



Madrid, 16 June 2020

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 4068/ 2020

### **SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF THE 2020 SCRS AND COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETINGS**

Please find attached correspondence from the Commission Chairman regarding the cancellation of the 2020 SCRS and Commission annual meetings.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Executive Secretary*

*Camille Jean Pierre Manel*

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**- Head Delegates/Head Scientists**

**- Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities**

**Attachment:** Correspondence from Commission Chairman.



16 June 2020

**SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF THE 2020 SCRS AND COMMISSION ANNUAL MEETINGS**

Dear Colleagues,

Further to my letter of 5 June 2020 distributed as ICCAT Circular #3776/ 2020, and taking into account the responses received and the absence of any objections by the CPCs, I confirm that the SCRS plenary meeting scheduled to be held September to October, as well as the 2020 Commission meeting scheduled to be held in November, have been cancelled. The next Regular meeting of the Commission will be held in November 2021.

Nonetheless, several CPCs have expressed their concerns, which I echo, regarding the need for new measures in relation to some species, most importantly, but not limited to, tropical tuna species.

I would propose therefore that CPCs start working on these issues now. I will remind each Chair of the Commission subsidiary bodies to provide a list of measures which, if there is agreement, can be carried over for one year, and a list of those measures for which redrafting is considered vital. For these cases, the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies will also put forward proposed procedures for the discussion and adoption of new measures. This list should be as short as possible, while ensuring the continued and sustained management of ICCAT species. I will also request the SCRS Chair to provide the workplan/schedule for the SCRS from now until October, in addition to the procedure for providing advice and responses to the Commission.

For those measures requiring amendment, the Chair of each subsidiary body should work with the members of that body to ensure that a first draft for each species is submitted for circulation no later than:

- a) **31 July 2020 for measures not awaiting advice from SCRS** (i.e. where assessment has been carried out in 2019 or early 2020, or the measures are not dependent on new scientific advice;
- b) **15 October 2020 in the case of species awaiting advice from SCRS.**

This first draft will serve as a basis for electronic discussion and I sincerely hope that all measures can be adopted by consensus.

I will get back to you as soon as possible with the proposed lists mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,

*Commission Chairman*

Raul Delgado