



Madrid, 30 April 2019

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 2646 / 2018

SUBJECT: 2019 ICCAT YELLOWFIN TUNA STOCK ASSESSMENT MEETING
(Côte d'Ivoire – 8-16 July 2019)

I should like to inform you that the 2019 ICCAT Yellowfin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting will be held on 8-16 July 2019, in Grand Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire).

Attached please find the objectives, the tentative agenda of the meeting and other relevant information about the organization. I would appreciate it very much if you could distribute this announcement to scientists who may contribute by participating in the meeting. This announcement will also be published on the current meetings page of the ICCAT web site.

The SCRS strongly requests that all CPCs submit their yellowfin tuna catch statistics for 2018 (Task 1 NC and Task 2 CE/SZ) for inclusion in the stock assessment work. We would very much appreciate that these data be sent to the Secretariat by **15 May 2019 at the latest**.

In order to have an estimation of the number of participants in advance of the session I would also appreciate if you could send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting by **24 May 2019**.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

– **Commission Officers:**

Commission Chair:	R. Delgado	COC Chair:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	S. Depypere	PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
Second Vice Chair:	Z. Driouich	STACFAD Chair:	H.A Elekon
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice-Chair:	R. Coelho

– **Head Delegates/Head Scientists**

– **Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities**

Attachment: Objectives, Tentative Agenda and Information for participants.

2019 ICCAT Yellowfin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting
(Afrikland Hotel, Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire – 8-16 July 2019)

Objectives

Following the recommendations of the Commission, the SCRS will conduct a stock assessment for yellowfin tuna in 2019. This is consistent with the strategic research plan of the SCRS and is considered a priority because: 1) the last assessment was conducted in 2016, 2) the overexploited status of the stock requires close monitoring of the population, 3) the TAC agreed for 2016 had been overshot, and 4) new information from the AOTTP Programme is available to inform the stock assessment. Accordingly, in 2018 the SCRS elaborated a work plan for 2019 which included a stock assessment of yellowfin tuna and a data preparatory meeting to collate and analyze all existing information required for stock assessment.

Details on the preparatory work, responsibilities and deadlines for the provision of data and documents, for this meeting are included herein.

Tentative Agenda

1. Opening, adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Summary of available data for assessment
 - 2.1 Biology
 - 2.2 Catch, effort, size and CAS estimates
 - 2.3 Relative Abundance estimates
3. Stocks Assessment Methods and other data relevant to the assessment
 - 3.1 Stock Synthesis
 - 3.2 Bayesian Surplus Production Models
4. Stock status results
 - 4.1 Stock Synthesis
 - 4.2 Bayesian Surplus Production Models
 - 4.3 Synthesis of assessment results
5. Projections
 - 5.1 Kobe matrix for yellowfin tuna
6. Recommendations
 - 6.1 Research and statistics
 - 6.2 Management
7. Other matters
8. Adoption of the report and closure

Additional information for participants

1. Venue and location

The meeting will be held from 8 (Monday) to 16 July (Tuesday) 2019 (registration starts at 08:30 am, 8 July). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 18:00.

The meeting will be held at the AFRIKLAND HOTEL, Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire. The city of Grand Bassam is located some 30 km from Abidjan's airport Félix Houphouët Boigny. The cost for ground transportation from the airport to Grand Bassam is 15 000 F CFA (about €25). You may pre-book transportation from the airport to Grand Bassam by providing **before 14 June 2019** your flight details to djoujulien225@gmail.com and/or ndapacome@gmail.com.

In order to facilitate the administrative procedures to enter and leave Côte d'Ivoire, participants are advised to check the VISA requirements at: https://www.aeroport-abidjan.com/visa_on_arrival_ivory_coast.php. If you should encounter any difficulties in obtaining a visa, please contact **before 31 May 2019** the Ministère des Ressources Animales et Halieutiques (MIRAH) (djoujulien225@gmail.com and/or ndapacome@gmail.com), providing a copy of your passport and flight ticket.

2. Contact information

Chair of meeting: Shannon Cass-Calay (Shannon.Calay@noaa.gov)

NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Center
Sustainable Fisheries Division, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami Florida 33149, USA
Tel: +1 305 361 4231, Fax: +1 305 361 4562

Local Contact: Justin Monin Amandé (monin.amande@yahoo.fr; monin.amande@cro-ci.org)
Centre de Recherches Océanologiques de Côte d'Ivoire, Département Ressources Aquatiques
Vivantes - DRAV, 29 Rue des Pêcheurs, BP V 18, Abidjan 01, Côte d'Ivoire
Tel: +225 05 927 927, Fax: +225 21 351 155

Secretariat contact: Mauricio Ortiz (Mauricio.ortiz@iccat.int)
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
C/ Corazón de María 8, 6th floor
Madrid 28002, Spain
Tel: +34 91 416 5600

3. Language

The working language for the meeting will be English, as no simultaneous translation can be provided. Scientific documents can be written in English, French or Spanish.

4. Call for scientific papers

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant scientific papers. In order to better organize the meetings, in 2014 the SCRS established deadlines for submitting documents, which were revised in 2015. These deadlines provide the rapporteurs with valuable information to better fit the meeting timetable as well as allow the Secretariat to make the documents available to participants in advance of the meeting. In 2015 the SCRS "proposed that a new deadline for the submission of SCRS documents should be implemented; these documents should be provided in their entirety at least one week before the meeting in which they are to be presented to facilitate their review by participating scientists prior to these meetings". As such the full documents for this meeting should be provided to info@iccat.int or mauricio.ortiz@iccat.int by **1 July 2019**. Authors are reminded to closely follow the [Guidelines for Authors of Scientific Documents](#) for the ICCAT SCRS and [Collective Volume Series](#). Furthermore, the original documents (text, tables and figures) should be prepared in WORD or compatible software.

5. Provision of data

CPCs are requested to submit or update Task I or Task II data (including completing the re-estimation of the historic Ghanaian statistics and estimations of *faux poisson*) up until the year 2018, by **15 May 2019** at the latest.

6. Funding

Funding is available to cover travel and subsistence expenses for a scientist from each ICCAT developing Contracting Party who can provide information relevant to the meeting objectives, particularly in reference to provision of data.

According with the Rules of Procedure for the Administration of the Special Meeting Participation Fund adopted at the 2014 Commission meeting, requests should be received **45 days** in advance, i.e. **24 May 2019**. Requests for financial assistance cannot be accepted after that date.

All the information related with the [ICCAT special funds for participation in ICCAT meeting and capacity building](#) is available on the ICCAT web site. It is highly recommended to visit this web page in advance and to strictly follow the protocols. In particular, it is necessary to fully complete the invitation form including explanations of the expected contribution to the meeting and how it relates to the meeting objectives.

7. Hotel information

A list of hotels located in and around are provided below. Participants are asked to make their own reservations.

<p>Meeting venue: AFRIKLAND HOTEL Boulevard Alassane Ouattara 877, Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) Téléphone : (+225)08871043 https://afriklandhotel.com</p>
<p>NSA HOTEL Route de Bonoua, Quartier résidentiel, Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) Téléphone : (+225) 21312800 ou (+225) 21312801 ou (+225) 21312802 http://www.nsahotel.com</p>
<p>HOTEL ETOILE DU SUD Rue de la justice, Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) Téléphone : (+225) 21302939 http://hoteletoiledusud.org Email : info@hoteletoiledusud.org</p>
<p>HOTEL DE FRANCE Boulevard Gouverneur Angoulvant, Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) Téléphone : (+225) 21312147 ou (+225) 78805804 https://www.hoteldefranceci.com</p>
<p>KORAL BEACH HOTEL Boulevard Gouverneur Angoulvant, Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) Téléphone : (+225) 21301908 ou (+225) 07239212 https://lekoralbeachhotel.business.site/ Email : koralseachhotel@yahoo.fr</p>