



AGENDA FOR THE 17TH SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

8 December 2014

Date: 8–12 December 2014

Location: Eden Bleu Hotel, Eden Island, Seychelles

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 daily

Chair: Dr. Tsutomu Nishida; **Vice-Chair:** Mr. Jan Robinson

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION** (Chair)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chair)
3. **ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS** (Chair)
4. **DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.1 Outcomes of the 18th Session of the Commission
 - 4.2 Previous decisions of the Commission
5. **SCIENCE RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE IOTC SECRETARIAT IN 2014** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 5.1 Report of the Secretariat – Activities in support of the IOTC science process in 2014
 - 5.2 Revised: Guidelines for the presentation of CPUE standardisations and stock assessment models
6. **NATIONAL REPORTS FROM CPCs** (CPCs)
7. **REPORTS OF THE 2014 IOTC WORKING PARTY MEETINGS**
 - 7.1 IOTC–2014–WPNT04–R Report of the 4th Session of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas
 - 7.2 IOTC–2014–WPTmT05–R Report of the 5th Session of the Working Party on Temperate Tunas
 - 7.3 IOTC–2014–WPB12–R Report of the 12th Session of the Working Party on Billfish
 - 7.4 IOTC–2014–WPEB10–R Report of the 10th Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
 - IO-ShYP: Shark year program
 - 7.5 IOTC–2014–WPTT16–R Report of the 16th Session of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas
 - 7.6 IOTC–2014–WPDCS10–R Report of the 10th Session of the Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics
 - 7.7 IOTC–2014–WPM05–R Report of the 5th Session of the Working Party on Methods
 - 7.8 Summary discussion of matters common to Working Parties (capacity building activities – stock assessment course; connecting science and management, etc.)
8. **EXAMINATION OF THE EFFECTS OF PIRACY ON FLEET OPERATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT CATCH AND EFFORT TRENDS** (Chair)
9. **STATUS OF TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE RESOURCES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN** (Chair)
 - 9.1 Tuna – Highly migratory species
 - 9.2 Tuna and mackerel – Neritic species
 - 9.3 Billfish
10. **STATUS OF SHARKS, MARINE TURTLES AND SEABIRDS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN** (Chair)
 - 10.1 Sharks
 - 10.2 Marine turtles
 - 10.3 Seabirds
11. **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME** (IOTC Secretariat)
12. **EVALUATION OF CLOSED AREAS AS MANAGEMENT OPTIONS** (Chair)

S18, Para. 23: *NOTING that the objective of Resolution 12/13 was to decrease the overall pressure on the main targeted stocks in the Indian Ocean, in particular yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna, and also to evaluate the impact of the current time/area closure and any alternative scenarios on tropical tuna populations, the Commission REQUESTED that the SC (via the WPTT in 2014) undertake an analysis of*

the combined impacts of the two closed areas in the Indian Ocean (contained in Resolution 12/13 and the UK(OT) MPA), with the objective of determining the utility of closed areas in managing highly migratory species.

- 13. PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW PANEL** (IOTC Secretariat)
- 14. PROGRAM OF WORK AND SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS** (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 14.1 Program of Work (2015–2019) and assessment schedule
 - 14.2 Schedule of meetings for 2015 and 2016
- 15. OTHER BUSINESS** (Chair)
 - 15.1 Discussion of the Science to Management dialogue
 - 15.2 GEF-ABNJ Project update
- 16. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT, AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE 17th SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE** (Chair)