

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE  
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA  
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA  
CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

Madrid, 30 June 2020

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 4476/ 2020

**SUBJECT: 2020 JULY SPECIES GROUPS MEETINGS** (*online, 13 – 15 July 2020*)

Following ICCAT circular #4382, dated 25 June 2020, I would like to inform you that three 1-day meetings will be held online between 13 - 15 July 2020, for Billfishes, Small Tunas and Tropical Tunas Species Groups, respectively.

Attached, please find the tentative agenda of the meetings and other relevant information about their 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 our website.

In order to organize the online meeting, in particular, regarding the number of participants in advance of the session, I would also appreciate if you could send a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting to the Secretariat by **8 July 2020**. Participants shall also register for the meeting using the online registration form available on the [current meetings page](#) of our website by **8 July 2020**.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Executive Secretary*



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

**DISTRIBUTION:**

**– 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
Panel 1-4 Chairs			
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair	R. Coelho

**– Head Delegates / Head Scientists**

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

**Attachment:** Tentative Agendas and Information for participants.

### **2020 TENTATIVE AGENDA OF BILLFISH SPECIES GROUP**

(online, 13 July 2020, 12:00-16:30 Madrid time)

1. Review of the ongoing activities within the Enhanced Programme for Billfish Research (EPBR) and new relevant scientific information on billfishes
2. Workplan including the activities within the EPBR and other activities for 2021 (i.e. workshop to improve collection and reporting of fisheries statistics)
3. Recommendations (special emphasis on those with financial implications)
4. Responses to the Commission (Rec. 19-05, para. 13, 17 and 21)
5. Other matters

### **2020 TENTATIVE AGENDA OF SMALL TUNAS SPECIES GROUP**

(online, 14 July 2020, 12:00-16:30 Madrid time)

1. Review of the ongoing activities within the Small Tunas Year Programme (SMTYP)
2. New relevant scientific information on small tunas
3. Workplan including the activities within the SMTYP and other activities for 2021
4. Recommendations (special emphasis on those with financial implications)
5. Other matters

### **2020 TENTATIVE AGENDA OF TROPICAL TUNAS SPECIES GROUP**

(online, 15 July 2020, 12:00-16:30 Madrid time)

1. Review of the list of responses to the Commission expected to be provided in 2020
2. Define an intersessional workplan to focus the outcomes of the 7-9 September meeting:
  - 2.1 Workplan for 2021
  - 2.2 Recommendations (special emphasis on those with financial implications)
  - 2.3 Responses to the Commission (to the extent possible)
3. Other matters (e.g. review MSE road map adopted by the Commission, define ToRs for the TT MSE work to be developed in 2020)

## Additional information for participants

### 1. Date and venue

The 1-day meetings will be held **online** between 13 and 15 July 2020. Meetings will be held from approximately **12:00-16:30 CET** (Madrid time) to account for time zone differences.

### 2. Contact information

Rapporteur for the Billfishes Species Group:

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Rapporteur for the Small Tunas Species Group:

**Flávia Lucena-Fredou** ([flavialucena@hotmail.com](mailto:flavialucena@hotmail.com))

Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco, Dept. Pesca e Aquicultura

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Coordinator for the Tropical Tunas Species Group:

**David Die** ([ddie@rsmas.miami.edu](mailto:ddie@rsmas.miami.edu))

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Secretariat contact:

**Miguel Neves dos Santos** ([miguel.santos@iccat.int](mailto:miguel.santos@iccat.int))

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### 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

Due to the short time available and the limited number of agenda items to be covered, participants are encouraged to **only submit scientific papers relevant to the meeting**. 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](mailto:info@iccat.int) or [miguel.santos@iccat.int](mailto:miguel.santos@iccat.int) at least **one week before the meeting**. 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. Registration

Participants are kindly requested to register for the meeting by **8 July 2020** at the latest. Early registration is essential for the Secretariat to ensure setting the Online platform. **Online registration** shall be carried out on the ICCAT [current meetings page](#) or [Registration form](#). All delegates from CPCs willing to attend the meeting shall notify in advance their Head Delegate or Head Scientist to ensure they are **included in the official list** that shall be sent to the Secretariat by **8 July 2020**.

## 6. Online settings

The Secretariat is using the **Microsoft Teams** application for the online meetings. You can find the hardware requirements to join an online meeting at the following link: [Teams Hardware requirements](#). We strongly suggest using headphones with a microphone to be able to hear and speak comfortably during the meeting.

A brief and clear introduction of the application can be found at: [Teams-overview](#), if you have further questions, please contact the Secretariat for support. All participants duly registered **will receive an e-mail** through the online platform **with a link to join the meeting**.