
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 20TH WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH

Updated: 29 August 2022

Date: 12–15 September 2022

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-2022-WPB20-01a: Draft: Agenda for the 20th Working Party on Billfish
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda for the 20th Working Party on Billfish
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-02: Draft: List of documents for the 20th Working Party on Billfish

3. THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS

3.1. Outcomes of the 24th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2022-WPB20-03: Outcomes of the 24th Session of the Scientific Committee

3.2. Outcomes of the 26th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2022-WPB20-04: Outcomes of the 26th Session of the Commission

3.3. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2022-WPB20-05: Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish

3.4. Progress on the recommendations of WPB19 (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2022-WPB20-06: Progress made on the recommendations and requests of WPB19 and SC24 (IOTC Secretariat)

4. NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERIES AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR BILLFISH

4.1. Review of the statistical data available for billfish at the Secretariat (IOTC Secretariat)

- IOTC-2022-WPB20-07: Review of the statistical data and fishery trends for billfish species

4.2. New information on sport fisheries (all)

5. MARLINS (Priority species for 2022: Blue 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 blue marlins (all)

- Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-09: CPUE standardization of blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) caught by Taiwanese large scale longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (Wang S-P)
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-10: Standardized CPUE of blue marlin (*Makaira mazara*) caught by Japanese longline fishery in the Indian Ocean: Analysis between 1979 and 2021 Matsumoto, Taki, and Ijima
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-11: Update on CPUE Standardization of Blue Marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) from Indonesian Tuna Longline Fleets 2006-2021 (Setyadji B, Parker D, Wang S-P)
 - Stock assessments
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-12: Updated stock assessment of blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the Indian Ocean using JABBA (Parker D)
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-13: Stock assessment of blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the Indian Ocean using Stock Synthesis (Wang S-P)

- Selection of Stock Status indicators
- 5.3. Development of management advice for blue 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. INDO-PACIFIC SAILFISH

- 6.1. Review new information on I.P sailfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-14: Determination of Size Discrepancies for Sailfish, *Istiophorus platypterus*, in Varying Ocean Basins (Espittia J)
- 6.2. Review of new information on the status of I.P. Sailfish (all)
- Available abundance indices
 - Stock assessments
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-15: Alternative methods to assess the data poor Indo-Pacific sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*) stock (Parker D and Espittia J)
 - Selection of Stock Status indicators
- 6.3. Development of management advice for I.P. Sailfish and update of species Executive Summary for the consideration of the Scientific Committee, including discussion on current catch limits as per standing IOTC Resolutions (all)

7. SWORDFISH

- 7.1. Review of new information on swordfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-16: Assessment of the impact of the inclusion of marine subsurface variables on habitat modelling of swordfish in the Indian Ocean (Tang W)
 - IOTC-2022-WPB20-17: Analysis of At-haulback Mortality and Influencing Factors of Indian Ocean Swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) (Li X)
- 7.2. Review of new information and indicators on the status of swordfish (all)
- Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - Other indicators
- 7.3. Updates on the Management Strategy Evaluation for Swordfish
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-18: Indian Ocean swordfish MSE: suggestions for modification on the Operating model (Brunel T and Mosqueira I)

8. OTHER BILLFISHES (new information for informing future assessments)

- 8.1. Review of new information on other billfishes biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-19: Status of fisheries of billfish of Pakistan: Status and Trends (Moazzam M)
 - IOTC-2022-WPB20-20: Improved protocol for satellite tagging of billfish (Nieblas A.E., Chanut J, Tracey S, Nithard A, Brisset B, Evano H, Bernard S, Rouyer T, Kerzerho V, Bonhommeau S)

9. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK

- 9.1. Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2023–2027) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2022-WPB20-08: Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2023–2027) (IOTC Secretariat)

- 9.2. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPB meeting (Chairperson)

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1. Date and place of the 21st and 22nd Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.2. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 20th Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)