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## AGENDA FOR THE 19<sup>TH</sup> WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH

Updated: 11 August 2021

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**Date:** 13–16 September 2021

**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)
3. **THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
  - 3.1. Outcomes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.2. Outcomes of the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.3. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.4. Progress on the recommendations of WPB18 (IOTC Secretariat)
4. **NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERIES AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR BILLFISH**
  - 4.1. Review of the statistical data available for billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 4.2. Review new information on fisheries and associated environmental data (general CPC papers)
  - 4.3. New information on sport fisheries (all)
5. **MARLINS (Priority species for 2021: Black marlin and Striped marlin)**
  - 5.1. Review new information on marlin biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
  - 5.2. Review of new information on the status of black and striped marlins (all)
    - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
    - Stock assessments
    - Selection of Stock Status indicators
  - 5.3. Development of management advice for black and striped marlins and update of species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee, including discussion on current catch limits as per standing IOTC Resolutions (all)
6. **OTHER BILLFISHES (new information for informing future assessments)**
  - 6.1. Review of new information on other billfishes (swordfish, other marlins, I.P. sailfish) biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
7. **WPB PROGRAM OF WORK**
  - 7.1. Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2022–2026) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
  - 7.2. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPB meeting (Chairperson)
8. **OTHER BUSINESS**
  - 8.1. Election of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the WPB for the next biennium (Secretariat)
  - 8.2. Date and place of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
  - 8.3. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)