
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 17TH WORKING PARTY ON ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH: ASSESSMENT MEETING

Last updated: August 2021

Date: 6-10 September 2021

Location: Microsoft Teams

Venue: Virtual

Time: 12:00 – 16:00 (Seychelles time)

Chairs: 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-2021-WPEB17(AS)-01a: Agenda of the 17th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Assessment Meeting)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-01b: Annotated agenda of the 17th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Assessment Meeting)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-02: List of documents of the 17th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Assessment Meeting)

3. THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS

3.1. Outcomes of the 25th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-03: Outcomes of the 25th Session of the Commission

3.2. Outcomes of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-04: Outcomes of the 23rd Session of the Scientific Committee

3.3. Review of the Conservation and Management Measures relevant to Ecosystems and Bycatch (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-05: Review of the Conservation and Management Measures relevant to Ecosystems and Bycatch

3.4. Progress on the recommendations of WPEB16 (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-06: Progress on the recommendations of WPEB16

4. REVIEW OF THE DATA AVAILABLE AT THE SECRETARIAT FOR BYCATCH SPECIES (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-07: Review of the statistical data and fishery trends for ecosystems and bycatch species (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-10: Japanese annual catches of pelagic sharks in two subareas between 1964 and 1993 (Kai M)

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-2021-WPEB17(AS)-08: 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 (IOTC Secretariat)

5.2. Species identification tools

6. STOCK ASSESSMENT FOR BLUE SHARKS

6.1. Review of indicators for blue shark (all)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-11: A review of the reproductive biology of the Blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the western Indian Ocean (Murua H et al)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-12: Preliminary age and growth of blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the southwest Indian Ocean (Farley et al)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-13: Habitat modelling for the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) by sex and size classes in the Indian Ocean (Druon J-N, Sabarros P, Bach P, Romanov E and Coelho R)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-14: Catch estimates of blue shark in the IOTC area of competence for the 2021 stock assessment (Rice J)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-06 (Info paper): Updated on the CPUE standardization of the blue shark caught by the Indonesian longline fishery in the eastern Indian Ocean (Wujdi A, Setyadji B, Fahmi Z)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-07 (Info paper): Updated standardized catch rates for blue shark caught by the Taiwanese large-scale tuna longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (Wu XH and Tsai WP)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-08 (Info paper): Updated standardized CPUE of blue shark bycaught by the French Reunion-based pelagic longline fishery (2007-2020) (Sabarros P, Coelho R, Romanov E, Guillon N, Bach P)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-09 (Info paper): Updated Standardized Catch Rates in Biomass for the Blue Shark (*Prionace glauca*) Caught by the Spanish Surface Longline Fleet in the Indian Ocean During the 2001-2019 Period (Fernández Costa J, Ramos-Cartelle A and Mejuto J)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-10 (Info paper): Updated Blue shark catches and standardized CPUE for the Portuguese pelagic longline fleet in the Indian Ocean from 1998 to 2019 (Coelho R, Santos C, Rosa D, Lino P)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-INF01 (Info paper): Demographic and harvest analysis for blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the Indian Ocean (Geng Z, Wang Y, Kindong R, Zhu J, Dai X)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-INF02 (Info paper): On the dangers of including demographic analysis in Bayesian surplus production models: A case study for Indian Ocean blue shark (Geng Z, Punt A, Wang Y, Zhu J, Dai X)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-INF06 (Info paper): Age and growth of the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the Indian Ocean (Andrade I, Rosa D, Muñoz Lechuga R, Coelho R)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-INF07 (Info paper): Update of Age and sex specific Natural mortality of the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the North Pacific Ocean (Semba Y and Yokoi H)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(DP)-INF08 (Info paper): Reproductive biology of the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the western North Pacific Ocean (Fujinami Y, Semba Y, Okamoto H, Ohshimo S and Tanaka S)

6.2. Blue shark stock assessment models (all)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-15: Stock assessment of Blue Shark in the Indian Ocean (Rice J)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-16: Estimates of natural mortality for blue shark in the Indian Ocean (Rice J)

6.3. Review of the proposed stock assessment of blue shark (IOTC Secretariat)

6.4. Recommendation and executive summary for blue shark (all)

7. REVIEW INFORMATION ON BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA RELATING TO SILKY SHARKS (Chair)

7.1. Presentation of new information available on silky sharks

7.2. Review of all data available on silky sharks

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-18: Investigation into the effects of catch time series estimations on stock assessment of Silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) in the Indian Ocean (Cramp J, Moss J and Tanna A)

8. NEW INFORMATION ON BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA RELATING TO ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH SPECIES (Chair)

8.1. 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)

- Gears
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-19: Contribution of tuna gillnet fisheries of Pakistan towards abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gears (ALDFG) (Moazzam M, Gallagher A, Aisha H, Nawaz R and Rasheed T)
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-20: Subsurface gillnetting: What motivated fishermen to Change (Moazzam M)
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-21: The Jelly-FAD: a paradigm shift in bio-FAD design (Moreno G, Salvador J, Murua H, Uranga J, Zudaire I, Murua J, Grande M, Cabezas O and Restrepo V)
- Ecosystems and climate
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-22: Concept note for the second IOTC workshop on identification of regions in the IOTC convention area to inform the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management (Juan-Jordá M-J, Nieblas AE and Murua M)

9. BYCATCH, SPECIES INTERACTIONS, AND ECOSYSTEM RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR OTHER SHARK SPECIES, MARINE MAMMALS, SEABIRDS, AND SEA TURTLES

9.1. All bycatch species (all)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-23: Guidelines on the safe handling and release of ETP species in gillnet fisheries (Razzaque S A)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-24: Bycatch management in IOTC fisheries (Martin S and Shahid U)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-32: An Overview of the bycatch status in tuna fishery in India (Kar AB, Prasad GVA, Das P, Silambarasan K, Bhami Reddy D, Ayoob AE, Unnikrishnan N, Pawar RU and Jeyabaskaran R)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)- INF04: WWF position on the impact of fisheries on oceanic sharks and rays (WWF)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)- INF06: Caution over the use of ecological big data for conservation (Harry A and Braccini J)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-INF08: Spatially-explicit risk assessment of interactions between marine megafauna and Indian Ocean tuna fisheries (Robertson L, Boussarie G, Dugan E, Wilcox C, Garilao C, Gonzalez K, Green M, Kark S, Kaschner K, Klein C, Rousseau T, Vallentyne F, Watson J and Kiszka J)

9.2. Other sharks and rays

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-25: A preliminary habitat suitability model for oceanic whitetip shark in the Western Indian Ocean (Lopetegui L, Poos JJ, Arrizabalaga H, Guirhem G, Murua H, Lezama Ochoa N, Griffiths S, Ruiz Gondra J, Sabarros P, Baez J-C and Juan-Jordá M-J)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-26: Third progress report on tag deployments to investigate the post-release mortality of oceanic white sharks discarded by EU purse seine and pelagic longline fisheries in the South West Indian Ocean (POREMO project) (Bach P, Sabarros P, Romanov E, Coelho R, Guillon N, Massey Y and Murua H)

- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-27: A preliminary habitat suitability model for devil rays in the western Indian Ocean (Guirhem G, Arrizabalaga H, Lopetegui L, Murua H, Lezama Ochoa N, Griffiths S, Ruiz Gondra J, Sabarros P, Baez J-C and Juan-Jordá M-J)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-28: 3D printing of pelagic shark fins for use as a training and compliance tool (Bürgener M, Louw S and da Silva C)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-INF01: Quantifying the accuracy of shark bycatch estimations in tuna purse seine fisheries (Forget F)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-INF02: An update on the recent development of IOTC BTH PRM Project (Romanov E)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)- INF05: Shark mortality overlap cannot be assessed by fishery overlap alone (Murua H, Griffiths S, Hobday A, Clarke S, Cortés R, Gilman E, Santiago J, Arrizabalaga H, de Bruyn P, Lopez J, Aires-da-Silva A and Restrepo V)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-INF07: Biological observations of shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) on Spanish surface longline fishery targeting swordfish (García-Cortés B, Ramos-Cartelle A, Mejuto J, Carroceda A and Fernández-Costa J)

9.3. Marine mammals (all)

- Review new information on marine mammal biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all);
- Collaboration with IWC (all)
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-29: Report of 2021 Meeting on collaborative activities for cetacean bycatch, IOTC-IWC (IWC/IOTC)
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-INF03: Proposed Letter of Intent between IOTC and IWC (IWC)

9.4. Seabirds (all)

- Review new information on seabird biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all)
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-30: ACAP advice for reducing the impact of pelagic longline fishing operations on seabirds (ACAP)

9.5. Sea turtles

- Review new information on marine turtle biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all)
- Letter of Understanding between IOTC and IOSEA on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles
 - IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-31: Proposed Letter of Understanding between the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Secretariat of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA)

10. WPEB PROGRAM OF WORK (RESEARCH AND PRIORITIES)

- 10.1. Revision of the WPEB Program of Work 2021-2025 (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2021-WPEB17(AS)-09: WPEB Program of Work 2021-2025 (IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.2. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPEB meeting (Chairperson)

11. OTHER MATTERS (Chair)

- 11.1. Election of new Chairs for the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
- 11.2. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 17th Session of the (Chairperson)