

7 November 2005



Eighth Session of the Scientific Committee

Victoria, Seychelles, 7-11 November 2005

ANNOTATED AGENDA

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 organizations which had attended previous meetings or were admitted to attend Commission Sessions.

4. PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat will report on its activities during the year 2005 and its proposal for activities in 2006 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 (IOTC-2005-SC-INF01)

5.2 Review of data on species

5.2.1 WPTT (IOTC-2005-WPTT-R)

5.2.2 WPBy (IOTC-2005-WPBy-R)

5.3 Progress Report of the IOTC-OFCF project (IOTC-2005-SC-03)

The Secretariat 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.

5.4 Guideline of the IOTC Tuna fisheries Observer Program (IOTC-2005-SC-INF07)

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. 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. 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.

7.1 Advice on the status of bigeye tuna (IOTC-2005-SC-INF10)

At the 9th Session of the IOTC, the Commission requested (via IOTC Resolution 05/01 *On conservation and management measure for bigeye tuna*) that the Scientific Committee be tasked to provide advice on;

- the effects of different levels of catch on the SSB (in relation to MSY or other appropriate reference point);
- the impact of misreported and illegal catch of bigeye tuna on the stock assessment and required levels of catch reduction; and
- evaluation of the impact of different levels of catch reduction by main gear types.

In 2005 the WPTT agreed that that ASPM model, as used by Japan in 2004 would be re-run using updated fisheries data and the biological and fisheries parameters used in 2004 and new technical advice on bigeye would be prepared for the Commission by the Scientific Committee based on the results of the up-dated assessment. This will be preceded by a brief session of the WPTT on the day before the start of the Scientific Committee meeting.

7.2 Report of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT) and presentation of the Executive Summaries (IOTC-2005-WPTT-R)

7.2.1 Executive Summary of the status of the yellowfin tuna (IOTC-2005-SC-05).

7.2.2 Executive Summary of the status of the skipjack tuna (IOTC-2005-SC-08).

7.2.3 Executive Summary of the status of the bigeye tuna (see 7.1 above) (IOTC-2005-SC-06).

7.3 Other Executive Summaries

7.3.1 Executive Summary of the status of the albacore resource (IOTC-2005-SC-07).

7.3.2 Executive Summary of the status of the swordfish resource (IOTC-2005-SC-09).

7.4 Other matters

7.4.1 Report on biology, stock status and management of southern bluefin tuna (IOTC-2005-SC-INF02).

8. 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.

8.1 Report of the Working Party on Bycatch (IOTC-2005-WPBy-R)

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

9.1 RTTP-IO (the large-scale project)

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

9.3 Progress Report on FADIO activities

10. SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY MEETINGS IN 2006-2007

The Scientific Committee is requested to advise the Commission on a schedule of Working Party meetings for 2006-07.

10.1 WP on Tropical Tunas

10.2 WP on Billfish

10.3 WP on Temperate Tunas

10.4 WP on Neritic Tunas

10.5 WP on Bycatch

10.6 WP on Methods

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Tuna atlas

11.2 IOTC Field Manual and glossary

11.3 ASFA.

12. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT