



Madrid, 30 March 2017

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 2047 / 2017

**SUBJECT: THIRD MEETING OF THE STANDING WORKING GROUP TO ENHANCE DIALOGUE
BETWEEN FISHERIES SCIENTISTS AND MANAGERS (SWGSM)**

Please find attached a letter from the Chair of the Meeting of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) and the draft Agenda for the 3rd SWGSM meeting, which will take place in Madrid, Spain, 29-30 June 2017.

The draft agenda has been prepared by the Chair of the Working Group, in consultation with the Chair of SCRS, based on ICCAT Resolution [16-21].

In order to achieve a balance of views and to increase participation of scientists and managers on an equal footing, CPCs are invited to nominate suitable people to make presentations and to lead the discussion on specific topics on the Agenda. Nominations should be submitted to the Secretariat by **14th Abril** to provide adequate time for preparation.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration

P'
Driss Meski
Executive Secretary



DISTRIBUTION:

- Commission Officers:

Commission Chairman:	M. Tsamenyi	COC Chairman:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	S. Depypere	PWG Chair:	F. Donatella
Second Vice Chair:	R. Delgado	STACFAD Chair:	S. Lapointe
SCRS Chairman:	D. Die		

- Head Delegates / Head Scientists

- Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities

Attachment: Letter from the SWGSM Chair, Draft Agenda and information for participants.

Madrid, 30 March 2017

SUBJECT: PREPARATION OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE SWGSM

Dear Colleagues:

I write to you to seek your assistance in preparation for the Third Meeting of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) which will take place in 2017, in accordance with ICCAT Resolution [16-21]. The meeting will take place in Madrid, Spain, 29-30 June 2017.

First, I would like to solicit comments and suggestions on the Tentative Agenda (attached). This tentative agenda is largely based on what was already agreed at the 20th Special Meeting of the Commission as reflected in Resolution [16-21], with the addition of administrative items.

Second, I would like to note that Res. [16-21] calls upon the Chairs of Panels 1, 2 and 4, together with the SCRS Species Group chairs and the SCRS Chair to prepare, ahead of the Third Meeting of the SWGSM, an analysis of how management objectives have been established for priority stocks (Tropical Tunas, N-ALB, N-SWO and BFT), which performance indicators have been identified and progress toward MSE/HCR development to date. To this end, I have initiated contacts with Dr. Die, SCRS Chair. He is prepared to present progress to date on MSE work for priority stocks, and he will be contacting the relevant Panel Chairs to coordinate such presentations (Agenda Item 6). Also, regarding management objectives, Dr. Die and I will develop a "straw person" interpretation of current objectives relevant to each priority species and circulate this to the Panel Chairs for feedback. With their input, we plan to prepare a joint analysis that will serve as a starting point for discussions during the meeting, particularly under Agenda Item 7.

Thirdly, I would like to request all CPCs to submit their ideas for Agenda Items 8 (*Review of the 5-year road map for the development of MSE/HCR for priority stocks*) and 11 (*Development of a draft road map to implement EBFM, including roles and responsibilities*). My intention is to consolidate these ideas and suggestions for presentation and discussion at the meeting.

This meeting of the working group is an important one. The outcomes of the meeting have potential to impact on most stocks under the purview of ICCAT. As such I wish to encourage all CPCs to ensure that they send their representatives who are well prepared to attend the meeting and to engage actively in the formulation of Recommendations to the Commission. I look forward to working closely with all of you in carrying out these tasks in order to ensure a successful and productive Third Meeting of the SWGSM.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Tsamenyi
ICCAT Chair

**THIRD MEETING OF THE STANDING WORKING GROUP TO ENHANCE DIALOGUE BETWEEN
FISHERIES SCIENTISTS AND MANAGERS (SWGSM)**

Madrid, 29-30 June, 2017

DRAFT AGENDA

Introduction

This Tentative Agenda has been prepared in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue Between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) (ICCAT Recommendation 14-13), taking into account the detailed program for its third meeting contained in ICCAT Resolution 16-21.

1. Opening of the meeting (Working Group Chair)
2. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements
3. Nomination of Rapporteur
4. SWGSM Terms of Reference (Rec. 14-13) and outcomes of 1st and 2nd SWGSM meetings, with emphasis on:
 - a. the development of a general framework to guide establishment, review and update of management objectives and strategies, which
 - i. is consistent with the Convention objectives, the ecosystem-based and precautionary approaches;
 - ii. defines the role and the responsibilities of both fisheries managers and scientists (SCRS) and possible interactions and feedbacks; and
 - iii. allows for reflecting both conservation and socio-economic considerations.
 - b. ways to improve managers and scientists' mutual understanding of concepts related to management strategies, including:
 - i. the adoption of Limit and Target Reference Points (LRPs and TRPs);
 - ii. the development of Harvest Control Rules (HCRs);
 - iii. the application of Management Strategies Evaluation (MSE).
 - c. the analysis of case studies, exchanges and feedbacks on ongoing experiences.
 - d. the identification of opportunities / approaches that would enhance the available data.
 - e. the identification of research needs and priorities, in the light of discussions on SCRS annual work programmes and on the Strategic Plan on Science and including possible social and economic research topics.
 - f. the promotion of an efficient use of scientific resources and information.
5. Outcomes of the 2016 Joint Tuna RFMOs Working Group on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE): SCRS Chair
6. Status of the development of Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) and actions to be taken in 2017 for priority stocks identified in Rec. 15-07¹:

N-ALB:

- Status update on the testing of candidate HCRs through MSE

BFT:

- Status update on MSE-related work by the SCRS
- Consideration of management objectives
- Identification of performance indicators

¹ Chairs of respective Panels together with the SCRS Species Group chairs and the SCRS Chair will work intersessionally to prepare an analysis of how management objectives have been established for priority stocks, which performance indicators have been identified and progress toward MSE/HCR development to date. An example of performance measures and associated statistics is attached (**Appendix 1**).

N-SWO:

- Identification of the acceptable quantitative probability of achieving and/or maintaining the stock in the green zone of the Kobe plot and avoiding the limit reference point
- Identification of performance indicators

Tropical tunas:

- Identification of the acceptable quantitative probability of achieving and/or maintaining the stocks in the green zone of the Kobe plot and avoiding the limit reference point
- Review of indicative performance indicators adopted in Rec. [16-01], Annex 8

7. Recommendations to the Commission on management objectives, performance indicators and HCR for stocks referred to under point 6
8. Review of the 5-year road map for the development of MSE/HCR for priority stocks
9. Consideration of other stocks for possible addition to the 5-year road map
10. Outcomes of the 2016 Joint Tuna RFMO Working Group on Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management (EBFM)
11. Development of a draft road map to implement EBFM, including roles and responsibilities
12. Other matters
13. Adoption of Report and adjournment

Performance Indicators and Associated Statistics

<i>PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ASSOCIATED STATISTICS</i>	<i>UNIT OF MEASUREMENT</i>	<i>TYPE OF METRICS</i>
Status		
1.1 Minimum biomass relative to BMSY	B/ BMSY	Minimum over [x] years
1.2 Mean biomass relative to BMSY ²	B/ BMSY	Geometric mean over [x] years
1.3 Mean fishing mortality relative to FMSY	F/ FMSY	Geometric mean over [x] years
1.4 Probability of being in the Kobe green quadrant	B, F	Proportion of years that $B \geq BMSY$ & $F \leq FMSY$
1.5 Probability of being in the Kobe red quadrant ³	B, F	Proportion of years that $B \leq BMSY$ & $F \geq FMSY$
2 Safety		
2.1 Probability that biomass is above Blim (0.4BMSY) ⁴	B/ BMSY	Proportion of years that $B > Blim$
2.2 Probability of $Blim < B < B_{thresh}$	B/ BMSY	Proportion of years that $Blim < B < B_{thresh}$
3 Yield		
3.1 Mean catch – short term	Catch	Mean over 1-3 years
3.2 Mean catch – medium term	Catch	Mean over 5-10 years
3.3 Mean catch – long term	Catch	Mean in 15 and 30 years
4 Stability		
4.1 Mean absolute proportional change in catch	Catch (C)	Mean over [x] years of $(C_n - C_{n-1}) / C_{n-1}$
4.2 Variance in catch	Catch (C)	Variance over [x] years
4.3 Probability of shutdown	TAC	Proportion of years that TAC=0
4.4 Probability of TAC change over a certain level ⁵	TAC	Proportion of management cycles when the ratio of change ⁶ $(TAC_n - TAC_{n-1}) / TAC_{n-1} > X\%$
4.5 Maximum amount of TAC change between management periods	TAC	Maximum ratio of change ⁷

² This indicator provides an indication of the expected CPUE of adult fish because CPUE is assumed to track biomass.

³ This indicator is only useful to distinguish the performance of strategies which fulfil the objective represented by 1.4.

⁴ This differs slightly from being equal to 1- Probability of a shutdown (4.3), because of the choice of having a management cycle of 3 years. In the next management cycle after B has been determined to be less than Blim the TAC is fixed during three years to the level corresponding to Flim, and the catch will stay at such minimum level for three years. The biomass, however, may react quickly to the lowering of F and increase rapidly so that one or more of the three years of the cycle will have $B > Blim$.

⁵ Useful in the absence of TAC-related constraints in the harvest control rule.

⁶ Positive and negative changes to be reported separately.

⁷ Positive and negative changes to be reported separately.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

1 Date and venue

The meeting will be held from 29 (Thursday) to 30 June (Friday), 2017. (Registration starts at 08:30 am, 29 June). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 18:00.

The meeting will be held at the ICCAT Secretariat: Calle Corazón de María 8, 6 planta, 28002 Madrid, Spain. For a map with the location and information about Madrid please click [here](#).

2 Contact information

Chair: Mr. Martin Tsamenyi

Local coordination: ICCAT Secretariat, Miguel Neves dos Santos (miguel.santos@iccat.int)
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
c/ Corazón de María 8, 6th floor
28002 Madrid, Spain
Tel: +34 91 416 5600; Fax: +34 91 415 2612

3 Language

The three ICCAT official languages (English, French and Spanish). Simultaneous translation will be provided. Meeting documents can be written in English, Spanish or French.

4 Call for documents

CPCs wishing to submit documents for this meeting are requested to do so as early as possible, but **no later than 9 June**, in order to be able to make the documents available in the three languages by the start of the meeting to facilitate their review by participants prior to the meeting. If documents are received after the deadline, we cannot guarantee their translation and therefore authors are encouraged to provide extended abstracts of the documents. However, in order to plan the meeting sessions according to the different Agenda items, tentative titles for such documents should be sent to the ICCAT Secretariat (info@iccat.int) no later than **26 May 2017** (18:00 Madrid time).

5 Funding

Funding is available to cover travel and subsistence expenses for two delegates (one manager and one scientist) from each developing Contracting Party who can provide relevant information and/or participation to the meeting objectives. The requests for financial assistance to attend the meeting should be submitted to the respective Secretariat **before 15 May 2017** (18:00 local time). Requests for financial assistance cannot be accepted after that date.

6 Hotel information

Please note that the prices below are approximate and may vary. The ICCAT Secretariat does not have fixed price agreements with the hotels below unless specifically indicated. All delegates should make their own reservations directly with the hotel.

HOTEL WEARE CHAMARTIN Calle de Agustín de Foxá, 28036 Madrid, Spain Tel +34 91 334 49 00	Double room single use (incl. breakfast): €78.50 Double room (incl. breakfast): €98 For bookings of 3 nights or more you will be given a €10 voucher redeemable at the bar/restaurant, per room (10% VAT incl.)
HOTEL ILUNION PÍO XII 4* 1 Avda. Pío XII, 77, 28016 Madrid, Spain Tel +34 91 387 62 00 http://www.ilunionpioxii.com/	Double room single use: breakfast not incl. €95€ , breakfast included €103 Double room double use: breakfast not incl. €95 , breakfast included €123 10% off on first time registration online (10% VAT incl.)
HOTEL EUROSTARS MADRID TOWER 5* 1 Paseo de la Castellana, 259 B, 28046 Madrid, Spain Tel. +34 91 334 27 00 www.eurostarsmadridtower.com	Double room single use, breakfast included €160 (incl. breakfast): €160 Double room double use, breakfast included €175 (10% VAT incl.)
HOTEL TRYP MADRID CHAMARTIN 4* 1 C/ Mauricio Ravel 10 28046 Madrid, Spain Tel. +34 91 733 34 00 www.tryphotels.com	Standard room single use: breakfast not incl. €115 , breakfast included €126 Standard room double use: breakfast not incl. €194 , breakfast included €222 (10% VAT incl.)
HOTEL VIA CASTELLANA 4* 1 Paseo de la Castellana, 220 28046 Madrid, Spain Tel. +34 91 567 43 00 reservas@hotelviacastellana.com	Classic room: breakfast not incl. €101 , breakfast included €125 (10% VAT incl.)
HOTEL SILKEN PUERTA DE AMÉRICA 5* Avda. América, 41 28002 Madrid, Spain Tel +34 91 744 54 00; Fax +34 91 744 54 01 http://www.hoteles-silken.com/hotel-puerta-america-madrid/	Single room (incl. breakfast): €115 Double room (incl. breakfast): €130 Only for 1st quarter meetings (10% VAT incl.)
APARTAMENTOS TOGUMAR C/ Canillas, 59 28002 Madrid, Spain Tel. + 34 91 519 00 51; Fax +34 91 519 48 45	Double room (incl. breakfast): €75 Double room (room only): €66 Single room (incl. breakfast): €62 Single room (room only): €57 (10% VAT incl.)
HOTEL ABBA 4* Avda. América, 32 28028 Madrid, Spain Tel +34 91 212 5000; Fax +34 91 212 5001 www.abbahoteles.com	Double room single use: €90 - €130 (10 % VAT included) * Special offer: By adding the ICCAT code to your booking, you will receive a 10% discount.
HOTEL AC AVD DE AMÉRICA 3* c/ Cartagena, 83 28028 Madrid, Spain Tel +34 91 724 4240; Fax +34 91 724 4241 reservas.acamerica@ac-hotels.com www.ac-hotels.com/	Double room single use (incl. breakfast): €100 Double room (incl. breakfast): €110 (10% VAT not included) Unavailable dates: 08-12 May 12-16 June 04-08 September 11-12 September
APARTAMENTOS GOYA c/ General Pardiñas, 13 Madrid 28001, Spain Tel: +34 91 781 8930 Fax: +34 91 575 6867 info@apartamentosgoya75.com	Apartment 1-2 Pax Accommodation only €60 (10% VAT included)

<p>HOTEL II CASTILLAS 3* c/ Abada, 7 Madrid 28013, Spain Tel: +34 91 524 9750 Fax: +34 91 524 9751 www.hoteldoscastillas.com</p>	<p>April-May-October-November Single room (incl. breakfast): €106.70 Double room (incl. breakfast): €125.40 Rest of the year Single room (incl. breakfast): €88 Double room (incl. breakfast): €103.40 (10% VAT included)</p>
<p>HOTEL NH BALBOA 3* c/ Núñez de Balboa, 112 28006 Madrid, Spain Tel: +34 91 563 0324 Fax: +34 91 562 6980 nhbalboa@nh-hotels.com</p>	<p>Double room single use (incl. breakfast): €110-139 26-30 June: €169 11 September: €249 (10 % VAT included)</p>
<p>HOTEL NH PRÍNCIPE DE VERGARA 4* Príncipe de Vergara, 92 28006 Madrid, Spain Tel. +34 91 563 2695; Fax: +34 91 563 7253 nhprincipedevergara@nh-hotels.com</p>	<p>Double room single use (incl. breakfast): €118 (10% VAT not incl.) Prices still to be determined: 12-16 June 26-30 June 02-06 October 11-12 September</p>
<p>HOTEL REGENTE 3* c/ Mesonero Romanos, 9 (on the corner of Gran Vía) Madrid 28013, Spain Tel: +34 91 521 2941 Fax: +34 91 532 3014 http://www.hotelregente.com</p>	<p>Double room (incl. breakfast): €83 Double room (room only): €78 Single room (incl. breakfast): €77 Single room (room only): €72 (10% VAT included)</p>

Further information may be obtained [here](#).