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**DRAFT AGENDA OF THE IOTC SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE – 11TH SESSION**

**25 October 2008**

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**1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION**

**3. 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.

**4. UPDATE ON COMMISSION AND SECRETARIATS ACTIVITIES**

The Secretariat will report on the outcomes of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission and its own activities during the year 2008 and its proposal for activities in 2009 regarding, acquisition, processing and dissemination of information regarding tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean.

**5. DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS**

5.1 Status of the IOTC Databases

**6. 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.*

**7. REPORTS ON 2008 WORKING PARTY MEETINGS**

7.1 Ecosystems and Bycatch (IOTC-2008-WPEB-R).

7.2 Tropical Tunas (IOTC-2008-WPTT-R).

7.3 Methods (IOTC-2008-WPM-R).

7.4 Temperate Tunas (IOTC-2008-WPTe-R).

7.5 Neritic Tunas (IOTC-2008-WPN-R).

**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 should be adopted by the Scientific Committee prior to their transmission to the Commission. The latest Executive Summaries are available from IOTC-2007-SC-R.

## 8.1 Tropical Tunas (IOTC-2008-WPTT-R)

- 8.1.1 Development of advice on the status of the yellowfin tuna resource.
- 8.1.2 Development of advice on the status of the bigeye tuna resource.
- 8.1.3 Development of advice on the status of the skipjack tuna resource.

## 8.2 Billfish (IOTC-2008-WPB-R)

- 8.2.1 Development of advice on the status of the swordfish resource
- 8.2.2 Development of advice on the status of the blue marlin, black marlin, striped marlin and indo-Pacific sailfish resources (new executive summaries were produced in 2008 and reviewed by the Working Party on Billfish).

## 8.3 Other species

- 8.3.1 Development of advice on the status of the albacore tuna resource (IOTC-2008-WPTe-R).
- 8.3.2 Development of advice on the status of the neritic tuna resources (IOTC-2008-WPN-R).
- 8.3.3 Development of advice on the status of sharks (IOTC-2008-WPEB-R).
- 8.3.4 Development of advice on the status of sea turtles (the WPEB requested that an Executive Summary be drafted and presented to the SC for its consideration in 2008).
- 8.3.5 Report on biology, stock status and management of southern bluefin tuna (from CCSBT)

## 9. **ACTIVITIES IN RELATION WITH THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA TAGGING PROGRAMME**

## 10. **DISCUSSION ON FISHING CAPACITY**

*How to estimate current fishing capacity in IOTC ? Starting with a review of how fishing capacity in other tuna fisheries is estimated, identifying what can be derived from our current databases, and what work needs to be done to enable advice on this topic to be provided to the Commission. A range of documents (essential reading) on fishing capacity is provided on the documents list for this meeting.*

## 11. **SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY MEETINGS IN 2009**

## 12. **OTHER MATTERS**

- 12.1 Discussion on improving/updating formats for the provision of advice
- 12.2 Election of Chairperson

## 13. **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**