ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 28TH WORKING PARTY ON TROPICAL TUNAS:

Last updated: 1 October 2026

Date: 20– 24 October 2026

Location: Tenerife, Spain

Time: 09:00 – 17:00

Chair: Dr David Kaplan (European Union); **Vice-Chair:** Mr Mohamed Shimal

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING (Chair)

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION (Chair**)**

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-01a: Draft: Agenda of the 28th Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda of the 28th Working Party on Tropical Tunas
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-02: Draft: List of documents for the 28th 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-2026-WPTT28-6: Review of the Statistics for Indian Ocean Tropical Tuna Fisheries, 1950-2025 (Secretariat)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-7: Review of the statistical data available for skipjack tuna (1950-2025) (Secretariat)

3.2 Fishery Indicators

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-08: Port-in entry authorization processes and import statistics for tropical tuna in Thailand in 2025 (Prasertsook O, Sanboonpeng J)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-09: Composition and spatio-temporal distribution of tropical tuna catches in the Madagascar fishing zone in 2024 and 2025 (Fanazava R)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-11: Strengthening sustainable tuna fisheries in India: research, policy, and livelihood goals (Joe S)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-12: Bait selection and target–non target catch trade-offs in the Sri Lankan yellowfin tuna longline fishery (Gunasekara S, Jayasinghe R)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-15: Explore ocean patterns and trends at your fingertips with the newly released Indian Ocean Digital Atlas (IODA) (Marsac F, Noel E)

4. SKIPJACK TUNA (ALL)

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

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-16: Preliminary study of the age and growth of skipjack tuna (Katsuwonus pelamis) in the Southern Waters of Java, Indonesia (Jatmiko I, Sadiyah L, Satria F)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-17: Opposite effects of positive and negative Indian Ocean Dipole events on skipjack tuna abundance and purse seine catch rates (Marsac F)

4.2 Update on the nominal and standardised CPUE indices presented at the data preparatory meeting.

4.3 Stock assessments results

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-18: Stock Assessment of Indian Ocean skipjack tuna (Katsuwonus pelamis) using Stock Synthesis (2026) (Phillips G)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-27: An application of the FISHBLICC model to the Indian Ocean skipjack tuna (Fu D)

4.4 Selection of stock status indicators

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-26Presentation: 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

4.5 Consideration of exceptional circumstances of skipjack tuna management procedure

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-19: Evaluation of exceptional circumstances for IO skipjack in 2026 (Merino G, Urtizberea A, Correa G)

4.6 Other

5. BIGEYE TUNA

5.1 Consideration of exceptional circumstances of bigeye tuna management procedure

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-20: Consideration of Exceptional Circumstances for the Bigeye Tuna MP 2026 (Preece A, William A)

5.2 Other

6. Yellowfin tuna

6.1 Update of yellowfin tuna management procedure

6.2 Other

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-21: Updated schedule for a close-kin mark-recapture study on Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna (William A)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-22: Evaluating Sampling Logistics in the North Arabian Sea for Implementation of Close-Kin Mark-Recapture for Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna (Razzaque S)
- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-23: Methods and initial results of the tagging data analysis of Yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean (Mildenberger T, Nielsen A)

8. FAD RELEATED 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-2026-WPTT28-24: Towards the Development of FAD Marking Guidelines in the IOTC (Maitane Grande M, Gala Moreno G, Ramos M, Kaplan D, Murua J, Murua H, Déniz S, Taha Imzilen T, Esther Mollier E, Baéz J, Zudaire I)

8.2.2 Resolution 23/01 on the management of anchored fish aggregating devices (AFADs)

- IOTC-2026-WPTT28-25Presentation: Anchored FADs: Anchored FADs: relevance of the use and overall impact on juvenile tuna and the environment (Pearce J)

9. WPTT PROGRAM OF WORK

9.1 Revision of the WPTT Program of Work (2027–2031)

- IOTC–2026–WPTT28-05: Revision of the WPTT program of work (IOTC Secretariat)

9.2 Plan for the yellowfin assessment in 2027

9.3 Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPTT meeting

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.2 Date and place of the 29th and 30th 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 28TH Session of the WPTT (Chair)