



Madrid, 13 December 2019

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 9106 / 2019

**SUBJECT: INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ON SCRS PROCESS AND PROTOCOL**  
*(Madrid, Spain, 20 -22 February 2020)*

I would like to inform you that the Meeting of the SCRS on Process and Protocol will be held from 20-22 February 2020, at the ICCAT Secretariat, in Madrid, Spain.

Attached, please find the meeting 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 can contribute by participating in the meeting. This announcement will also be published on the current meetings page of our web site.

In order to have an estimate 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 be participating in the meeting by **5 February 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
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SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair:	R. Coelho

- **Head Delegates / Head Scientists**

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

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

**INTERSESSIONAL MEETING ON SCRS PROCESS AND PROTOCOL**  
*(Madrid, Spain, 20 – 22 February 2020)*

**Objectives**

An SCRS Strategic Plan was adopted in 2014, for the period 2015-2020. Therefore, a new Strategic Plan for the 2021-2025 will be developed for consideration by the Commission at the 2020 annual meeting. Accordingly, it is of utmost importance to assess the achievements of the current Strategic Plan and define guidelines for the development of the new plan. In addition to this objective, a number of other relevant themes have been tabled in recent annual meetings of the SCRS, but due to the lack of time, these have not been presented or properly discussed. Among these are those related to the: increasing number of SCRS intersessional meetings, SCRS priorities, data policy, Programme Steering Committees and new templates for the Species Executive Summaries and SCRS stock status summary table. This meeting will not have any authority to make final decisions. Rather, its purpose is to have a broad and thorough discussion on these matters to prepare final proposals for the SCRS Plenary meeting in late September.

**Tentative Agenda**

1. Opening, adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements
2. SCRS 2021-2025 Strategic Plan
3. SCRS Research Priorities 2021 -2025
  - a. Current and future funding
  - b. Priorities and basic research
  - c. Role of the Secretariat
4. MSEs (roadmap) and stock assessments (5-year plan)
5. Data policy: dissemination, requests and procedures
6. Submission of scientific paper / presentations at meetings
  - a. Publication guidelines and Peer review
  - b. New Species Executive Summaries
7. Composition of Program Steering Committees
8. Follow up on the Second Performance Review Panel
9. Concerns regarding the increasing number of SCRS activities being held annually
10. Adoption of the report

## **Additional information for participants**

### **1. Date and venue**

The meetings will be held from 20-22 February (Thursday to Saturday) 2020 (registration starts at 08:30 am, on 20 February). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 18:00.

The meeting will be held at the ICCAT Secretariat: c/Corazón de María 8, Madrid, Spain.

### **2. Contact information**

SCRS Chair and Vice-chair:

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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/discussion documents can be written in English, French or Spanish.

### **4. Call for discussion documents and presentations**

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant discussion papers and presentations. 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 and presentations for this meeting should be provided to [info@iccat.int](mailto:info@iccat.int) or [ai.kimoto@iccat.int](mailto:ai.kimoto@iccat.int) by **13 February 2020**. Due to the nature of the meeting authors are not required to closely follow the [Guidelines for Authors of Scientific Documents for the ICCAT SCRS and Collective Volume Series](#), unless they wish having them published. Furthermore, the original documents (text, tables and figures) should be prepared in WORD or compatible software.

A number of documents that have been tabled in recent SCRS plenary meetings are available as background/discussion documents in the respective ownCloud documents folder.

## **5. 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.

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. **5 January 2020**. Requests for financial assistance cannot be accepted after that date.

All the information related to 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.

## **6. Hotel information**

A list of recommended hotels is available on the [current meetings page](#) of the ICCAT website.