
AGENDA FOR THE 24TH WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH

Updated: 1 September 2026

Date: 9–12 September 2026

Location: Reunion

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 daily (French time)

Chair: Dr Jie Cao (China); **Vice-Chair** Dr Sylvain Bonhommeau (France):

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chairperson)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
- 3. THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
 - 3.1. Outcomes of the 28th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.2. Outcomes of the 30th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.3. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.4. Progress on the recommendations of WPB23 (IOTC Secretariat)
- 4. NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERIES AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR BILLFISH**
 - 4.1. Review of the statistical data available for billfish at the Secretariat (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.2. Climate change (all)
- 5. MARLINS (Priority species for 2026: Swordfish)**
 - 5.1. Review new information on marlin biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - 5.2. Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - 5.3. Stock assessments
 - 5.4. Review of exceptional circumstances of swordfish management procedure (Resolution 24/08)
 - 5.5. Development of management advice for swordfish and update of species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee, including discussion on current catch limits as per standing IOTC Resolutions (all)
- 6. OTHER BILLFISHES (new information for informing future assessments)**
 - 6.1. Review of new information on other billfishes (biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - 6.2. Resolution 18/05 Catch Limits
 - 6.3. Preparation for stock assessments in 2027
- 7. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK**
 - 7.1. Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2027–2031) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
 - 7.2. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPB meeting (Chairperson)
- 8. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - 8.1. Date and place of the 25th and 26th Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
 - 8.2. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 24th Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)