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## AGENDA FOR THE 22<sup>ND</sup> WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH

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Updated: 27 July 2024

**Date:** 4–7 September 2024

**Location:** Berjaya Beau Vallon Bay Hotel, Seychelles

**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00 daily (Seychelles time)

**Chair:** Dr Jie Cao (China); **Vice-Chair** Dr Sylvain Bonhommeau (France):

1. **OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
3. **THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
  - 3.1. Outcomes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.2. Outcomes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.3. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
  - 3.4. Progress on the recommendations of WPB21 (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)
  - 4.2. New information on sport fisheries (all)
5. **BILLFISH REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY Workshop**
6. **MARLINS (Priority species for 2024: Black marlin and Striped marlin)**
  - 6.1. Review new information on marlin biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
  - 6.2. Review of new information on the status of black and striped marlins (all)
    - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
    - Stock assessments
    - Selection of Stock Status indicators
  - 6.3. Development of management advice for black and striped 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)
7. **THE SWORDFISH MANAGEMENT Procedure (Resolution 24/08)**
  - 7.1. Process for running Resolution 24/08 on Swordfish MP
8. **OTHER BILLFISHES (new information for informing future assessments)**
  - 8.1. Review of new information on other billfishes (other marlins, I.P. sailfish) biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
  - 8.2. Resolution 18/05 Catch Limits

**9. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK**

- 9.1. Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2025–2029) (Chairperson and 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 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.2. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)