
AGENDA FOR THE 27TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEELast updated: 24 October 2024

Date: 2 - 6 December 2024**Location:** Cape Town Lodge Hotel and Conference Centre, Cape town, South Africa/Hybrid**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00 daily**Chair:** Dr Toshihide Kitakado (Japan)**Vice-Chair:** Gorka Merino (Spain)

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
3. **ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS** (Chairperson)
4. **DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.1 Outcomes of the 28th Session of the Commission.
 - 4.2 Previous decisions of the Commission
5. **SCIENCE RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE IOTC SECRETARIAT IN 2024** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 5.1 Report of the Secretariat – Activities in support of the IOTC science process in 2024
6. **NATIONAL REPORTS FROM CPCs** (CPCs)
7. **REPORTS OF THE 2024 IOTC WORKING PARTY MEETINGS**
 - 7.1 IOTC–2024–WPNT14–R Report of the 14th Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas
 - 7.2 IOTC–2024–WPB22–R Report of the 22nd Session of the Working Party on Billfish
 - 7.2.1 Billfish reproductive biology workshop
 - 7.2.2 Stripe marlin stock assessment
 - 7.2.3 Black marlin stock assessment
 - 7.2.4 Revision of catch levels of Marlins under Resolution 18/05
 - 7.3 IOTC–2024–WPEB20–R Report of the 20th Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
 - 7.3.1 Status of development and implementation of national plans of action for seabirds and sharks, and implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations
 - 7.3.2 Longline bycatch mitigation measures workshop
 - 7.3.3 Shortfin mako shark stock assessment
 - 7.3.4 Other matters
 - 7.4 IOTC–2024–WPTT26–R Report of the 26th Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas
 - 7.4.1 Yellowfin tuna stock assessment
 - 7.4.2 Update on the WGFAD06
 - 7.4.3 Other matters
 - 7.5 IOTC–2024–WPM15–R Report of the 15th Session of the Working Party on Methods
 - 7.5.1 Update on TCMP08
 - 7.5.2 Management Strategy Evaluation Progress
 - 7.5.3 Bigeye tuna MP (Resolution 22/03)
 - 7.5.4 Skipjack tuna MP (Resolution 24/07)
 - 7.5.5 Swordfish tuna MP (Resolution 24/08)
 - 7.6 IOTC–2024–WPDCS20–R Report of the 20th Session of the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics
 - 7.6.1 Update on WGEMS04
 - 7.6.2 Other matters
 - 7.7 IOTC–2024–WPSE01–R Report of the 1st Session of the Working Party on Socio-Economics

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- 7.8 Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties (capacity building activities; connecting science and management, etc.)
 - 7.8.1 Data collection and capacity building
 - 7.8.2 Invited Expert(s) at the WP meetings
 - 7.8.3 Meeting participation fund
 - 7.8.4 IOTC species identification guides: Tuna and tuna-like species
 - 7.8.5 Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the SC and its subsidiary bodies
 - 8. STATUS OF TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE RESOURCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN (Chairperson)**
 - 8.1 Tuna – Highly migratory species
 - 8.2 Tuna and mackerel – Neritic species
 - 8.3 Billfish
 - 9. STATUS OF SHARKS, MARINE TURTLES, SEABIRDS AND MARINE MAMMALS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN (Chairperson)**
 - 9.1 Sharks
 - 9.2 Marine turtles
 - 9.3 Seabirds
 - 9.4 Marine mammals
 - 10. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME (IOTC Secretariat)**
 - 10.1 Consideration of Resolution 24/04 On a regional observer scheme
 - 11. PROGRAM OF WORK AND SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS (IOTC Secretariat and Chairperson)**
 - 11.1 Progress on previous Recommendations from WPs and SC
 - 11.2 Program of Work (2025–2029) and assessment schedule
 - 11.2.1 Program of Work
 - 11.2.2 Assessment schedule
 - 11.2.3 Consultants
 - 11.3 Schedule of meetings for 2025 and 2026
 - 11.3.1 Data preparatory meetings
 - 11.3.2 Final meeting schedule
 - 12 IOTC SCIENTIFIC STRATEGIC RESEARCH PLAN (Chairperson)**
 - 13 OTHER BUSINESS (Chairperson)**
 - 13.1 Election of a Chair for the next biennium (Chair and Secretariat)
 - 14 REVIEW OF THE DRAFT, AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 27th SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (Chairperson)**
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