

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, 5 December 2022

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 10066 / 2022

**SUBJECT: INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE TROPICAL GROUP SPECIES GROUP
(INCLUDING MSE) (hybrid/Madrid (Spain) from 27 February to 3 March 2023)**

Further to ICCAT Circular #9957 of 28 November 2022 on the upcoming Intersessional Meeting of the Tropical Tunas Species Group (including MSE) that will be held between 27 February and 3 March 2023 (Madrid), I am pleased to provide you the tentative agenda of the meeting (attached herein) 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 shortly be published also on the meetings page of our website.

In order to organize the hybrid meeting in advance of the session, in particular, regarding the number of in-person participants, you are kindly requested to send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting by **17 February 2023**. Any late submission of the official delegation may cause a delay in providing access to participants to the meeting and the related documents. All participants (online and in-person) must also register for the meeting using the online registration form which will become available on the meetings page of our website by **15 February 2023**.

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:	C. Brown		

- Head Delegates / Head Scientists

- Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities

Attachment: Tentative Agenda and other relevant information for participants.



COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE TROPICAL GROUP SPECIES GROUP (INCLUDING MSE)

(Hybrid/Madrid (Spain), 27 Feb – 3 Mar 2023)

Objectives

The SCRS included in its workplan for 2023 an Intersessional meeting of the Tropical Tunas Species Group (including MSE), aiming the next stock assessment of yellowfin tuna to be conducted in 2024 so that significant progress can be made in the multi-stock MSE, the improvement of basic data to support stock assessments, and the responses to the Commission's requests in 2023.

Tentative Agenda*

1. Opening, adoption of Agenda, and meeting arrangements
2. Definition of the objectives and workplan for the *ad-hoc* technical sub-group on the review of fisheries data quality and gaps contained in the ICCAT databases
 - 2.1 Overview of the fisheries statistics, catch-effort, size, FAD deployments, etc., available at ICCAT
 - 2.2 Definition of terms of reference for the *ad-hoc* technical sub-group
3. Review of updated relative indices of abundance for YFT and BET stocks
4. Biological Research
 - 4.1 Update on the research on biological parameters from the AOTTP programme
 - 4.2 Identification of research priorities
 - 4.3 Establishment of a Tropical Tunas Research Programme to coordinate research and use of funds
5. Tropical Tunas MSE review
 - 5.1 Update on the technical review of the WSKJ MSE and progress
 - 5.2 Update on the Tropical Tunas multi-stock MSE process
 - 5.3 Workplan development for the training workshops 2023 on Tropical MSE
 - 5.4 Workplan for the MSE dialogue with Panel 1 in 2023
6. Responses to the Commission
 - 6.1 Request on the number of FAD sets per vessel/fleet
 - 6.2 Request on the reduction of fishing mortality of juvenile YFT and BET
 - 6.3 Other responses to the Commission
7. Recommendations
8. Other matters
9. 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.



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Additional information for participants

1. Date and venue

The meeting will be in a hybrid format between 27 February and 3 March 2023. The in-person meeting will be at the ICCAT Secretariat. The meeting hours will be from **9:00 - 18:00 CET (Madrid time)**.

2. Contact information

Chair of the meeting: TBD

Secretariat contact:

Dr. Mauricio Ortiz (mauricio.ortiz@iccat.int)

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

C/ Corazón de María 8, 7th floor,

Madrid 28002, Spain

Tel: +34 91 416 5600

3. Language

According to the recent decision by the Commission simultaneous interpretation will be provided. Scientific documents and presentations can be provided in English, Spanish, or French.

4. Call for scientific papers and presentations

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant scientific papers. Following the latest SCRS deadlines for the submission of SCRS documents and presentations, for this meeting, they should be provided to info@iccat.int and/or mauricio.ortiz@iccat.int by **17 February 2023**. 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 **15 February 2023** 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 meetings page or the 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 **17 February 2023**.

6. Online settings

The Secretariat is using the Zoom application for the online meeting. 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 in [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**.