IOTC BY THE FAO CONFERENCE, COUNCIL OR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL (Thursday 5 Nov)

6.1 Regarding the development of a proposal for a permanent procedure to select the IOTC Executive Secretary

Document IOTC-2020-S24-04_Rev1 [\[English\]](#)

Chair' comments:

- *An update on IOTC's ongoing deliberations with FAO regarding the appointment of Secretaries of Article XIV Bodies.*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper the revised procedure for the recruitment of the IOTC Executive Secretary being proposed by the Independent Chairperson of Council and supported by the FAO Management Group.
- 2) **NOTE** the clarifications and additional information on the proposed procedure provided by the Independent Chairperson of Council in response to questions posed by the Small Drafting Group.
- 3) **DECIDE** whether the revised procedure is acceptable or whether negotiations should continue (and if so, on what aspects).

7. REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Document IOTC-2019-SC22-R [\[English\]](#)

7.1 Review of the 2019 SC22 Report and status of the stocks

Chair' comments:

- *The SC Chair will briefly present an overview of the IOTC fisheries and stock status. The IOTC Chair will manage any subsequent interventions.*
- *The SC22 Report is currently available. Any technical questions or clarifications should be posed to the SC Chair or Secretariat prior to the meeting (in the box below).*

7.2 Scientific Committee Recommendations

Chair' comments:

- *The SC Chair will briefly present the recommendations. The IOTC Chair will manage any subsequent interventions.*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** the report of the 22nd session of the Scientific Committee.
- 2) **NOTE** the stock status summaries of the tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate as well as other species impacted by IOTC fisheries.
- 3) **ENDORSE** the Scientific Committee's 2019 list of recommendations as its own.

8. REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ALLOCATION CRITERIA

Document IOTC-2020-TCAC06-R [\[English\]](#)

Chair' comments:

- *The TCAC met on 15-16 September. Any questions or clarifications on the Chairperson's Report should be posed to the TCAC Chair prior to the meeting (in the box below).*
- *The Commission is encouraged to deliberate on a 2021 meeting schedule that can progress the work of the TCAC*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** the TCAC Chairpersons Report from TCAC06.
- 2) **ENDORSE** a workplan for the TCAC.

9. REPORT OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (Wednesday 4 Oct)

Document IOTC-2020-COC17-R [\[English\]](#)

9.1 Overview of the CoC17 Report and CoC recommendations

Chair' comments:

- *The CoC Chair will briefly present the CoC17 report and the IOTC Chair will manage any subsequent interventions.*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** the report of the 17th session of the Compliance Committee.
- 2) **ENDORSE** the Compliance Committee's 2020 list of recommendations as its own.

9.2 Adoption of the List of IUU Vessels

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 3) **ENDORSE** the recommendations of the Compliance Committee to update the details of two vessels on the IOTC IUU Vessels List.
- 4) **ADOPT** the 2021 IOTC IUU Vessels List. Noting All CPCs shall be required to take the necessary measures regarding the IUU Vessels List in accordance with paragraph 21 of Resolution 18/03.

9.3 Requests for accession to the status of Cooperating non-Contracting Party

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 5) **NOTE** the applications for Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) status from Liberia, and Senegal, which were received within the deadline, prior to the commencement of the COC17 meeting.
- 6) **GRANT** CNCP status to Liberia until the start of the 25th Session of the Commission.
- 7) **GRANT** CNCP status to Senegal, until the start of the 25th Session of the Commission.

10. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Document IOTC-2020-SCAF17-R [\[English\]](#)

10.1 Overview of the SCAF17 Report

Chair' comments:

- *The SCAF Chair will briefly present the SCAF17 report and the IOTC Chair will respond to the comments and questions received.*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** the report of the 17th session of the SCAF.
- 2) **ENDORSE** the SCAF's 2020 list of recommendations as its own.

10.2 2021 Programme of Work and Budget of the Commission

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 3) **ADOPT** the programme of work and budget for 2021 and the corresponding schedule of contributions.
- 4) **NOTE** the estimated budget for 2022.

10.3 Finalisation of the amendments to the IOTC Financial Regulations

See also Document IOTC-2020-SCAF17-10 [\[English\]](#)

Chair comment:

- *The SCAF is expected to have deliberated on the dates to be included in Annex Reg.5 of the IOTC Financial Regulations.*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 5) **ADOPT** dates to be included in Annex Reg.5 of the IOTC Financial Regulations, namely:
- (i) the latest date contributions should be paid in each budget year
 - (ii) the date, in a budget year, when un-paid contributions will be in 'Arrears'.

10.4 Schedule of meetings for 2021-2022

Chair' comments:

- *A proposed calendar of meetings is provided in the programme of work and budget. Also see an updated calendar below below.*
- *The Commission might consider the possibility that most, if not all meetings in 2021 will not be in-person meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 6) **ADOPT** the 2021 schedule of meetings.

11. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

11.1 Future Conservation and Management proposals

Document IOTC-2020-S24-PropA [\[English\]](#)

Chair' comments:

- *In August 2020, the Heads of Delegations agreed that S24 would avoid matters which are typically complex and time consuming and, overall, incompatible with the framework and available time of the proposed virtual meeting. This included new Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs).*
- *However, brief updates of any future proposals are permitted and one such proposal (IOTC-2020-S24-PropA) has been received. Depending on the time available, some questions and clarifications may be permitted in Plenary.*

11.2 Current Conservation and Management Measures that include a reference to the year 2020

Document IOTC-2020-S24-05 [\[English\]](#)

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC-2020-S24-05 which indicates that no immediate actions are required on the existing CMMs that make reference to the year 2020.

11.3 Review of objections received under Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement

Document IOTC-2020-S24-06 [\[English\]](#)

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC-2020-S24-06, which informs the Commission about the current '*Objections*' to IOTC Conservation and Management Measures that have been received in accordance with Article IX.5 of the IOTC Agreement.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Cooperation with other organisations and institutions

Document IOTC-2020-S24-07 [\[English\]](#)

Document IOTC-2020-S24-08 [\[English\]](#)

Chair' comments:

- *In 2020 there are proposals for Letters of Understanding with ACAP (S24-07) and IOMOU (S24-08). These proposals have been supported by the WPEB and WPICMM / COC, respectively*

Recommended action/s:

That the Commission:

- 1) **AGREE** to the draft Letter of Understanding with IOMOU and **REQUEST** the Chairperson of the Commission to sign the letter on behalf of the Commission and send it to IOMOU for signature.
- 2) **AGREE** to the draft Letter of Understanding with ACAP and **REQUEST** the Chairperson of the Commission to sign the letter on behalf of the Commission and send it to ACAP for signature
- 3) **ACKNOWLEDGE** the valuable contributions to the IOTC work from a wide range of partners and collaborators including: the tuna RFMOs, SIOTI, the IOC, INFOFISH, WWF, ISSF, OFCF, the SWIOFISH2 Project and the FAO-GEF ABNJ Tuna Project.

12.2 Regarding the tenure of the Executive Secretary f

No document

12.3 Date and place of the Sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies in 2021 and 2022

Chair' comments:

- *The Commission might consider the possibility that S25 (and other meetings in 2021) will not be in-person meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

13. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 24TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

Chair' comments:

- *The Secretariat, with the IOTC Chair's oversight, will draft the S24 report and circulate this for adoption by correspondence.*

Agenda item 10.4: Proposed schedule of meetings in 2021

Meeting	2021	
	Date	previous
Working Party on Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)	February	
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC)	TBC (multiple?)	March
Technical Committee on Performance Review (TCPR)	?	March
Working Party on Ecosystems & Bycatch – data preparation (WPEB-DP)	March?	
Working Party on Temperate Tunas – data preparation (WPTmT-DP)	April	
Working Party on Tropical Tunas – data preparation (WPTT-DP)	May	
Compliance Committee (CoC)	Week prior to S25	June
Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP)	Week prior to S25	June
Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF)	Week prior to S25	June
Commission (S25)	TBC (5 days)	June
Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)	early July	
Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT)	TBC	
Working Party on Billfish (WPB)	early Sept	
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)	mid Sept	
Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)	late October (5d)	
Working Party on Methods (WPM)	late October (3d)	
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS)	late November	
Scientific Committee (SC)	early December	