
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 27TH WORKING PARTY ON TROPICAL TUNAS:**Last updated: 1 October 2025**

Date: 21– 25 October 2025**Location:** Laïla Resort, 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-2025-WPTT27-01a: Draft: Agenda of the 26th Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda of the 26th Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-02: 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-2025-WPTT27-3: Overview of Indian Ocean tropical tuna fisheries (Secretariat)

3.2 Fishery Indicators

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-6: Statistics on tropical tuna landings at Thai fishing ports (Prasertsook O, Sanboonpeng J)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-7: Analysis of the yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*), bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) and skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) caught in 2024 by the industrial tuna fishery in Kenya (Ndegwa S et al.)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-8: Comparative analysis of ERS Data on tropical tuna fisheries in Madagascar: longline and purse seine fleets, 2024–2025 (Fanazava R)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-9: The status of tuna stocks with special reference to tropical tunas in Pakistan (Sheikh U, Khan M)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-10: Review of Indonesian tuna purse seine fisheries in Indian Ocean (Widodo et al.)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-11: Assessing catch rate dynamics of yellowfin tuna in Sri Lanka's longline fishery: linear and non-linear approaches (Haputhantri S, Jayasinghe G)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-25: Spawning features of yellowfin (*Thunnus albacares*) and bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) in the Indian Ocean revealed by decadal Chinese longline observer data (Wang Y)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-26: Status, Trends, and Biological Insights of Tropical Tuna Fisheries in Indian Waters (Rajesh K)

4. BIGEYE TUNA STOCK ASSESSMENT (Chair)

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

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-2025-WPTT27-15: Preliminary stock assessment of Indian Ocean Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) using Stock Synthesis (2025) (Phillips G)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-23: Advances in the use of state-space assessment models for tuna stocks: application to the Indian Ocean bigeye tuna (Correa G, Merino G, Agurtzane Urtizberea A, Wang Y)

4.4 Selection of stock status indicators

5. BIGEYE TUNA MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

5.1 Consideration of exceptional circumstances

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-16: An update on consideration of exceptional circumstances for the bigeye tuna MP 2025 (Preece A et al.)

6. SKIPJACK TUNA MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

6.1 Consideration of exceptional circumstances

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-27: Consideration of exceptional circumstances for the skipjack tuna Management procedure adopted by the IOTC in 2023 (Merino G)

6.2 The Implementation of the Skipjack tuna MP as per Resolution 22/03

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-17: Running the IOTC skipjack tuna management procedure for 2025

6.3 Other

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-12: Length-based assessment and biological review of skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) in the Indian EEZ
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-INF01: Is my red the same as your red? Improving the communication of stock status and support for management in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission with specific recommendations for Indian Ocean skipjack (Merino et al.)

7. YELLOWFIN TUNA

7.1 Update on the standardised CPUE indices

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-18: Update of joint CPUE indices for yellowfin tunas in the Indian Ocean based on Japanese, Korean and Taiwanese longline fisheries data (up to 2024) (Kitakado et al. 2025)

7.2 Update on the Management Strategy Evaluation

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-19: Conditioning of OMs and preliminary evaluation of MPs for Indian Ocean yellowfin (Urtizberea A, Correa M, Merino G, Murua H)

7.4 Other

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-13: Length-Based Assessment of Yellowfin Tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Tanzania EEZ: Applying LBB and LB-SPR Methods for Data-Limited Fisheries Management (Silas M)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-20: Catch level projections and management benchmarks in the face of non-stationarity - an application to Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna (Merino et al.)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-21: Analysis of the recoveries by sex of adult yellowfin and bigeye in the Indian Ocean (Fonteneau A, Hallier J)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-28: Preliminary evaluation of Seychelles longline length, catch and effort data: summary of findings

8. FAD RELATED TOPICS

8.1 Update from the WGFAD

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

- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-22: A dFAD retrieval project: A case study on the utility of retrieval vessels (Alzorriz N)
- IOTC-2025-WPTT27-INF02: Abundance, visiting frequency, interactions, fishery connectivity and economics of exploitation of pelagic species by Réunion's artisanal fishery on anchored FADs (AFICHE): a research project implying tagging of dolphinfish, wahoo and tuna (Romanov et al)

8.2.2 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 (2026–2030)

- IOTC–2025–WPTT27-05: 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 Election of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the WPTT for the next biennium (Secretariat)
- 10.2 Date and place of the 28th and 29th 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 27TH Session of the WPTT (Chair)