

1. SUMMARY OF WPEB RECOMMENDATIONS IN 2008

DATA
That the actions in Table 2 be taken to improve the standing of the data on non-tuna species currently available at the Secretariat (Paragraph 9).
That IOTC member countries with major fisheries send trained and knowledgeable scientists to working party on bycatch and ecosystem meetings in the future (Paragraph 14).
That IOTC Recommendation 05/07 <i>Concerning a management standard for the tuna fishing vessels</i> , to deploy if appropriate, scientific observers on-board the vessels according to the Commission's Resolution (Appendix I-ii), become binding on members (Paragraph 17).
That the Commission mandate the WPEB (though the Scientific Committee) to develop regional standards covering data collection, data exchange, training and the development of guidelines for the operational aspects of such programmes and use these to assist members, especially those with major bycatch issues, improve their bycatch data collection and reporting (Paragraph 19).
SHARKS
In response to a request from the Commissions for more information on the technical aspects of IOTC Resolution 05/05 <i>Concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC</i> , the WPEB recommended the advice relating to Paragraph 34 be put forward to the Scientific Committee for its consideration (Paragraph 35).
That CPCs that are conducting research cruises and observer programs, develop digital photo archives of shark species and make it available to IOTC for wider use (Paragraph 40).
That stock assessments be initiated for sharks in the Indian Ocean to the extent possible, given the current data limitations (Paragraph 42).
SEA TURTLES
That the Secretariat to follow up the book written by SPC on sea turtle identification and use this as a basis for the production of sea turtle identification material for the Indian Ocean (Paragraph 60).
That a draft Executive Summary be developed by the Secretariat in collaboration with sea turtle experts, in particular IOSEA, and be presented to the Scientific Committee in 2008 (Paragraph 61).
That net material used on FADs should be replaced with materials such as non-plastic ropes or non-plastic hoods or straps that will not entangle sea turtles (Paragraph 63).
ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES
That the Secretariat examines the possibility of undertaking an ERA and report on this to the working party next year (Paragraph 83).
That close collaboration and collaborative work should be pursued with WCPFC and ICCAT with respect to ERA (Paragraph 84).
That interested scientists keep abreast of CLIOTOP activities and collaborate to the extent possible (Paragraph 98).