

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 February 2022

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1149/2022

SUBJECT: 2022 SHARK SPECIES GROUP INTERSESSIONAL MEETING (Online, 16-18 May 2022)

I would like to inform you that the *2022 Sharks Species Group Intersessional meeting* will be held Online between 16 and 18 May 2022.

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 **6 April 2022**. 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 **9 April 2022**.

Please receive the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

DISTRIBUTION:

- Commission Officers:

Commission Chair:	E. Penas Lado	COC Chair:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	Z. Driouich	PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
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Chairs Panels 1-4			
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair:	H. Arrizabalaga

- Head delegates/Head Scientists

- Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities

Attachment: Tentative Agenda and information for participants.



2022 INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE SHARK SPECIES GROUP (Online, 16-18 May 2022)

Objectives

In 2021 the SCRS planned an intersessional meeting of the Shark Species Group in 2022. The meeting will give priority to activities being developed within the Shark Research and Data Collection Program (SRDCP) and to define a workplan for the blue shark stock assessment that is scheduled for 2023.

Among other relevant aspects to be discussed, special attention will be dedicated to responses to the Commission namely those related to the *Recommendation by ICCAT on the conservation of the North Atlantic stock of shortfin mako caught in association with ICCAT fisheries* [Rec. 21-09] and the ongoing joint ICES:ICCAT stock assessment for the North-eastern Atlantic Porbeagle.

Tentative Agenda

1. Opening, adoption of the Agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Presentation of activities under SRDCP and future activities
3. Review of shark fishery statistics
 - 3.1 Task 1 (catches) data
 - 3.2 Task 2 (catch-effort and size samples) data
 - 3.3 Tagging data
4. Draft workplan for 2023 blue shark stock assessment
5. ICES:ICCAT joint stock assessment for the North-eastern Atlantic porbeagle
6. Revision of shark bycatch species (as requested by the SC-ECO)
7. Adoption of the updated Shark chapters on the ICCAT Manual
8. Responses to the Commission
9. Recommendations
10. Other matters
11. Adoption of the report and closure



Additional information for participants

1. Date and venue

The meeting will be held online between 16 and 18 May 2022. Meeting hours will be from **12:00 - 17:30 CEST (UTC +2)** to account for time zone differences, with a 30 minute break around 14:30.

2. Contact information

Rapporteur of the Shark Species Group:

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Secretariat contact:

Dr. Nathan Taylor (nathan.taylor@iccat.int)
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
C/ Corazón de María 8, 6th floor, 28002 Madrid, 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 interpretation can be provided. Scientific documents can be written in English, French or Spanish.

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 nathan.taylor@iccat.int by **9 May 2022**. Documents and presentations provided after the latter 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. Registration

Participants are kindly requested to register for the meeting by **9 May 2022** 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 in advance their Head Delegate or Head Scientist to ensure that they are included in the official list that must be sent to the Secretariat by **6 May 2022**.

7. Online settings

The Secretariat is using the Zoom application for the 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 participants duly registered **will receive an e-mail** through the online platform **with a link to join the meeting**.