
ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 28TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Last updated: 03 October 2025

Date: 1 - 5 December 2025**Location:** Royal Garden Hotel, Shanghai, China/Hybrid**Time:** 09:00 - 17:00 daily**Chair:** Dr Toshihide Kitakado (Japan)**Vice-Chair:** : Dr Fayakun Satria (Indonesia)

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-01a:** Agenda of the 28th Session of the Scientific Committee
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-01b:** Annotated agenda of the 28th Session of the Scientific Committee
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-02:** List of documents of the 28th Session of the Scientific Committee
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 29th Session of the Commission.
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-03:** Outcomes of 29th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.2 Previous decisions of the Commission
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-04:** Previous decisions of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
5. **SCIENCE RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE IOTC SECRETARIAT IN 2025** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 5.1 Report of the Secretariat - Activities in support of the IOTC science process in 2025
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-06:** Report of the Secretariat - Activities in support of the IOTC science process in 2025 (IOTC Secretariat)
6. **NATIONAL REPORTS FROM CPCs** (CPCs)
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-NR01-31:** National Reports (2025) from each IOTC CPC
7. **REPORTS OF THE 2025 IOTC WORKING PARTY MEETINGS**
 - 7.1 **IOTC-2025-WPSE02-R** Report of the 2nd Session of the IOTC Working Party on Socio-Economics
 - 7.2 **IOTC-2025-WPTmT09-R** Report of the 9th Session of the Working Party on Temperate Tunas
 - 7.2.1 Albacore tuna stock assessment
 - 7.3 **IOTC-2025-WPNT15-R:** Report of the 15th Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas
 - 7.4 **IOTC-2025-WPB23-R:** Report of the 23rd Session of the Working Party on Billfish
 - 7.4.1 Blue marlin stock assessment
 - 7.4.2 Indo-Pacific sailfin stock assessment
 - 7.4.3 Revision of catch levels of Marlins under Resolution 18/05
 - 7.5 **IOTC-2025-WPEB21-R:** Report of the 21st Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
 - 7.5.1 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
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-06:** 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 (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 7.5.2 Blue shark stock assessment
 - 7.5.3 Other matters

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-11:** Development of an experimental pilot action by the Spanish surface longline fleet targeting swordfish in the Indian Ocean, employing terminal gear devices known as lazos (loops) (Báez J et al.)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-14:** Japan's consideration on the framework of scientific fishing trial for shark mitigation measure from the operational viewpoint (Semba Y, Tsuji S, Ochi D)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-INF02:** Close-kin mark recapture estimates of whale shark abundance in the Indian Ocean (Patterson T, Pillans T, Hillary R)
- 7.6 **IOTC-2025-WPTT27-R:** Report of the 27th Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas
 - 7.6.1 Bigeye tuna stock assessment
 - 7.6.2 Update on the WGFAD07
- **IOTC-2025-WGFAD07-R: Report of the 7th meeting of the Working Group on FADs**
 - 7.6.3 Yellowfin tuna
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-12:** Updated joint CPUE indices for yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean based on Japanese, Korean, and Taiwanese longline fisheries data up to 2023 (Kitakado T, Wang S, Lee S, Ijima H, Park H, Lim J, Lee M, Tsuda Y, Nirazuka S Tsai W)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-13:** Preliminary analysis of the 2024 yellowfin assessment model with updated longline CPUE (Merino G, Correa G, Urtizberea A)
 - 7.6.4 Other matters
- 7.7 **IOTC-2025-WPM16-R:** Report of the 16th Session of the Working Party on Methods
 - 7.7.1 Update on TCMP09
 - 7.7.2 Management Strategy Evaluation Progress
 - 7.7.3 Bigeye tuna MP (Resolution 22/03)
 - 7.7.4 Skipjack tuna MP (Resolution 24/07)
 - 7.7.5 Swordfish tuna MP (Resolution 24/08)
- 7.8 **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-R:** Report of the 21th Session of the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics
 - 7.8.1 Update on WGEMS05
 - 7.8.2 Other matters
- 7.9 Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties (capacity building activities; connecting science and management, etc.)
 - 7.9.1 Data collection and capacity building
 - 7.9.2 Invited Expert(s) at the WP meetings
 - 7.9.3 Meeting participation fund
 - 7.9.4 IOTC species identification guides: Tuna and tuna-like species
 - 7.9.5 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
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES01:** Status of the Indian Ocean Albacore (ALB: *Thunnus alalunga*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES02:** Status of the Indian Ocean bigeye tuna (BET: *Thunnus obesus*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES03:** Status of the Indian Ocean skipjack tuna (SKJ: *Katsuwonus pelamis*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES04:** Status of the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna (YFT: *Thunnus albacares*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES05:** Report on biology, stock status and management of southern bluefin tuna: 2023 (from CCSBT)
- 8.2 Tuna and mackerel - Neritic species
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES06:** Status of the Indian Ocean bullet tuna (BLT: *Auxis rochei*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES07:** Status of the Indian Ocean frigate tuna (FRI: *Auxis thazard*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES08:** Status of the Indian Ocean kawakawa (KAW: *Euthynnus affinis*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES09:** Status of the Indian Ocean longtail tuna (LOT: *Thunnus tonggol*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES10:** Status of the Indian Ocean Indo-Pacific king mackerel (GUT: *Scomberomorus guttatus*) resource
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES11:** Status of the Indian Ocean narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (COM: *Scomberomorus commerson*) resource
- 8.3 Billfish
 - **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES12:** Status of the Indian Ocean black marlin (BLM: *Istiompax indica*) resource

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES13:** Status of the Indian Ocean blue marlin (BUM: *Makaira nigricans*) resource
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES14:** Status of the Indian Ocean striped marlin (MLS: *Kajikia audax*) resource
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES15:** Status of the Indian Ocean Indo-Pacific sailfish (SFA: *Istiophorus platypterus*) resource
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES16:** Status of the Indian Ocean swordfish (SWO: *Xiphias gladius*) resource

9. STATUS OF SHARKS, MARINE TURTLES, SEABIRDS AND MARINE MAMMALS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN (Chairperson)

9.1 Sharks

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES17:** Status of the Indian Ocean blue shark (BSH: *Prionace glauca*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES18:** Status of the Indian Ocean oceanic whitetip shark (OCS: *Carcharhinus longimanus*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES19:** Status of the Indian Ocean scalloped hammerhead shark (SPL: *Sphyrna lewini*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES20:** Status of the Indian Ocean shortfin mako shark (SMA: *Isurus oxyrinchus*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES21:** Status of the Indian Ocean silky shark (FAL: *Carcharhinus falciformis*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES22:** Status of the Indian Ocean bigeye thresher shark (BTH: *Alopias superciliosus*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES23:** Status of the Indian Ocean pelagic thresher shark (PTH: *Alopias pelagicus*)
- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES24:** Status of the Indian Ocean Porbeagle Shark (POR: *Lamna nasus*)

9.2 Marine turtles

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES25:** Status of marine turtles in the Indian Ocean

9.3 Seabirds

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES26:** Status of seabirds in the Indian Ocean

9.4 Marine mammals

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-ES27:** Status of cetaceans in the Indian Ocean

10. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME (IOTC Secretariat)

10.1 Consideration of Resolution 25/06 On a regional observer scheme

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-07:** Update on the implementation of the regional observer scheme (IOTC Secretariat)

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

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-10:** Progress on SC27 recommendations (IOTC Secretariat)

11.2 Program of Work (2026-2030) and assessment schedule

11.2.1 Program of Work

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-08:** Revision of the program of work (2026-2030) for the IOTC science process (IOTC Secretariat)

11.2.2 Assessment schedule

11.2.3 Consultants

11.3 Schedule of meetings for 2026 and 2027

- **IOTC-2025-SC28-09:** Proposed schedule of Working Party and Scientific Committee meetings for 2026 and 2027 (IOTC Secretariat)

11.3.1 Data preparatory meetings

11.3.2 Final meeting schedule

12 OTHER BUSINESS (Chairperson)

12.1 Election of a Chair for the next biennium (Chair and Secretariat)

13 REVIEW OF THE DRAFT, AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 28th SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (Chairperson)