
OUTCOMES OF THE 27th SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 1 JUNE 2025

PURPOSE

To inform participants at the 7th Meeting of the Working Group on FADs (WGFAD07) of the recommendations arising from the 27th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee (SC) held from 2 -6 December 2024, specifically relating to the work of the WGFAD.

BACKGROUND

At the 27th Session of the SC, the SC noted and considered the recommendations made by the WPTT in 2024 that included requests to address the deficiencies in data collection, monitoring and reporting by CPCs, as well as to carry out targeted research and analysis on FADs. The recommendations on the deficiencies in data collection, monitoring and reporting by CPCs in relation FADs will be discussed in paper IOTC–2025–WGFAD07-05 and are therefore not presented in this paper.

DISCUSSION

The following extracts from the SC27 Report (2024) are provided here for the consideration and action of the WGFAD04:

Update in the WGFAD06

(Para 115) The SC **NOTED** the report of the 6th working group meetings on FADs ([IOTC-2024-WGFAD06-R](#)). The meetings were attended by 90 participants (75 and 116 participants in WGFAD04 and WGFAD05 respectively in 2023).

(Para 115) The SC **NOTED** that after the recent resolutions on FAD were adopted, CPCs seem less inclined to submit papers to WGFAD. This led to the shortening of WGFAD06 to a single day and the cancellation of WGFAD07 this year due to a shortage of papers. Therefore, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission schedule only one WGFAD meeting in 2025. The SC also suggests that this meeting should take place before the WPEB, as FAD issues are relevant to WPEB, to allow the findings to be reported to both WPEB and WPTT.

RECOMMENDATION

That the WGFAD:

- 1) **NOTE** paper IOTC–2025–WGFAD07–03 which outlined the main outcomes of the 27th Session of the Scientific Committee, specifically related to the work of the WGFAD.
- 2) **CONSIDER** how best to progress these issues at the present meeting.