

# **2016 Meeting of the ICCAT Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods**

*(Madrid, Spain, 15-19 February 2016)*

## **Agenda**

### **Objectives**

The SCRS decided at its 2015 Annual meeting to hold a meeting of Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods with the objective, among others, to:

1. Continue making progress on MSE, Harvest Control Rules, Limit, Threshold and Target Reference points.
2. Analyze ways to facilitate the dialogue with the Commission
3. Continue its work on the simulation study on how best to bring spatially changing oceanographic and environmental conditions into the assessment process.
4. Continue its efforts to develop a template for the task of unifying the North Atlantic swordfish CPUE data towards the development of spatially explicit indices of abundance
5. Continue cooperation with EffDis re-estimation effort
6. Continue to increase the ICCAT WGSAM involvement, cooperation, and interaction with other tuna RMFO Methods Working Groups and the Strategic Initiative on Stock Assessment Methods (SISAM)

### **Tentative Agenda**

1. Opening, adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Review of the original charter for the WGSAM
3. Limit Reference points and Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)
  - Current situation and progress
  - Review of the recent decision on ALB Harvest Control Rule
  - Determination of what work should be accomplished in 2016 to continue progress
4. Incorporation of oceanographic and environmental changes into the assessment process
  - Blue marlin test case
  - Update the work plan for a simulation study based on progress to date
  - Identify data that the group is aware of for building habitat model for SWO and other species (i.e. PSAT)
5. Maximum Sustainable Yield
  - Implications for fisheries with time varying selectivity
  - Global vs. local MSY
  - Calculating and reporting the various values
6. Review progress towards unifying the North Atlantic swordfish and other species CPUE data
7. Finalize review of new ICCAT method for estimating EFFDIS
8. Comment on and/or make recommendations on the CPUE course to be undertaken to create SAI CPUEs
9. ICCAT software catalog: review of the progress to incorporate new methods in both the stock assessment and the software catalog.
10. Collaboration with other Stock Assessment Methods WGs (ICES, RFMOs, etc.)
11. Other matters

12. Recommendations

12. Adoption of the report and closure