

November 2004



Seventh Session of the Scientific Committee

Victoria, Seychelles, 8-12 November 2004

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION (IOTC-2004-SC-01[EN])

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 2004 and its proposal for activities in 2005 regarding, acquisition, processing and dissemination of information regarding tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean. The Secretariat will also report on a number of external meetings in which the staff participated, some of which will have implications for the Commission.

5. DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS

For the sake of efficiency, it is proposed that these subjects be discussed in plenary, rather than constituting a separate Subcommittee, as originally proposed last year.

5.1 Status of the IOTC Databases (IOTC-2004-SC-INF01)

5.2 Review of data on species

5.2.1 WPTT

5.2.2 WPB

5.2.3 WPTMT

5.3 Progress Report of the IOTC-OFCE project (IOTC-2004-SC-03[EN])

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 Guidelines for observer programmes

The participants are invited to report on the progress on the collection of information on observer programmes and, if possible, on the development of a proposal on standards for observer programmes in the Indian Ocean.

5.5 Progress on a survey of predation of longline-caught fish

The Fourth Session of the Commission approved a research recommendation for initiation by Members and Cooperating Non-Members of a predation survey. The Scientific Committee is invited to review the progress of this initiative.

5.6 Preparation of a Field Manual (IOTC-2004-SC-INF08).

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.

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. 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 Report of the Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT) (IOTC-2004-WPTT-R[EN]) and presentation of the Executive Summaries

7.1.1 Executive Summary of the status of the yellowfin tuna (IOTC-2004-SC-04[EN]).

7.1.2 Executive Summary of the status of the skipjack tuna (IOTC-2004-SC-05[EN]).

7.1.3 Executive Summary of the status of the bigeye tuna (IOTC-2004-SC-06[EN]).

7.1.4 Report on the recent World bigeye tuna meeting.

7.2 Report of the Working Party on Billfish (WPB) (IOTC-2004-WPB-R[EN])

7.2.1 Executive Summary on the status of swordfish resource (IOTC-2004-SC-07[EN]).

7.3 Report of the Working Party on Temperate Tunas (WPTMT) (IOTC-2004-WPTMT-R[EN])

7.3.1 Executive Summary on the status of the albacore tuna (IOTC-2004-SC-08[EN]).

7.3.2 Report on biology, stock status and management of southern bluefin tuna (IOTC-2004-SC-INF12).

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

- 8.1 Report of the Working Party on Tagging (WPT) (IOTC-2004-WPT-R[EN])
- 8.2 Current status of the RTTP-IO arrangements
- 8.3 Report on recent activities related to the IOTTP
- 8.4 Small-scale tagging projects in the Republic of Maldives and India
- 8.5 Progress Report on FADIO activities
- 8.6 Progress on a tag seeding experiment

9. SCHEDULE OF WORKING PARTY MEETINGS IN 2005-2006 (IOTC-2004-SC-09[EN])

The Scientific Committee is requested to advise the Commission on a schedule of Working Party meetings for 2005-06. The document describes a tentative schedule for the coming biennium.

- 9.1 Progress in the establishment of a Working Party on Bycatch

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Submission of abstracts to the Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstracts.
- 10.2 Preparation of a Fishery Atlas (IOTC-2004-SC-INF10).
- 10.3 Glossary of fisheries terms
- 10.4 Relationships with other tuna commissions
- 10.5 Election of next Scientific Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

11. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT