
DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 5TH SESSION OF THE WORKING PARTY ON ECOSYSTEMS & BYCATCH, 12-14 OCTOBER 2009

1. OPENING REMARKS

2. REVIEW OF THE DATA ON BYCATCH

- Review of the data available in the IOTC database (Secretariat)
- Data from other sources
- Status of observer programmes

3. SHARKS

- Papers as provided by participants
- Review of any National Plans of Action for the reduction of shark bycatch in tuna fisheries
- Conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC (*discussion on way forward as the Commission rejected the recommendation of the WPEB/SC*).
- Research programmes on sharks
- Improvement on shark identification
- Stock assessment on sharks
- Advice on interactions between sharks and tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean
- Executive summaries on shark species

4. SEABIRDS

- Papers provided by participants
- Review of any National Plans of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries
- Update from Birdlife International
- Advice on interactions between seabirds and tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean

5. TURTLES

- Papers provided by participants
- Review of any National Plans of Action for the reduction of sea turtle bycatch in tuna fisheries
- Research on effect of sea turtles mitigating measures (circle hooks)
- Draft Executive Summary on sea turtles
- Advice on interactions between sea turtles and tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean

6. MAMMALS

- Papers provided by participants
- Research programmes on marine mammals

7. OTHER SPECIES

- Papers provided by participants
- Research programmes on other species

8. DEPREDATION

- Review of available data on depredation
- Requirement for improvement of the data on depredation

- Stock assessment and depredation

9. ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES

- Ecological Risk Assessment for bycatch monitoring, analysis and management, in an RFMO context
- Papers presented by participants

10. RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRIORITIES

- Mortality caused by non-degradable waste

11. OTHER BUSINESS