
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 26TH WORKING PARTY ON TROPICAL TUNAS:

Last updated: 23 October 2024

Date: 28 October – 2 November 2024

Location: Eden Bleu Hotel, Seychelles

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 (Seychelles time)

Chair: Dr Gorka Merino (European Union); **Vice-Chair:** Dr Shiham Adam (IPNLF)

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING (Chair)

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION (Chair)

- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-01a: Draft: Agenda of the 26th Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda of the 26th Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-02: Draft: List of documents for the 26th Working Party on Tropical Tunas

3. UPDATE OF ANY NEW DATA AVAILABLE AT THE SECRETARIAT FOR TROPICAL TUNA SPECIES SINCE THE DATA PREPARATORY MEETING (IOTC Secretariat)

3.1 Data available at the Secretariat

- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-3.1: Overview of Indian Ocean tropical tuna fisheries (Secretariat)
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-3.2: Review of Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna statistical data (Secretariat)

3.2 Fishery Indicators

- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-6: Tropical Tuna Landings at Fishing Ports in Thailand (Prasertsook O, Sanboonpeng J)
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-7: Review of Oman's data collection system and statistics
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-INF02: Technical report on the re-estimation of Indonesia's annual catch data for the period 1950-2022

4. YELLOWFIN TUNA STOCK ASSESSMENT (Chair)

4.1 Review any new information on yellowfin tuna biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data including climate change issues since the data preparatory meeting (all)

- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-9: Proposal of an online digital ocean atlas for the Indian Ocean (Marsac F, Gunawardane N)

4.2 Update on the nominal and standardised CPUE indices presented at the data preparatory meeting.

4.3 Stock assessments results

- Stock Synthesis (SS3)
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-11: Preliminary 2024 stock assessment of yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean (Correa G, Urtizberea A, Merino G)
- Other models
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-12: Stock assessment for Indian Ocean Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) using Bayesian surplus production model (JABBA). (Li Y)
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-13: Preliminary stock assessment for yellowfin tuna *Thunnus albacares* in the Indian Ocean using age structured assessment program (ASAP) (Wang Y, Geng Z, Zhu J)
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-INF01: Estimating yellowfin selectivity using a multigear length-based catch curve (Medley P)
- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-INF03: Standardising composition data for non-representative sampling and climate influences: application to WCPFC shark and tuna stocks (Neubauer P)

4.4 Selection of Stock Status indicators for yellowfin tuna

5. BIGEYE TUNA MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

5.1 Consideration of exceptional circumstances

- IOTC-2024-WPM15-10: Consideration of Exceptional Circumstances for the Bigeye Tuna MP 2024 (Preece A, Williams A)

5.2 The Implementation of the Bigeye MP as per Resolution 22/03

- IOTC-2024-WPM15-09: Running the IOTC bigeye tuna management procedure for 2024 (Williams A Preece A, Hilary R)

6. OTHER TROPICAL TUNAS

- Skipjack tuna
 - IOTC-2024-WPTT26-19: Protocol for age estimation of skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) in the western Indian Ocean using first dorsal fin spines (Luque P, Artetxe-Arrate I, Serrano N, Fraile I, Zudaire I)
 - IOTC-2024-WPTT26-20: Indian Ocean skipjack tuna ageing protocol for otolith thin sections (Krusic-Golub K, Luque P, Farley J, Clear N)
 - IOTC-2024-WPTT26-14: Enhancing Precision in Age Estimation of Indian Ocean Skipjack Tuna Using Refined Otolith and Fin Spine Criteria (Luque P, Krusic-Golub K, Da Silva G, Farley J, Eveson P, Artetxe-Arrate I, Clear N, Fraile I, Zudaire I)
- Bigeye
 - IOTC-2024-WPTT26-15: YouTube video to facilitate the identification of Yellowfin and Bigeye tuna (Fujino T)
 - IOTC-2024-WPTT26-16: Influence of bait type on bigeye tuna catch rates in Sri Lanka (Gunasekera S, Bandaranayake K, Jayasinghe R)

7. UPDATE ON MSE FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

- Yellowfin

8. FAD RELATED TOPICS

8.1 UPDATE FROM THE WORKING GROUP

8.2 COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE SC ON FADS (All)

- 8.2.1 Resolution 24/02 On Management of Drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs) in the IOTC Area of Competence
- 8.2.2 Resolution 23/03 On Establishing a Voluntary Fishing Closure in the Indian Ocean for the Conservation of Tropical Tunas
- 8.2.3 Resolution 23/01 on the management of anchored fish aggregating devices (AFADs)

9. WPTT PROGRAM OF WORK

9.1 Revision of the WPTT Program of Work (2025–2029)

- IOTC-2024-WPTT26-05: Revision of the WPTT program of work (IOTC Secretariat)

9.2 Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPTT meeting

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Date and place of the 27th and 28th Sessions of the WPTT (Chair and IOTC Secretariat)

11. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

11.1 Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 26TH Session of the WPTT (Chair)