

# Report of the Ad-Hoc GBYP Drafting Group

Tenerife

14-16 May 2013

The objectives of the GBYP modelling programme are

*To improve assessment models and provision of scientific advice on stock status through improved modelling of key biological processes (including growth and stock-recruitment), further developing stock assessment models including mixing between various areas, and developing and use of biologically realistic operating models for more rigorous management option testing.*

A proposal for the modeling work to be conducted under the GBYP was presented to the GBYP Steering Committee (SC) in December 2012. The SC thought that this was very useful proposal to help plan future activities, allocate budget and review progress. It was therefore recommended that a draft be completed and circulated to the SC. The SC also recommended that a group be formed under the SCRS to help develop an operating model. A draft based on that presented at the SC was originally to be completed and presented for discussion at a 3 day GBYP meeting to be held directly after the BFT Biological Parameters meeting (BFT-BP). Unfortunately this was not possible, due to the late agreement of the GBYP budget. The objective of the planned meeting was to have helped developed specifications for the operating model following on from the Bluefin Biological Parameters (BFT-BP) meeting.

Instead, it was decided to take advantage of the Tenerife Biological Parameters meeting by carrying out this preparatory drafting based on the work of the BFT-BP meeting. The draft will then be circulated to the BFT group. The work on the Operating Model design (following this informal drafting group) would now be conducted intersessionally including full participation of BFT SCRS scientists in advance of the Boston BFT SCRS meeting. The objective of the Boston meeting would be to discuss the draft proposals and agree future steps in the development of the OM design.

Therefore an ad-hoc drafting group meet in Tenerife between the 14 to 16 May to produce a draft multi-year workplan for the modelling work. This document will form the basis of discussions at the GBYP modelling meeting to be held on the *th to nd* July. It would then be further developed by the SCRS. To facilitate the production of the draft the informal group formed by the BFT rapporteurs included SCRS colleagues already involved in developing operating models to develop a limit reference points (LRP) for North Atlantic Albacore.

## Workplan

To meet the Commissions objectives a development cycle of at least three years will be required in order to i) code the OM and alternative stock assessment models, ii) evaluate the various alternatives, iii) agree the new framework and then iv) fully test, document it and train others in its use.

There will be four main work packages (or areas of work), i.e. I) Operating Model development, II) Data Mining, III) Stock Assessment development and IV) Risk Assessment.

The draft is attached as an Appendix, this will be fuller elaborated during the meeting.