
Comments on the TCAC Agenda

SUBMITTED BY: Japan

Explanatory Memorandum

Japan provided detailed comments on the preliminary agenda provided by the TCAC chair on the 12 September 2024. The detailed comments are provided below

Draft Agenda of the 13th Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC)

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. LETTERS OF CREDENTIALS AND ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

- Provisional Agenda
- Chair's Memorandum

4. DEMONSTRATION OF SIMULATIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

4.5. Chair's summary of consultations with members

5-6. TCAC WORKPLAN 2024-2026

- Proposed workplan and **priority species**
- Allocation criteria/framework
- Decision tree
 - o Simulations and data
 - o **Target species**
 - o Reference years
 - o **and eCatch attribution**
 - o Weightings
 - o Development indices/socio-economic indicators
 - o Transferability
 - o Compliance
 - o Implementation **and jurisdiction**
 - o **Geographic scope**
 - o New entrants **and CNCPs**
 - o **Transition**
 - o Review
 - o Other matters
- Package deal

6-7. SIMULATION EXERCISE FOR HIGH SEAS COMPONENT OF CONVENTION AREA

7-8. ALLOCATION CRITERIA FOR CONVENTION AREA

- Baseline
- Catch history/biomass
- Special requirements of developing states

8-9. CHAIR'S SUMMARY

9-10. OTHER BUSINESS

10-11. ADOPTION OF REPORT

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Commented [A1]: The Chair's summary is quite useful to know various views, and its presentation will build a bridge among the members. It would also be a good opportunity for everyone to recognize the contributions of the new Chair. In particular, paras 8 and 9 of Chair's letter circulated late Aug. contain very important issues including concerns for overall compliance in IOTC fisheries, data quality, monitoring capacity, etc. Japan believes that TCAC should seek further views from Members and discuss how to cope with these concerns.

Commented [A2]: While recognizing the Chair is proposing to start with yellowfin tuna, Japan proposes to consider the skipjack-first option, as it does not have current catch limit (thus no need to consider transition measures from the current management regime), and an effective management measure based on newly agreed MP is urgently needed. Our concern on yellowfin-first approach is that it could affect the momentum to agree on the new yellowfin tuna measure as soon as possible.

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Commented [A3]: Gradual expansion from priority species (e.g., yellowfin) to other species should be considered in the workplan.

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Commented [A4]: These are different decision points.

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Commented [A5]: We understand "jurisdiction" as "geographic scope" including territorial and archipelagic waters. If not, geographic scope still needs to be discussed.

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Commented [A6]: Transition from the current management system (e.g., YFT catch limit) to the allocation regime should be discussed and decided in due course.