REVISION OF THE WGEMS PROGRAM OF WORK (2022–2026)

PREPARED BY: IOTC WGEMS Chair and IOTC SECRETARIAT, 11 NOVEMBER 2021

PURPOSE

To ensure that participants at the 1st Working Group Working Group on the Development of Electronic Monitoring Programme Standards (WGEMS) revise the Program of Work for the WGEMS by taking into consideration the specific requests of the Scientific Committee and Commission.

BACKGROUND

Scientific Committee

At the 23rd Session of the SC:

*(Para. 156)   The SC **NOTED** IOTC–2020–SC23–08 which provided the SC with a proposed Program of Work for each of its working parties, including prioritisation of the elements requested by each working party.*

*(Para. 157) The SC noted the proposed Program of Work and priorities for the Scientific Committee and each of the Working Parties and **AGREED** to a consolidated Program of Work as outlined in Appendix 35a-g. The Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of each working party shall ensure that the efforts of their working party are focused on the core areas contained within the appendix, taking into account any new research priorities identified by the Commission at its next Session.*

*(Para. 159) The SC **AGREED** on the consolidated table of priorities across all Working Parties, as developed by each WP Chair, and **REQUESTED** that the IOTC Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair and vice-Chair of the SC and relevant Working Parties, develop ToRs for the specific projects to be carried out.*

DISCUSSION

Participants at the WGEMS1 are requested to consider the priorities set by the Commission and the Scientific Committee, via Conservation and Management Measures, and revise its Program of Work to match those priorities.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the WGEMS:

1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2021–WGEMS1–07, which encouraged the WGEMS to further develop and refine its Program of Work for 2022–2026 to align with the requests and directives from the Scientific Committee and Commission.
2) **RECOMMEND** a revised Program of Work for 2022–2026 to the WPDCS and Scientific Committee for its consideration and potential endorsement.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: DRAFT: Working Group on the Development of Electronic Monitoring Programme Standards Program of Work (2022–2026)

WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC MONITORING
PROGRAMME STANDARDS PROGRAM OF WORK (2022–2026)

The Program of Work consists of the following, noting that a timeline for implementation would be developed by the SC once it has agreed to the priority projects across all of its Working Parties:

Table 1. Priority topics for obtaining the information necessary to deliver the necessary advice to the Commission. Resolution 11/04 and 16/04 elements have been incorporated as required by the Commission.

Topic	Sub-topic and project	Priority	Ranking	Lead/ Participation	Timing 2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
1. EMS Pilot Projects	Continuation of EMS pilot projects in IOTC fisheries (LL, PS, PL, GN, and others) to ensure that ROP minimum data requirements are collected by EMS	High	3	Scientist	░	░			
2. EM Minimum Standards[1]	Agree on definitions	High	1	Scientist, vendors, experts, stakeholders	░	░			
	Technical Specifications and data collection				░	░			
	Capabilities of EM to collect ROP minimum data requiremets				░	░			
	Logistical Specifications				░	░			
	Data analysis specifications and data quality control				░	░			
	EMS Maintanaince and functioning				░	░			

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[1] To be discussed at a first WGEMS expert workshop with the participation of scientist, experts, vendors and stakeholders.

#			Priority	No.	Responsible					
3. EM Programme Standards[2]		Objectives and Scope of the Programme	High	2	Managers, scientist, experts.					
		Institutional structure and management								
		EMS coverage and data review coverage								
		Roles and responsabilities								
		Acreditation of EMS Systems/vendors								
		Timeframe for EMS implementation								
		Data confidentiality								
		EMS Program cost								
4. Compatibility and iteroparibility		Compatibility of IOTC databases and other collection platforms (e.g. VMS)	Medium	4	Secretariat/ scientist					
		Interoperability among different vendor's EMSs	Medium	5	Secretariat/ scientist					
5. Development of tools and innovative strategies		Aritifial Intelligence and Machine learning for EMS data analysis	Low	6	Scientist/ Secretariat					
6. Capacity building		Capacity building	High	3	Secretariat/ Scientist/ mangeers					

[2] To be discussed at a second WGEMS expert workshop between managers, scientist, and stakeholders.