



Madrid, 18 April 2022

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 2273/2022

**SUBJECT: 2022 INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE BLUEFIN TUNA MSE TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP**  
(Online, 3-6 May 2022)

I would like to inform you that the 2022 Intersessional Meeting of the Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Sub-Group will be held online from 3 to 6 May 2022.

Attached please find the objective and 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 **23 April 2022**. Any late submission of the official delegation may cause delay in providing access to participants to the meeting and to the related documents. Participants must also register for the meeting using the online registration form which will be made available shortly on the [current meetings page](#) of our website by **26 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
Second Vice Chair:	R. Chong	STACFAD Chair:	D. Warner-Kramer
Chairs Panels 1-4			
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair:	H. Arrizabalaga

**- Head Delegates/Head Scientists**

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

**- Observers**

**Attachments:** Tentative Agenda and information for participants.

**2022 INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE BLUEFIN TUNA MSE TECHNICAL SUB-GROUP**  
*(Online, 3 - 6 May 2022)*

**Objective**

The objective of this meeting is to convene the Bluefin MSE Technical Sub-Group to address comments and decisions from the Bluefin Species Group (BFTSG) and outstanding issues from Panel 2. A number of outstanding topics from the MSE components of previous week's Intersessional Meeting of the Bluefin Species Group (18-26 April 2022) may be also addressed. This meeting is open to all participants of the BFTSG, Candidate Management Procedure (CMP) developers and members of the communications team.

**Tentative Agenda**

1. Opening, adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements and assignment of rapporteurs
2. Summary of developments on ABFT-MSE from the BFTSG
3. Unfinished work from BFTSG meeting
4. Additional changes to CMPs
5. Path forward for the BFT MSE process
6. Material for the Panel 2 meeting
  - 6.1 Key decision points for Panel 2
    - 6.1.1 Panel 2 approval of operational management objectives and performance statistics
    - 6.1.2 Panel 2 approval of process for development tuning and performance tuning
    - 6.1.3 BFTSG recommendations for narrowing (culling) of CMPs to retain a reduced subset for further consideration
  - 6.2 1-pager/4-pager/ summary BFT MSE process presentation
7. Communications/Ambassador material
  - 7.1 Key plots and outputs
  - 7.2 Develop presentation to Panel 2
  - 7.3 ABFT-MSE Ambassadors programme
8. Update of trial specification document (TSD)
9. Adoption of the report and closure

## Additional information for participants

### 1. Date and venue

The meeting will be held online from 3 to 6 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

Co-Chairs of Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Sub-Group:

Dr Gary Melvin (Gary.Melvin@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)  
St. Andrews Biological Station, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Department of Fisheries and Oceans  
531 Brandy Cove Road, St. Andrews  
New Brunswick E5B 1B8, Canada

Dr Doug Butterworth (doug.butterworth@uct.ac.za)  
Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics,  
University of Cape Town  
Rondebosch 7701 South Africa  
Tel: +27 21 650 2343/2340

Secretariat contact: Dr Ai Kimoto (ai.kimoto@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, 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 to 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](mailto:info@iccat.int) or [ai.kimoto@iccat.int](mailto:ai.kimoto@iccat.int) by **26 April 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 **26 April 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 **23 April 2022**.

## 6. 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 Rooms Users Guide](#). 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**.