
DRAFT: ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 17th WORKING PARTY ON METHODS**UPDATED: 1 OCTOBER 2026**

Date: 26-27 October 2026**Location:** Tenerife, Spain**Venue:** IEO**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00 daily**Chair:** Ann Preece (AUS); **Vice-chair:** Dr Giancarlo Correa (EU.ESP)

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chairperson)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-01a: Agenda of the 17th Working Party on Methods
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-01b: Annotated agenda of the 17th Working Party on Methods
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-02: List of documents of the 17th Working Party on Methods
- 3. THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
 - 3.1. Outcomes of the 28th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-03: Outcomes of the 27th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.2. Outcomes of the 10th Session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2026-TCMP10-R: Report of the 10th Session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.3. Outcomes of the 30th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-04: Outcomes of the 30th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.4. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to the WPM (IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-05: Review of Conservation and Management Measures relating to methods (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.5. Progress on the recommendations of WPM16 (IOTC Secretariat and Chairperson)
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-06: Progress made on the recommendations and requests of WPM16 and SC28 (IOTC Secretariat)
- 4. ALBACORE MSE: UPDATE** (Developers)
 - 4.1. Discussion and feedback on MSE development
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-13: Preliminary Results of the Albacore MSE (Hordyk A)
 - 4.2. Future workplan
- 5. SKIPJACK TUNA MP (Resolution 24/07 & 25/03)**
 - 5.1. Review of exceptional circumstance
 - IOTC-2026-WPM17-14: Consideration of Exceptional Circumstances for the skipjack tuna Management Procedure adopted by the IOTC in 2026 (Merino G)

5.2. Others scientific work requested by the Commission

6. BIGEYE TUNA MP (Resolution 22/03 & 25/04)

6.1. Review of exceptional circumstances

- IOTC-2026-WPM17-15: Consideration of exceptional circumstances for the IOTC bigeye tuna management procedure for 2026 (Preece A, Williams A)

7. SWORDFISH MP (Resolution 24/08 & 26/02)

7.1. Review of Exceptional Circumstances

- IOTC-2026-WPM17-16: Consideration of Exceptional Circumstances for the Swordfish MP 2026: For the Working Party on Methods (Bromhead D, Preece A, Williams A, Brunel T, Mosqueira I)

8. YELLOWFIN TUNA MSE: UPDATE (Developers)

8.1. Discussion and feedback on MSE development

- IOTC-2026-WPM17-17: Management strategy evaluation for Indian ocean yellowfin: development and analyses of operating models (Agurtzane Urtizberea A, Correa G, Merino G)

8.2. Future workplan

9. BLUE SHARK TUNA MSE: UPDATE (Developers)

9.1. Discussion and feedback on MSE development

- IOTC-2026-WPM17-18: Management procedures for blue shark in the Indian Ocean: current project status (Edward C)
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-19: Report from the Global Blue Shark Management Strategy Evaluation Workshop (Scott R)

9.2. Future workplan

10. GENERAL MSE ISSUES (Chairperson and Vice-chairperson)

10.1. Climate change scenarios in MSE

10.2. MSE capacity building

10.3. Feedback on MSE and MP communication to TCMP

11. CPUE STANDARDISATION (Chairperson)

11.1. Update on the development of the joint CPUE indices for 2027/2028.

11.2. Advice on CPUE standardisation

11.3. Future workplan

12. STOCK ASSESSMENT and STOCK STATUS GUIDANCE (Chairperson)

12.1. Review the approach used to provide stock status and management advice relative to reference points

- IOTC-2026-WPM17-08: Preliminary study of the age and growth of yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Southern Waters of Java, Indonesia (Jatmiko I, Sadiyah L, Satria F)
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-09: Observed hook depth and catch distribution in the Sri Lankan tuna longline fishery (Gunasekara S, Ambillapitiya L, Ranaweera R)
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-10: Stock assessment and management for longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) in the Andaman Sea, Thailand (Prasertsook O, Piabpabrattana S)
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-11: A methodological framework for integrating heterogeneous fishery-dependent and independent tuna data in India (Ramachandran S, Varghese S, Sreenath K)

- IOTC-2026-WPM17-12: Assessing the Islamic Republic of Iran’s Compliance with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures: Progress in Fisheries Data Reporting, Biological Sampling, and Data Quality (*Roshan J*)
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-20: A Review of Resolution 15/10 with Recommendations for its Revision (Bromhead D, Ann Preece A, Williams A)
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-21: Extending Data-Limited Assessment Methods Through AI-Assisted Interpretation: The Fisheries Intelligence and Advisory System (Adira K, Dunn A)

13. WPM PROGRAM OF WORK (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)

- 13.1. Revision of the timeline of the MSE development
- 13.2. Revision of the WPM Program of Work (2027–2031) and research priorities
- IOTC-2026-WPM17-07: Revision of the WPM Program of Work (2027–2031) (IOTC Secretariat & Chairpersons)

14. OTHER BUSINESS

- 14.1. Date and place of the 18th and 19th Sessions of the WPM (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 14.2. Development of priorities for Invited Expert(s) at the next WPM meeting (Chairperson)
- 14.3. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 17th Session of the WPM (Chairperson)