

AGENDA FOR THE 23RD WORKING PARTY ON TROPICAL TUNAS:

Last updated: 18 October 2021

Date: 25 - 30 October 2021

Location: Online

Time: 12:00 – 16:00 (Seychelles time)

Chair: Dr Gorka Merino (European Union); Vice-Chair: Dr Shiham Adam (IPNLF)

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING (Chair)

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION (Chair)

- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-01a: Agenda of the 23rd Working Party on Tropical Tunas (Secretariat)
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-01b: Annotated Agenda of the 23rd Working Party on Tropical Tunas (Secretariat)
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-02: List of documents for the 23rd Working Party on Tropical Tunas (Secretariat)

3. UPDATE OF ANY NEW DATA AVAILABLE AT THE SECRETARIAT FOR TROPICAL TUNA SPECIES SINCE THE DATA PREPARATORY MEETING (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-03: Review of the statistical data and fishery trends for tropical tunas with specific focus on recent data of yellowfin. (Secretariat)

4. YELLOWFIN STOCK ASSESSMENT (Chair)

4.1 Review any new information on yellowfin biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data since the data preparatory meeting (all)

- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-05: Preliminary estimation of growth parameters for yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Indian Ocean from otolith-based age estimates (Farley et al)
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-06: Comparative study of Indian Ocean Dipole impacts on yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) and bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) catch rates in the Indian Ocean (Wang Y, Zhu J, Zhang F)
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-07: Review of size data from Indian Ocean longline fleets, and its utility for stock assessment (Hoyle S, Chang S-T, Fu D, Itoh T, Lee SI, Lucas J, Matsumoto T, Yeh Y-M, Wu R-F, Lee MK).
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-08: Approaches for estimating natural mortality in tuna stock assessments: application to Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna. (Hoyle, S).
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-09: A preliminary report on estimate of fecundity, age at maturity, sex ratios, spawning season, and spawning fraction for yellowfin tuna (Zudaire et al).
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-21: Investigating growth information for yellowfin and bigeye tuna from the IOTTP tag-recapture data. (Farley et al.)

4.2 Update on the nominal and standardised CPUE indices presented at the data preparatory meeting

- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-10: Standardized purse seine CPUE of Yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean for the European fleet (Guéry L, Kaplan D, Grande M, Abascal F, Baez J-C. and Gaertner D.).
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-11: Outcomes of joint CPUE analysis (Kitakado et al).

4.3 Stock assessments results

- Stock Synthesis (SS3)
- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-12: Preliminary Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stock assessment 1950-2020 (Stock Synthesis) (Fu et al.)
- Other models

4.4 Selection of Stock Status indicators for yellowfin

4.5 Update on YFT MSE

- IOTC–2021–WPM12–13 Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna management procedure evaluation update (Hillary R, Williams A, Preece A and Jumppanen P)

4.6 Development of management advice for yellowfin tuna (all)

4.7 Update of yellowfin tuna Executive Summary for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)

4.8 External Peer Review

5 OTHER TROPICAL TUNA ISSUES

- **General**

- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–14: Outline of climate and oceanic conditions in the Indian Ocean: an update to mid-2021. (Marsac et al.).
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–15: Aggregation times of tuna schools to FADs estimated by echosounder data (Navarro-García M, Precioso D, Gavira-O’Neill K, Torres-Barrán A, Gordo D, Gallego-Alcalá V, and Gómez- Ullate D).
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–16: Fine-scale analysis of drifting Fish Aggregating Device (dFAD) beachings in the Seychelles Archipelago: Hotspots offer hope for clean-up (McMillan et al).
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–17: Nominal catch of tropical tunas by artisanal and industrial fishery in the IOTC area of competence (Varghese S, Pandey S, Siva A, Jeyabaskaran R).
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23(DP)–15: UPDATE: Associative Behavior-Based abundance Index (ABBI) for yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Western Indian Ocean. (Baidai Y, Dagorn L, Gaertner D, Denebourg J-L, Duparc A and Capello M)

- **Bigeye**

- IOTC–2021–WPM12–11 Indian Ocean Bigeye Tuna Management Procedure Evaluation Update (Hillary R, Williams A, Preece A and Jumppanen)
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–18: Estimating the age and growth of bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in the Indian Ocean from counts of daily and annual increments in otoliths. (Farley J, Krusic-Golub K, Eveson P, Clear N, Luque P, Artetxe-Arrate I, Fraile I, Zudaire I, Vidot A, Govinden R, Ebrahim A, Romanov E, Chassot E, Bodin N, Murua H, Marsac F, Merino G).
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–19: Estimating the size at sexual maturity of bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in the eastern Indian Ocean. (Hartaty H, Setyadji B, Arnenda G, and Sulistyaningsih R).
- IOTC–2021–WPTT23–20: Temporal trends and variability in the spatial distribution of European tropical tuna purse-seine fishing in the Atlantic and Indian Oceans (Kaplan D, Báez JC, Pascual Alayon P, Vidal T).

- **Skipjack**

- IOTC–2021–WPM12–10 Evaluation of empirical control rules for Indian Ocean Skipjack (Edwards C)

6 WPTT PROGRAM OF WORK

6.1 Revision of the WPTT Program of Work (2022–2026)

- IOTC-2021-WPTT23-04: Revision of the WPTT Program of Work (2022-2026) (IOTC Secretariat)

6.2 Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPTT meeting

7 OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Election of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the WPTT for the next biennium (Secretariat)

7.2 Date and place of the 24th and 25th Sessions of the WPTT (Chair and IOTC Secretariat)

7.3 Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 23rd Session of the WPTT (Chair)