
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 19TH WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH

Updated: 13 September 2021

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)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-01a: Draft: Agenda for the 19th Working Party on Billfish
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda for the 19th Working Party on Billfish
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-02: Draft: List of documents for the 19th Working Party on Billfish
3. **THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
 - 3.1. Outcomes of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-03: Outcomes of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee
 - 3.2. Outcomes of the 24th and 25th Sessions of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-04: Outcomes of the 24th and 25th Sessions of the Commission
 - 3.3. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-05: Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish
 - 3.4. Progress on the recommendations of WPB18 (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-06: Progress made on the recommendations and requests of WPB18 and SC23 (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)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-07: 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)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-10: Fishery and stock status of billfishes exploited from the eastern Arabian sea (Surya S, Prathibha R, Abdussamad EM, Mini KG, Koya KM, Ghosh S, Jayasankar J, Anulekshmi C, Azeed PA)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-11: Analysis on fishing strategy for target species for Taiwanese large-scale longline fishery in the Indian Ocean. (Wang S-P, Xu W-Q, Lin C-Y, Kitakado T)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-12: An update on satellite tagging of billfish around the Indian Ocean. (Nieblas AE, Bernard S, Big Game Fishing Réunion, Brisset B, Bury M, Chanut J, Chevrier T, Coelho R, Colas Y, Jayanti AD, Evano H, Faure C, Hervé G, Kerzerho V, Rouyer T, Tracey S, Bonhommeau S)
 - 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)
 - Striped marlin**
 - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-13: CPUE standardization of striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) caught by Taiwanese large scale longline fishery in the Indian Ocean. (Xu W-Q, Wang S-P, Lin C-Y)

- IOTC-2021-WPB19-25: Japanese Longline CPUE Standardization (1979-2019) for striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) in the Indian Ocean using Bayesian hierarchical spatial model (Taki K, Ijima H, and Kai M)
 - Stock assessments
- IOTC-2021-WPB19-14: Stock assessment of striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) in the Indian Ocean using the Stock Synthesis (Wang S-P, Xu W-Q, Lin C-Y)
- IOTC-2021-WPB19-15: Assessment of the Indian Ocean striped marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*) stock using JABBA (Parker D)
 - Selection of Stock Status indicators

Black marlin

- Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-16: CPUE standardization of black marlin (*Makaira indica*) caught by Taiwanese large scale longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (Lin C-Y, Wang S-P, Xu W-Q)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-17: Update on CPUE Standardization of Black Marlin (*Makaira indica*) from Indonesian Tuna Longline Fleets 2006-2020 (Setyadji B, Parker D, Wang S-P, Sulistyansih RK)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-26: Japanese Longline CPUE Standardization (1979-2019) for black marlin (*Makaira indica*) in the Indian Ocean using Bayesian hierarchical spatial model (Taki K, Ijima H, and Kai M)
 - Stock assessments
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-18: Assessment of the Indian Ocean black marlin (*Makaira indica*) stock using JABBA (Parker D)
 - 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)
- IOTC-2021-WPB19-19: Sex identification of swordfish using a low cost genetic method (Helary L, Chevrier T, Roumagnac M, Chanut J, Nieblas A-E, Padron M, Brisset B, Evano H, Bonhommeau S)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-20: A review of the Reproductive biology of the Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) in the Indian Ocean (Murua H, Zudaire I, Luque PL, Artetxe-Arrate I, Farley J, Romanov E, Marsac F, Fraile I, Merino G)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-21: Preliminary age and growth of Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) in the western Indian Ocean (Farley J, Robertson S, Norman S, Parker D, Eveson P, Luque P, Krusic-Golub K, Fraile I, Zudaire I, Artetxe I, Murua H, Marsac F, Merino G)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-22: Standardized CPUE of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) caught by French Reunion-based longline fishery (2006-2020). (Juhel J-P, Bonhommeau S, Evano H, Brisset B)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-23: Comparing four nominal CPUEs indices of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) with longline observer data in the Indian Ocean (Peng S, Wang X, Xu L, Wu F, and Zhu J)
 - IOTC-2021-WPB19-24: Indian Ocean swordfish management strategy evaluation: Operating model (Rosa D, Fu D, Coelho R, Mosqueira I)

7. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK

- 7.1. Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2022–2026) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2021-WPB19-08: Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2022-2026) (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 20th and 21st Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 8.3. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 19th Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)