



DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 21ST WORKING PARTY ON DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, LAST UPDATED: 11TH NOVEMBER 2025

Date: 25th – 29th November 2025

Location: Shanghai, China / Hybrid

Platform: Zoom

Time: 9:00 – 17:00 (Shanghai time, GMT+08:00)

Chair: Dr Julien Barde (EU,France); **Vice-Chair:** Dr Nuwan Gunawardane (Sri Lanka)

1 OPENING OF THE MEETING (CHAIR)

2 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION (CHAIRS)

- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-01a: Agenda of the 21st WPDCS
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-01b: Annotated agenda of the 21st WPDCS
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-02: List of documents of the 21st WPDCS

3 THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES, AND PROGRESS (IOTC SECRETARIAT)

3.1 Outcomes of the Scientific Committee (SC) and Commission (COM) last meetings

- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-03: Outcomes of the 27th session of the SC (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-04: Outcomes of the 29th session of the COM (IOTC Secretariat)

3.2 Review of Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs) relevant to the WPDCS

- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-05: Review of current data-related CMMs (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-06: Updated calculations of tropical tuna catch limits for 2024 / 2025 (IOTC Secretariat)

4 DATA-RELATED ACTIVITIES AND DATA OVERVIEW

4.1 Activities carried out in 2025

- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-08: Report on IOTC data section activities (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2025-WEMS05-R: Outcomes of the 5th Session of the IOTC ad-hoc WGEMS - Working Group on the Development of Electronic Monitoring Programme Standards (WGEMS chairs)

4.2 IOTC data status and overview

- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-10: Report on IOTC data collection and statistics (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-24: Evolution of ROS reporting tools (IOTC Secretariat)
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-25: Progress on the implementation, data reporting, and outcomes of the Regional Observer Scheme (ROS) (IOTC Secretariat)

4.3 Other data-related activities

- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-09: Report on progress of IOTC-OFCF Project for JFY2025 activities and planned activities for JFY2026 (OFCF)
- IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-15: Digital solutions for IOTC species identification (OFCF)

- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-07:** An update on the IOTC oceanographic atlas project (Marsac et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-18:** Perspectives on the collection and management of morphometric data and biological samples at the IOTC (IOTC Secretariat)

5 UPDATES ON NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS (CPCS)

5.1 Data Collection

- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-11:** Observations on the use of length conversion equations to address length data deficiencies for swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), Indo-Pacific sailfish (*Istiophorus platypterus*), black marlin (*Istiompax indica*) and blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the Indian Ocean, using images of billfish caught by Sri Lanka's artisanal and semi- industrial multi-day fishing vessels (Darsigan et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-12:** Comparison of length-frequency data from a monthly sampling survey and a port-based data collector in the Andaman Sea of Thailand (Pheaphabrattana and Noranarttragoon)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-13:** A pilot project to start evaluating the new "traplines/loop" gear in the EU.PRT pelagic longline fishery operating in the Indian ocean (Coelho et. al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-14:** 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 et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-19:** Preliminary results from a dedicated data collection survey targeting the tuna and tuna-like species (Ndegwa et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-20:** Fish catch survey and analysis: A tool to collect and estimate the landings of marine resources from artisanal fisheries in Indian Waters (Varghese et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-30:** Report on the collection of catch data and measures taken to improve it in 2024 (Khorshidi et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-26:** New information and data on the effectiveness of a crew-based observer protocol for IOTC data collection on-board artisanal fishing boats targeting tuna and tuna-like species within Sri Lanka's exclusive economic zone, in compliance with Resolution 24/04 On A regional observer scheme (Gunasekera et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-28:** How observation coverage shapes bycatch metrics in the tropical tuna purse seine fishery (Correa et al)

5.2 Data Revisions

- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-21:** Update on the review of Oman's data collection system and statistics
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-22:** Update of the retrospective analysis 2014-2024 Oman's data reported
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-23:** A new framework for reconstructing and projecting Indonesia's shark catches: Correcting the past to inform sustainable management (Jaya et al)

6 DATA STANDARDS AND WORKFLOWS

- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-27:** Report of the Electronic Monitoring minimum standards harmonization workshop (Murua et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-16:** Applying Open Science principles to make a better use of IOTC data (Barde et al)
- **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-17:** Following the tuna trail: Contrasting global catch estimates from FAO and RFMOs (Grasset et al)

7 WPDCS PROGRAMME OF WORK (CHAIRS & IOTC SECRETARIAT)

7.1 Revision of the WPDCS Program of Work 2026-2029

➤ **IOTC-2025-WPDCS21-29:** Revision of the WPDCS Program of Work (IOTC Secretariat)

8 OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Election of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson of the WPDCS for the next biennium (IOTC Secretariat)

8.2 Date and place of the 22nd and 23rd sessions of the WPDCS: 2026 & 2027 (Chairs and IOTC Secretariat)