

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 24 March 2021

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1889 / 2021

SUBJECT: 2021 SMALL TUNAS SPECIES GROUP INTERSESSIONAL MEETING (*Online, 17-21 May 2021*)

I would like to inform you that the 2021 Small Tunas Species group Intersessional meeting will be held online between 17 and 21 May 2021.

Attached please find 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 our website.

In order to organize the online meeting in advance of the session, in particular regarding the number of participants, you are kindly requested to send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting by **10 May 2021 at the latest**. Any late submission of the official delegation may cause delay on providing access to participants to the meeting and to the related documents. Participants must also register for the meeting using the online registration form available on the current meetings page of our website by **7 May 2021**.

Please receive the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary

Camille Jean Pierre Manel

Distribution:

– **Commission Officers:**

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SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice-Chair:	R. Coelho

– **Head Delegates / Head Scientists**

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

Attachment: Tentative Agenda and information for participants.

2021 SMALL TUNAS SPECIES GROUP INTERSESSIONAL MEETING

(Online, 17 – 21 May 2021)

Objectives

In 2020 the SCRS elaborated a work plan for 2021 which included an intersessional meeting of the Small Tunas Species Group, including applying data limited assessment methods.

The additional specific objectives of this meeting are summarized as follow:

- National scientists should develop and analyze simple fisheries indicators on small tunas (e.g. CPUE, mean size, proportion of juveniles, estimating fishing mortality, etc.);
- Update the life history metadata base of SMT, with new information collated during the recent years under the SMTYP and/or other research initiatives;
- Present, to the extent possible, preliminary results on stock assessment for small tunas species for one of the 5 geographical areas adopted by ICCAT, based on data Limited methods;

Tentative Agenda*

1. Opening, adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Review of fishery statistics
 - 2.1. Task 1 (catches) data
 - 2.2. Task 2 (catch-effort and size samples) data
 - 2.3. Other information (tagging)
 - 2.4. Fishery indicators (including length data analysis)
3. Review of available and new information on biology and other life-history information of small tunas such as stock structure
4. Update of Data Poor Methods and review appropriate approaches for future development of management advice for the different species
5. Review status of the Small Tunas Year programme (SMTYP) and update on data needs and analysis
6. Recommendations
7. Other matters
8. Adoption of the report and closure

* An annotated agenda will be circulated by the Chair during the week before the start of the meeting, which will include the schedule for the different agenda items.

Additional information for participants

1. Date and venue

The meeting will be held online between 17 and 21 May 2021. Meeting hours will be from **12:00 - 16:30 CET (UTC +1)** to account for time zone differences.

2. Contact information

Chair of the meeting: Dr Flávia Lucena Fredou (flavialucena@hotmail.com)
Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco, Dept. Pesca e Aquicultura
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CEP: 52171-900 Recife/Pernambuco, Brazil

Secretariat contact: Miguel Neves dos Santos (miguel.santos@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; Fax: +34 91 415 2612

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, Spanish or French.

4. Call for scientific papers and presentations

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 and 2019 the SCRS “proposed that a new deadline for the submission of SCRS documents and presentations should be implemented; these documents/presentations 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 or miguel.santos@iccat.int by **10 May 2021**. Documents and presentations provided after this deadline will not be accepted unless previously authorized by the Chair. 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 Task 1 or Task 2 missing or revised data until the year 2020 two weeks before the beginning of the meeting (**3 May 2021**).

National scientists should develop and analyze simple fisheries indicators on small tunas (e.g. CPUE, mean size, proportion of juveniles, estimating fishing mortality, etc.). These should be made available during the Intersessional Meeting.

6. Registration

Participants are kindly requested to register for the meeting by **7 May 2021** at the latest. Early registration is essential for the Secretariat to ensure the setting-up of the online platform. **Online registration** must be completed through the ICCAT [current meetings page](#) or [Registration form](#). All delegates from CPCs wishing to attend the meeting must notify their Head Delegate or Head Scientist in advance to ensure that they are included in the official list that must be sent to the Secretariat by **10 May 2021**. Any late submission of the official delegation may cause delay on providing access to participants to the meeting and to the related documents.

7. Online settings

The Secretariat is using the Zoom application for online meetings. You can find the hardware requirements to join an online meeting at the following link: [Zoom 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: [Zoom-overview](#), if you have further questions, please contact the Secretariat for support. All duly registered participants **will receive an e-mail** through the online platform **with a link to join the meeting**. For security and logistic purposes, it is imperative that you **register on Zoom for the meeting** using the link provided in the invitation, and subsequently **log in to the Zoom meeting using the same email address**.