



OUTCOMES OF THE 26th SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 08 MARCH 2023

PURPOSE

To inform participants at the 6th Technical Committee on Management Procedure (TCMP06) of the decisions and requests made by the Commission at its 26th Session, held from 16-20 May 2022, specifically relating to the work of the TCMP05.

BACKGROUND

At the 26th Session, the Commission **CONSIDERED** and **ADOPTED** 4 proposals as Conservation and Management Measures (consisting of 4 Resolutions and 0 Recommendations), as detailed below:

- [Resolution 22/01](#) *On climate change as it relates to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission* [[download here](#)].
- [Resolution 22/02](#) *On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels* [[download here](#)].
- [Resolution 22/03](#) *On a Management Procedure for bigeye tuna in the IOTC area of competence* [[download here](#)].
- [Resolution 22/04](#) *On a Regional Observer Scheme* [[download here](#)].

Pursuant to Article IX.4 of the IOTC Agreement, the above-mentioned Conservation and Management Measures shall become binding on Members, 120 days from the date of the notification communicated by the Secretariat.

DISCUSSION

26th Session of the Commission

The Commission also made a number of general comments on the recommendations made by the Scientific Committee in 2022, which have relevance for the TCMP. The following extracts from the S26 Report (IOTC-2022-S26-R) are provided here for the consideration and action of the TCMP06:

*(Para. 46) The Commission **NOTED** that the report from the 5th meeting of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP) had not yet been adopted and will be done so by correspondence. The Commission **NOTED**, however, that several Recommendations had been reviewed and agreed during the meeting and these were presented to the Commission by the SC Chair who co-chaired the meeting. The Recommendations were as follows:*

- *The TCMP **NOTED** that both candidate MPs for BET, reviewed by the SC, are acceptable and meet the management objectives for the stock. As such the TCMP **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission discuss them both and consider selecting one MP for adoption.*
- *The TCMP **NOTED** that CPCs require time to process the outputs of the SC in order to fully explore and understand the advice provided using the MSE process. To facilitate this, the TCMP **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission endorse holding a virtual TCMP meeting early each year with a view to discuss or narrow down the alternative candidate MPs proposed by the SC, providing sufficient time for CPCs to discuss the outputs of the SC and consider developing proposals based on them. The TCMP would then meet again physically prior to the Commission.*

*(Para. 47) The Commission **SUPPORTED** the important work conducted by the TCMP and **ENDORSED** the Recommendation to hold a virtual meeting early in the year. This would be included in the schedule of meetings from 2023.*

*(Para. 48) The Commission **URGED** the TCMP to continue with capacity building initiatives to facilitate understanding of the process and increase participation by all parties to facilitate smooth implementation of the MSE process.*



*(Para. 49) The Commission **ACKNOWLEDGED** an offer by the PEW Charitable Trusts to support capacity building workshops and activities for MSE. The Commission **REQUESTED** the Secretariat to liaise with PEW to coordinate these activities.*

The complete report of the 26th Session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission is available for download from the IOTC website.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the TCMP:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2023–TCMP06–04 which outlined the outcomes of the 26th Session of the Commission, specifically related to the work of the TCMP and **AGREE** to consider how best to provide the SC with the information it needs, in order to satisfy the Commission's requests, throughout the course of the current TCMP meeting.