
DRAFT AGENDA OF THE IOTC SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE – 9TH SESSION

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. ELECTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION

4. ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

The Third Session of the Commission decided that its subsidiary bodies would be open to the participation of observers from Member parties of FAO, from international organisations and from non-governmental organisations which had attended previous meetings or were admitted to attend Commission Sessions.

5. PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat will report on its activities during the year 2006 and its proposal for activities in 2007 regarding, acquisition, processing and dissemination of information regarding tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean.

6. DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS

6.1 Status of the IOTC Databases

6.2 Review of data on species

6.2.1 Billfish (IOTC-2006-WPB-R)

6.2.2 Tropical Tunas (IOTC-2006-WPTT-R)

6.2.3 Bycatch (IOTC-2006-WPBy-R)

6.3 Progress Report of the IOTC-OFCF project

The OFCF will report on the progress of the activities under the joint project between IOTC and the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan for the strengthening of statistics in developing coastal countries of the Indian Ocean.

7. PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL REPORTS

Delegates from Member Parties and Cooperating Non-contracting Parties will report on their tuna fisheries, statistical systems and research programmes, as well as on measures taken to implement Scientific Committee recommendations. *You can find the guidelines for the completion of the National Reports at <http://www.iotc.org/English/meetings/sc/sccurrent.php>. Please, keep in mind that a formal written report is not strictly necessary, a verbal report and a short summary with the essential information to include is sufficient. Also, to assist in the preparation of the report, please bring with you an electronic copy of the short summary of your National report.*

8. STATUS OF TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE RESOURCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

The Scientific Committee is invited to bring to the attention of the Commission any actions that might need to be taken, arising from the recommendations of these Working Parties considering these resources. Management Advice and/or Executive Summaries on the status of the resources have been drafted by the Working Parties involved. These should be adopted by the Scientific Committee prior to transmission to the Commission.

8.1 Report of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas (IOTC-2006-WPTT-R)

8.1.1 Executive Summary of the status of the bigeye tuna resource (stock assessment updated in 2006).

8.1.2 Executive Summary of the status of the yellowfin tuna resource.

8.1.3 Executive Summary of the status of the skipjack tuna resource.

8.2 Report of the Working Party on Billfish (IOTC-2006-WPB-R)

8.2.1 Executive Summary of the status of the swordfish resource (stock assessment updated in 2006)

8.3 Other species

8.3.1 Executive Summary of the status of the albacore tuna resource.

8.3.2 Report on biology, stock status and management of southern bluefin tuna (from CCSBT)

9. STATUS OF SPECIES TAKEN AS BYCATCH IN INDIAN OCEAN TUNA FISHERIES

The Scientific Committee is invited to bring to the attention of the Commission any actions that might need to be taken, arising from the recommendations of the Working Party on Bycatch.

9.1 Report of the Working Party on Bycatch (IOTC-2006-WPBy-R)

10. ACTIVITIES IN RELATION WITH THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA TAGGING PROGRAMME (IOTTP)

10.1 RTTP-IO (the large-scale project)

10.2 Report on recent activities related to the IOTTP (small-scale projects)

10.3 Progress Report on FADIO activities

11. SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY MEETINGS IN 2007-2008

The Scientific Committee is requested to advise the Commission on a schedule of Working Party meetings for 2007-08.

11.1 WP on Tropical Tunas

11.2 WP on Billfish

11.3 WP on Temperate Tunas

11.4 WP on Neritic Tunas

11.5 WP on Bycatch

11.6 WP on Methods

12. IDENTIFICATION OF MEASURES TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL SCIENTISTS AT IOTC WORKING PARTIES

At its 10th Session, the Commission noted with continued concern the reduced participation at IOTC working parties. The Commission reiterated its encouragement to all Members to facilitate as much as possible the participation of their scientists to the Working Parties and recommended that the Scientific Committee identify a range of measures to achieve this.

13. OTHER MATTERS

13.1 Technical requirements and capabilities of the IOTC Secretariat

13.2 Time and place for the next session of the Scientific Committee

14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT