
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 23RD SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Last updated: 24 November 2020

Date: 7 - 11 December 2020

Location: Virtual

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

Chair: Dr Toshihide Kitakado (Japan)

Vice-Chair: Dr Denham Parker (South Africa)

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–01a:** Draft: Agenda of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–01b:** Draft: Annotated agenda of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–02:** Draft: List of documents of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee
3. **ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS** (Chairperson)
4. **DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.1 Outcomes of the 24th Session of the Commission.
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–03:** Outcomes of the 24th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.2 Previous decisions of the Commission
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–04:** Previous decisions of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
5. **SCIENCE RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE IOTC SECRETARIAT IN 2020** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 5.1 Report of the Secretariat – Activities in support of the IOTC science process in 2020
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–05:** Report of the Secretariat – Activities in support of the IOTC science process in 2019 (IOTC Secretariat)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–11:** Synthesis of population structure of IOTC species from PSTBS-IO project and recommended priorities for future work (Davies C *et al.*)
6. **NATIONAL REPORTS FROM CPCs** (CPCs)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–NR01–34:** National Reports (2020) from each IOTC CPC
7. **REPORTS OF THE 2020 IOTC WORKING PARTY MEETINGS**
 - 7.1 **IOTC–2020–WPNT10–R:** Report of the 10th Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas
 - 7.1.1 Longtail tuna stock assessment
 - 7.1.2 Narrow-barred Spanish Mackerel stock assessment
 - 7.1.3 Kawakawa stock assessment
 - 7.2 **IOTC–2020–WPB18–R:** Report of the 18th Session of the Working Party on Billfish
 - 7.2.1 Swordfish stock assessment
 - 7.2.2 Revision of catch levels of Marlins under Resolution 18/05
 - 7.3 **IOTC–2020–WPEB16–R:** Report of the 16th Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
 - 7.3.1 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–2020–SC23–06:** 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)
 - 7.3.2 Shortfin mako shark stock assessment
 - 7.3.3 Other Matters

- 7.4 **IOTC–2020–WPTT22–R:** Report of the 22nd Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- 7.4.1 Skipjack tuna stock assessment
- 7.4.2 Yellowfin tuna assessment update
- 7.4.3 Other matters
- 7.5 **IOTC–2020–WPM11–R:** Report of the 11th Session of the Working Party on Methods
- 7.5.1 Management Strategy Evaluation Progress (Chairperson)
- 7.6 **IOTC–2020–WPDCS16–R:** Report of the 16th Session of the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics
- 7.7 Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties (capacity building activities; connecting science and management, etc.)
- 8. STATUS OF TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE RESOURCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN (Chairperson)**
- 8.1 Tuna – Highly migratory species
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES01:** Status of the Indian Ocean Albacore (ALB: *Thunnus alalunga*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES02:** Status of the Indian Ocean bigeye tuna (BET: *Thunnus obesus*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES03:** Status of the Indian Ocean skipjack tuna (SKJ: *Katsuwonus pelamis*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES04:** Status of the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna (YFT: *Thunnus albacares*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES05:** Report on biology, stock status and management of southern bluefin tuna: 2018 (from CCSBT)
- 8.2 Tuna and mackerel – Neritic species
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES06:** Status of the Indian Ocean bullet tuna (BLT: *Auxis rochei*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES07:** Status of the Indian Ocean frigate tuna (FRI: *Auxis thazard*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES08:** Status of the Indian Ocean kawakawa (KAW: *Euthynnus affinis*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES09:** Status of the Indian Ocean longtail tuna (LOT: *Thunnus tonggol*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES10:** Status of the Indian Ocean Indo-Pacific king mackerel (GUT: *Scomberomorus guttatus*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES11:** Status of the Indian Ocean narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (COM: *Scomberomorus commerson*) resource
- 8.3 Billfish
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES12:** Status of the Indian Ocean black marlin (BLM: *Makaira indica*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES13:** Status of the Indian Ocean blue marlin (BUM: *Makaira nigricans*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES14:** Status of the Indian Ocean striped marlin (MLS: *Tetrapturus audax*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES15:** Status of the Indian Ocean Indo-Pacific sailfish (SFA: *Istiophorus platypterus*) resource
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES16:** Status of the Indian Ocean swordfish (SWO: *Xiphias gladius*) resource
- 9. STATUS OF SHARKS, MARINE TURTLES, SEABIRDS AND MARINE MAMMALS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN (Chairperson)**
- 9.1 Sharks
- **IOTC–2020–SC22–ES17:** Status of the Indian Ocean blue shark (BSH: *Prionace glauca*)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC22–ES18:** Status of the Indian Ocean oceanic whitetip shark (OCS: *Carcharhinus longimanus*)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES19:** Status of the Indian Ocean scalloped hammerhead shark (SPL: *Sphyrna lewini*)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES20:** Status of the Indian Ocean shortfin mako shark (SMA: *Isurus oxyrinchus*)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES21:** Status of the Indian Ocean silky shark (FAL: *Carcharhinus falciformis*)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES22:** Status of the Indian Ocean bigeye thresher shark (BTH: *Alopias superciliosus*)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC22–ES23:** Status of the Indian Ocean pelagic thresher shark (PTH: *Alopias pelagicus*)
- 9.2 Marine turtles
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES24:** Status of marine turtles in the Indian Ocean
- 9.3 Seabirds
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES25:** Status of seabirds in the Indian Ocean
- 9.4 Marine Mammals
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–ES26:** Status of cetaceans in the Indian Ocean

10. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME (IOTC Secretariat)

- 10.1 Consideration of Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a Pilot Project in view of promoting the Regional Observer Scheme of IOTC
- 10.1.1 Update on the Pilot Project approved by the Commission in 2017
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–07:** Update on the implementation of the regional observer scheme (IOTC Secretariat)
 - **IOTC–2020–SC23–12:** Minimum standards for designing and implementing Electronic Monitoring systems in Indian Ocean tuna fisheries (Murua H *et al.*)

11. PROGRAM OF WORK AND SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS (IOTC Secretariat and Chairperson)

- 11.1 Progress on previous Recommendations from WPs and SC
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–10:** Progress on SC22 recommendations (IOTC Secretariat)
- 11.2 Program of Work (2021–2025) and assessment schedule
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–08:** Revision of the program of work (2021–25) for the IOTC science process (IOTC Secretariat)
- 11.3 Schedule of meetings for 2021 and 2022
- **IOTC–2020–SC23–09:** Proposed schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2021 and 2022 (IOTC Secretariat)

12 OTHER BUSINESS (Chairperson)**13 REVIEW OF THE DRAFT, AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 23rd SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (Chairperson)