

10 January 2022

IOTC CIRCULAR 2022-02

Dear Madam / Sir

CALENDAR OF IOTC MEETINGS IN 2022

The IOTC will hold the below listed meetings in 2022. Further information, including agendas and other documents, will be made available by the IOTC Secretariat via email, Circulars and the IOTC website ([Click here](#)).

NOTE: Given that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt travel and face-to-face meetings, and because there have been no offers to host any meetings in 2022, all meetings will be held by videoconference unless otherwise advised.

I am mindful that the TCAC indicated that TCAC10 should be a face-to-face meeting; however, given the outbreaks of the Delta and Omicron covid variants show no clear signs of abatement, I must advise that a face-to-face meeting for TCAC10 meeting as soon as March is not feasible. However, planning is underway for, at least, a hybrid face-to-face meeting of the Commission (and perhaps the associated meetings) in May (in Seychelles) — the Secretariat will keep you advised on this.

Meeting participation fund (for developing IOTC Contracting Parties Members only)

Videoconference meetings are not supported by the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF). If in-person meetings begin to be held, information of the MPF will be disseminated.

Credentials

In accordance with Rule III of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), official credentials are required in order to participate in some meetings (refer to the calendar). For your convenience, a draft letter of credentials (from Appendix I of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, 2014) is available [here](#).

Only credentialed individuals will receive the Zoom links to join a meeting.

Contracting Parties & Cooperating Non-contracting Parties (CPCs)

Each CPC is requested to provide a letter of credentials signed by the appropriate Authority indicating who will receive the Zoom link. The credentials should also include the email address and contact phone number for each recipient. Credentials are requested no later than 15 days before each meeting to iotc-secretariat@fao.org.

Observers

IOTC Observers are also requested to submit a similar Letter of Credentials indicating who will receive the Zoom link. The credentials should also include the email address and contact phone number for each recipient. Credentials are requested no later than 15 days before each meeting to iotc-secretariat@fao.org

Registration is required working party and working group meetings only

Registration for working party meetings (via the meeting webpage) is essential to allow the IOTC Secretariat enough time to make the necessary arrangements to provide videoconference links. Please register for the meetings on the IOTC website no later than 15 days before a working party meeting. Note, registration (on the meeting webpage) for meetings requiring credentials is not required.

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations.** **Chairperson IOTC.** **Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

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Calendar of 2022 meetings

Meeting	Date	Credentials
Vessels Monitoring System Working Group (VMSWG)	25 January	
Catch Document Scheme Working Group (CDSWG)	14-15 February	
Working Party on Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)	16-18 February	
MSE Task Force	7-10 March	
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) 1 st meeting	14-17 March	Yes
Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT) Data preparatory meeting	13-15 April	
Compliance Committee (CoC)	8-10 May	Yes
Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF)	11 May	Yes
Report adoption: CoC (am) / SCAF (pm)	12 May	Yes
Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP)	13-14 May	Yes
Commission (S26)	16-20 May	Yes
Working Party on Tropical Tunas – data preparation (WPTT-DP)	30 May – 3 June	
Working Group on Electronic Monitoring Standards (WGEMS)	13 – 15 June	
Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)	4-8 July	
Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTmT)	25-29 July	
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)	5-9 September	
Working Party on Billfish (WPB)	12-15 September	
Ad hoc Working Group on FADs (WGFAD)	3-5 October	
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) 2 nd meeting	10-13 October	Yes
Working Party on Methods (WPM)	19-21 October	
Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)	24-29 October	
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS)	29 November – 3 December	
Scientific Committee (SC)	5-9 December	Yes

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien
Executive Secretary