
PROGRESS MADE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF WPEB07

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT, 10 SEPTEMBER 2012

PURPOSE

To provide an update on the progress made in implementing the recommendations from the previous Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB) on sharks, which were endorsed by the Scientific Committee (SC), and to provide alternative recommendations for the consideration and potential endorsement by participants as appropriate given any progress.

BACKGROUND

At the Seventh Session of the WPEB, participants agreed on a series of actions to be taken by participants, CPCs, and the Secretariat on a range of issues. The subsequent table developed and agreed to by the WPEB was provided to the SC for its endorsement. At the 14th Session of the SC, it was agreed that the 8th Session of the WPEB should focus on sharks. As such, only the recommendations on sharks are provided in Appendix A for discussion.

DISCUSSION

The Rules of Procedure of the SC include the following seven core tasks, which are to be supported by the various Working Parties.

- a) recommend policies and procedures for the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of fishery data;
- b) facilitate the exchange and critical review among scientists of information on research and operation of fisheries of relevance to the Commission;
- c) develop and coordinate cooperative research programmes involving Members of the Commission in support of fisheries management;
- d) assess and report to the Commission on the status of stocks of relevance to the Commission and the likely effects of further fishing and of different fishing patterns and intensities;
- e) formulate and report to the sub-commission, as appropriate, on recommendations concerning conservation, fisheries management and research, including consensus, majority and minority views;
- f) consider any matter referred to by the Commission;
- g) to carry out other technical activities of relevance to the Commission.

Noting the core tasks of the SC, and hence the WPEB, and the fact that the SC, Commission and CPCs in general have struggled to implement previous recommendations from the WPEB, the Chair and Secretariat undertook a review and subsequent revision of recommendations from the WPEB07 meeting, endorsed by the SC, in an attempt to provide clearer direction and delegation of responsibility for each recommendation as appropriate.

The revised recommendations are contained in Appendix A for the consideration and potential endorsement by the WPEB.

RECOMMENDATION

That the WPEB **NOTE** the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the WPEB07, and consider the proposed draft revisions to those recommendations yet to be completed.

That the WPEB **AGREE** to the revised recommendations, and for these to be combined with any new recommendations arising from the WPEB08, noting that these will be provided to the SC for their endorsement.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Progress made on the recommendations of WPEB07 and SC14, relating to sharks.



APPENDIX A

#	Recommendation from WPEB07	Adopted by SC14	Revise at WPEB 08	Proposed revision for consideration at WPEB08	Responsibility	Due date
1	<p>Data available</p> <p>WPEB07.05 (para.22) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee note the status of catch statistics for the main species of sharks, by major fisheries (gears), for the period 1950–2010, as provided in Appendix V: Tables a–c. Although some CPCs have reported more detailed data on sharks in recent years, including time-area catches and effort, and length frequency data for the main commercial shark species, the WPEB expressed strong CONCERN that the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete.</p> <p><i>Progress: Discussed in paper IOTC-2012-WPEB08-09</i></p>	Yes	Yes	To be developed at WPEB08		
2	<p>WPEB07.06 (para.24) Noting that the information on retained catches and discards of sharks contained in the IOTC database remains very incomplete for most fleets, and that catch-and-effort as well as size data are essential to assess the status of shark stocks, the WPEB RECOMMENDED all CPCs to collect and report catches of sharks (including historical data), landings and biological data on sharks so that more detailed analysis can be undertaken for the next WPEB meeting.</p> <p><i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat has received additional datasets including catches of sharks. However, the amount of historical data, biological data, and data on the amounts of sharks discarded by fisheries directed at IOTC species is still very low.</i></p>	Yes	Yes	To be developed at WPEB08		
3	<p>WPEB07.08 (para.30) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee note that despite the adoption of IOTC Resolutions 05/05 and 08/01, recently superseded by Resolution 10/02, the levels of reporting of data on sharks and other bycatch</p>	Yes	No	-		



	<p>species remains very poor and prevents useful analyses of that data.</p> <p><i>Progress: In 2012 the Commission adopted Resolution 12/03 On the Recording of Catch and Effort by Fishing Vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence. This Resolution contains provisions for the recording of catches of the most common species of pelagic sharks caught by fisheries directed at IOTC species and the quality of catch data for those species is likely to improve in the future.</i></p>					
4	<p>WPEB07.09 (para.32) The WPEB NOTED the main bycatch data issues that are considered to negatively affect the quality of the statistics available at the IOTC Secretariat, by type of dataset and fishery, which are provided in Appendix VI, and RECOMMENDED that the CPCs listed in Appendix VI, make efforts to remedy the data issues identified and to report back to the WPEB at its next meeting.</p> <p><i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of new measures implemented by the countries concerned to address the issues identified. The CPCs present at the WPEB will inform the WPEB meeting, as required.</i></p>	Yes	Yes	To be developed at WPEB08		
5	<p>WPEB07.10 (para.33) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the actions outlined in Appendix VII should be undertaken by each CPC to improve the standing of the data on sharks, seabirds, marine turtles and marine mammals currently available at the IOTC Secretariat. In general, these recommendations are made over and above the existing obligations and technical specifications relating to the reporting of data.</p> <p><i>Progress: To the IOTC Secretariat's knowledge, the majority of the recommendations have not been addressed by the countries concerned.</i></p>	Yes	Yes	To be developed at WPEB08		
6	<p>WPEB07.11 (para.34) Noting that there is extensive literature available on pelagic shark fisheries and interactions with fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species, in countries having fisheries for sharks, and in the databases of governmental or non-governmental organizations, the WPEB AGREED on the need for a major data mining exercise in order to compile data from as many sources as possible and attempt to rebuild historical catch series of the most commonly caught shark species. In this regard, the WPEB</p>	No	No	–	–	–



	<p>RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee considers presenting a proposal to the Commission for this activity, including a budget.</p> <p><i>Progress: No proposal was made by the SC to the Commission.</i></p>					
7	<p>WPEB07.12 (para.35) Noting the need to provide advice to the Commission concerning the status of the most commonly caught species of sharks in the Indian Ocean, the WPEB AGREED on the need to explore the shark data presently available at the IOTC Secretariat, and to determine if that data can be used to derive total estimates of shark catches for each species. Noting that additional resources will be required to carry out this activity, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that the Commission consider increasing the staff of the IOTC Secretariat to incorporate a new Fisheries Officer post to work on bycatch issues.</p> <p><i>Progress: The Commission did not approve this position</i></p>	Yes	No	–	–	–
8	<p>WPEB07.13 (para.36) Noting that despite the mandatory reporting requirements detailed in Resolutions 05/05, 08/04, 09/06, 10/02, 10/03, and 10/06, bycatch data remain largely unreported by CPCs, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee address these concerns to the Compliance Committee and the Commission in order for them to take steps to develop mechanisms which would ensure that CPCs fulfill their bycatch reporting obligations.</p> <p><i>Progress: Addressed at the CoC and Commission meeting in 2012.</i></p>	Yes	No	–	–	–
9	<p>WPEB07.15 (para.40) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the current IOTC Resolution 05/05 <i>Concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC</i>, is strengthened to ensure that CPCs report annually on the nominal catches, catch and effort and size data for shark species identified by the WPDCS.</p> <p><i>Progress: Proposal made by the SC but not adopted by the Commission. Some shark species added to new Resolution 12/03 On The Recording Of Catch And Effort By Fishing Vessels In The Iotc Area Of Competence.</i></p>	Yes	No	–	–	–
10	<p>WPEB07.17 (para.42) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the</p>	Yes	Yes	To be developed at the WPEB08 meeting.	All CPCs	Ongoing



	<p>current IOTC Resolution 08/04 concerning the recording of catch by longline fishing vessels in the IOTC area, Resolution 10/03 concerning the recording of catch by fishing vessels in the IOTC area and Resolution 10/02 mandatory statistical requirements for IOTC members and cooperating non-contracting parties be amended in order to include a clear list of shark and marine turtle species or group of species, that should be recorded and reported to the IOTC Secretariat as per the IOTC requirements for target species.</p> <p><i>Progress: Res. 08/04 amended and additional shark species included. Marine turtles note added. However, Resolution 12/04 on the conservation of marine turtles requires all interactions to be recorded in logbooks.</i></p>					
11	<p>WPEB07.18 (para.45) The WPEB NOTED the Scientific Committee's recommendation in 2010 which states that "the SC endorsed the recommendation of the technical workshop that a list of accredited scientific observers should be submitted to the Secretariat and recommended that CPCs do so within the best delays" (para.244, SC13), and RECOMMENDED that all IOTC CPCs submit a list of accredited observers to be deployed under the framework of the Regional Observer Scheme before the 14th Session of the Scientific Committee, and for this recommendation to be communicated to all CPCs by the Secretariat.</p> <p><i>Progress: To be updated at meeting</i></p>	Yes				
12	<p>WPEB07.19 (para.46) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that IOTC CPCs report on the annual level of observer and sampling coverage on their fleets since 1st July 2010 at the next Session of the Scientific Committee. CPCs should emphasize the problems and difficulties met in implementing their observer programme and propose corrective actions that they intend to take in order to comply with Resolution 11/04.</p> <p><i>Progress: To be updated at meeting</i></p>	Yes				
13	<p>WPEB07.20 (para.47) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that all IOTC CPCs urgently implement the requirements of Resolution 11/04 on a Regional Observer Scheme, which states that: "The observer</p>	Yes				



	<p><i>shall, within 30 days of completion of each trip, provide a report to the CPCs of the vessel. The CPCs shall send within 150 days at the latest each report, as far as continuous flow of report from observer placed on the longline fleet is ensured, which is recommended to be provided with 1°x1° format to the Executive Secretary, who shall make the report available to the Scientific Committee upon request. In a case where the vessel is fishing in the EEZ of a coastal state, the report shall equally be submitted to that Coastal State.” (para. 11),</i> NOTING that the timely submission of observer trip reports to the Secretariat is necessary to ensure that the Scientific Committee is able to carry out the tasks assigned to it by the Commission, including the analysis of accurate and high resolution data, in particular for bycatch, which would allow the scientists to better assess the impacts of fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species on bycatch species. <i>Progress: To be updated at meeting</i></p>					
14	<p>WPEB07.21 (para.55) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that, in addition to the implementation of the Regional Observer Scheme, the collection of scientific data by all other means available including auto-sampling (collection of data by trained crew) and electronic monitoring (sensors and video cameras) be encouraged and developed, and for CPCs to report on progress at the next WPEB meeting. <i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of any such activities implemented by CPCs. The CPCs present at the WPEB will inform the WPEB meeting, as required.</i></p>	Yes	Yes			
15	<p>WPEB07.22 (para.56) Noting paragraph 14 of Resolution 11/04 on a Regional Observer Scheme which states that “The funds available from the IOTC balance of funds may be used to support the implementation of this programme in developing States, notably the training of observers and field samplers”, and that the IOTC Secretariat has hired a consultant to carry out an evaluation of the data collection and reporting capabilities of a number of developing coastal state CPCs, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that the IOTC Secretariat facilitate the training of observers and field samplers according to the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme Manual and Observer Trip Report</p>					



	<p>Template.</p> <p><i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat has used funds to assess the status of data collection and processing systems in several coastal countries in the Indian Ocean and, where required, draw plans for the strengthening of fisheries information systems in those countries, including estimated cost of implementation. The study estimated that over 6 million US\$ would be required to this purpose, well beyond the amount currently available. In addition, the IOTC Secretariat has used funds to assist the Comoros in the implementation of sampling and has plans to assist other coastal countries in the future.</i></p>					
16	<p>WPEB07.23 (para.59) The WPEB further NOTED that this could be estimated through the deployment of video monitoring system on the upper deck, however, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that intensive sampling with two observers are conducted, whenever possible, in order to better evaluate this potential bias and to report progress and findings to the next WPEB meeting.</p> <p><i>Progress: This rec needs adding additional text as it is not clear enough. The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of progress concerning the implementation of this recommendation.</i></p>					
17	<p>WPEB07.24 (para.61) Noting the increasing workload of the IOTC Secretariat regarding bycatch issues, including requests from the Commission, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that an additional Fishery Officer be hired to handle a range of issues related to bycatch, including those from the Commission relating to ecosystems and bycatch issues.</p> <p><i>Progress: Commission did not support the SC proposal.</i></p>	Yes	No	–	–	–
18	<p>WPEB07.25 (para.62) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the current Resolution 98/02 on data confidentiality policy and procedures be considered for revision by the Commission to incorporate the specifics of the Regional Observer Scheme.</p> <p><i>Progress: Completed. Resolution 12/02 adopted.</i></p>	Yes	No	–	–	–
19	<p>WPEB07.34 (para.80) The WPEB NOTED the current status of development and implementation of Nation Plans of Action for sharks</p>	Yes	Yes	The WPEB NOTED the current status of development and implementation of Nation Plans	All CPCs	2013



	<p>as provided in Appendix X and RECOMMENDED that all CPCs without an NPOA-Sharks expedite the development and implementation of their NPOA-Sharks, and to report progress to the WPEB in 2012, recalling that NPOA-Sharks are a framework that should facilitate estimation of shark catches and development and implementation of appropriate management measures, which should also enhance the collection of bycatch data and compliance with IOTC Resolutions.</p> <p><i>Progress: See paper 07. Limited progress since WPEB07</i></p>			<p>of Action for sharks as provided in Appendix X and RECOMMENDED that all CPCs without an NPOA-Sharks expedite the development and implementation of their NPOA-Sharks, and to report progress to the WPEB in 2013, recalling that NPOA-Sharks are a framework that should facilitate estimation of shark catches and development and implementation of appropriate management measures, which should also enhance the collection of bycatch data and compliance with IOTC Resolutions.</p>		
20	<p>WPEB07.35 (para.101) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that scientists from all CPCs having fleets using driftnets in the Indian Ocean shall provide at the next session of the WPEB a report summarizing the known information on bycatch in driftnet fisheries, including sharks and marine mammals, with estimates of their likely order of magnitude where more detailed data are not available.</p> <p><i>Progress: Several papers to be presented at WPEB08</i></p>	Yes	Yes	To be developed at WPEB08		
21	<p>WPEB07.36 (para.102) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that CPCs explore means to undertake research cruises using driftnet vessels in the Indian Ocean aimed at documenting and quantifying the nature and extent of bycatch in these fisheries and for results to be presented at the next Session of the WPEB.</p> <p><i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of progress concerning the implementation of this recommendation</i></p>					
22	<p>WPEB07.37 (para.103) Noting the lack of data on bycatch of these fleets, the WPEB REMINDED coastal countries with gillnet fisheries of their responsibilities to monitor catches and bycatch of these fisheries and RECOMMENDED them to improve sampling of landings, to develop and implement their observer schemes, to seek support from the IOTC to develop such activities if necessary and report on progress at the next Session of the WPEB.</p> <p><i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of progress concerning the</i></p>					



	<i>implementation of this recommendation. The CPCs present at the WPEB will inform the WPEB meeting, as required.</i>					
23	WPEB07.38 (para.106) The WPEB NOTED the absence of information on shark catches from artisanal fisheries in Mozambique and RECOMMENDED that information on bycatch from artisanal fisheries is provided at the next Session of the WPEB. <i>Progress: To date, Mozambique has not report catches of sharks for its artisanal fisheries.</i>					
24	WPEB07.39 (para.108) Noting the absence of data on fishing effort, numbers and species of sharks caught, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that the data collection system in Madagascar is strengthened in order to provide catch and effort reports that are consistent with IOTC standards and ENCOURAGED Madagascar to work with the IRD of La Réunion to develop a specific logbook for their new longline fleet. <i>Progress: Madagascar reported catches for its coastal longline fleet in 2012, in particular catches for 2010 and 2011 which included catch of oceanic whitetip shark as the only shark caught by this fishery.</i>					
25	WPEB07.40 (para.111) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that all available data and/or indicators on oceanic whitetip shark abundance and population trends are compiled in order to assess current stock status and the level of decline for discussion at the next WPEB and Scientific Committee. <i>Progress: The WPEB did not address this recommendation to any specific party and as a result, it was not done. Consider developing TORs for funding.</i>	Yes	Yes	To be decided at WPEB08		
26	WPEB07.41 (para.114) The WPEB RECOMMENDED further research on silky sharks, including the possible construction of a data series of silky shark abundance from purse seine associated school fisheries. <i>Progress: The WPEB did not address this recommendation to any specific party and as a result, it was not done. Consider developing TORs for funding.</i>	Yes	Yes			
27	WPEB07.42 (para.115) The WPEB NOTED that it is important to collect data from all major gears catching silky sharks, including but	Yes	No			



	not restricted to purse seines, longlines and gillnets and the WPEB RECOMMENDED that indicators of the relative abundance of silky sharks are developing to better quantify changes in abundance. <i>Progress: Nil.</i>					
28	WPEB07.43 (para.127) The WPEB REITERATED that CPCs should fulfill their FAO obligation to assess the need for an NPOA-Sharks and develop plans if appropriate. The WPEB RECOMMENDED that to assist in this, the IOTC Secretariat should revise annually the table summarising progress towards the development of NPOA-Sharks by CPCs for the consideration as each WPEB and the Scientific Committee meeting. <i>Progress: Presented in paper IOTC-2012-WPEB08-07</i>	Yes	Yes	The WPEB REITERATED that CPCs should fulfil their FAO obligation to assess the need for an NPOA-Sharks and develop plans if appropriate. The WPEB RECOMMENDED that to assist in this, the IOTC Secretariat should revise annually the table summarising progress towards the development of NPOA-Sharks by CPCs for the consideration as each WPEB and the Scientific Committee meeting.	IOTC Secretariat	2013
29	WPEB07.44 (para.130) The WPEB NOTED that a protocol of 'best practices' for shark handling and release onboard purse seiners will be developed by the MADE project and ISSF to minimize the risk of injury of vessel crew and will increase shark survival opportunities and RECOMMENDED that these guidelines are presented at the next session of the WPEB. <i>Progress: The Guidelines are presented as document IOTC-2012-WPEB08-INF07</i>	Yes	No	-	-	-
30	WPEB07.45 (para.131) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that more research is conducted on other mitigation methods to be used prior to the sharks being brought onboard, as well as on post-release mortality of sharks. <i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of progress concerning the implementation of this recommendation</i>	Yes	No	-	-	-
31	WPEB07.46 (para.140) The WPEB RECOMMENDED a databank of geo-referenced photographs of sharks (and other species groups) caught in the Indian Ocean be established at the IOTC Secretariat with contributions by scientists and observers from the region. The WPEB NOTED that this would be a useful tool for verification of species identifications.	Yes	No	-	-	-



	<i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat has not received pictures from CPCs concerning this recommendation.</i>					
32	<p>WPEB07.47 (para.142) Noting the general lack of catch data on sharks, the WPEB strongly RECOMMENDED that an ERA is conducted for sharks caught in fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean before the next session of the WPEB. In order to do so, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee request the Commission to allocate specific funds for such an analysis. Should a Fishery Officer be recruited at the IOTC Secretariat, he/she may be in a position to coordinate this task.</p> <p><i>Progress: The Commission approved funding for a consultant. Results of the ERA to be presented in paper IOTC-2012-WPEB08-31</i></p>	Yes	No	-	-	-
33	<p>WPEB07.48 (para.154) The WPEB NOTED that the best way to reduce or avoid the practice of shark finning in the IOTC area, to encourage full utilisation, to ensure accurate catch statistics, and to facilitate the collection of biological information, would be to land all sharks with fins attached (which includes partially cut and folded). The majority of the WPEB RECOMMENDED such action be achieved through the replacement of IOTC Resolution 05/05 (5% shark fin:body weight ratio). However, the WPEB NOTED that such a recommendation would have practical implementation issues for some fleets and may degrade the quality of the product. The WPEB further RECOMMENDED that all CPCs strive to obtain and maintain the best possible data, including improved species identification.</p> <p><i>Progress: Nil</i></p>	Yes	Yes	The WPEB NOTED that the best way to reduce or avoid the practice of shark finning in the IOTC area, to encourage full utilisation, to ensure accurate catch statistics, and to facilitate the collection of biological information, would be to land all sharks with fins attached (which includes partially cut and folded). The majority of the WPEB RECOMMENDED such action be achieved through the replacement of IOTC Resolution 05/05 (5% shark fin:body weight ratio). However, the WPEB NOTED that such a recommendation would have practical implementation issues for some fleets and may degrade the quality of the product. The WPEB further RECOMMENDED that all CPCs strive to obtain and maintain the best possible data, including improved species identification.	All CPC	2013
34	<p>WPEB07.49 (para.161) Recognizing the general lack of shark data being recorded and reported to the IOTC Secretariat, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution 10/02 is revised in order to include the list of most 	Yes	Yes	To be decided at WPEB08		



	<p>commonly caught elasmobranch species (Table 2) for which nominal catch data shall be reported as part of the statistical requirement for IOTC CPCs.</p> <p><i>Progress: This Recommendation has been addressed through the implementation of Resolution 12/03.</i></p>					
35	<p>WPEB07.50 (para.162) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the Commission considers clarifying that observers are allowed to collect biological samples (vertebrae, tissues, reproductive tracts, stomachs) from sharks that are dead at haulback, whose retention is prohibited by current regulation, e.g. thresher sharks under Resolution 10/12.</p> <p><i>Progress: Adopted by the Commission via Resolution 12/09.</i></p>	Yes	No	-	-	-
36	<p>WPEB07.51 (para.163) The WPEB RECOMMENDED that the recommendations from the KOBE bycatch technical working group are considered to encourage research and development of best practice with regard to setting nets on whale sharks to determine the impacts of the practice. It was noted that these practices are generally recorded in logbooks for the purse seine fleet and the whale sharks are also extracted from the net by fishers, however, it was agreed it would be useful to have information on the extent of the practice and to develop best practice methods through direct collaboration with WCPFC.</p> <p><i>Progress: Nil</i></p>	Yes	No	-	-	-
37	<p>WPEB07.52 (para.165) Noting the summary of available information on the oceanic whitetip shark (Appendix XI) indicating a decline in abundance over the last past two decades, the WPEB RECOMMENDED an urgent need for a more quantitative approach to the assessment of this species.</p> <p><i>Progress: Nil.</i></p>	Yes	Yes	Develop at WPEB08		
38	<p>WPEB07.53 (para.167) The WPEB RECOMMENDED research and development of mitigation measures to minimize bycatch of the oceanic whitetip shark and its unharmed release for all types of fishing gears and that CPCs with data on oceanic whitetip sharks (i.e. total annual catches, CPUE time series and size data) to make these available to the next meeting in 2012 when the WPEB AGREED to</p>	Yes				



	<p>revisit the status of oceanic whitetip sharks and management options be proposed if appropriate.</p> <p><i>Progress: Document IOTC-2012-WPEB08-INF07 includes Guidelines for the purse fishery. The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of Guidelines developed for other fisheries.</i></p>					
39	<p>WPEB07.54 (para.168) Noting that the data holdings of the IOTC Secretariat for sharks are limited and would not facilitate stock assessments, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that historic datasets held by CPCs be provided to the IOTC Secretariat as a matter of urgency, in disaggregated forms.</p> <p><i>Progress: Nil.</i></p>					
40	<p>Other bycatch and byproduct species</p> <p>WPEB07.93 (para.255) Noting the potential negative impacts of fish aggregation devices (FADs) on bycatch in fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean, the WPEB RECOMMENDED that CPCs utilizing anchored FADs undertake research aimed as assessing the effect of anchored FADs on bycatch, and for the results to be reported to the next session of the WPEB.</p> <p><i>Progress: The IOTC Secretariat is not aware of progress concerning the implementation of this recommendation</i></p>					