

Original: English

**25th REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS**
(Morocco, 14-22 November 2017)

ANNOTATED COMMISSION AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Mr. Martin Tsamenyi, the Commission Chair. The letter from the Chair on meeting priorities has been published as GEN-008/2017. Dignitaries from the host CPC will also make some opening remarks.

2. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements

The tentative agenda has been circulated as document PLE-100/2017. The Secretariat can serve as rapporteur, if required. An explanation of meeting document numbers is contained in GEN-003/2017, with details on network access in GEN-005/2017, and deadlines for submission of documents in GEN-007/2017. All documents will be available online. Instructions on how to connect will be circulated as GEN-005/2017. Mr. Driss Meski, ICCAT Executive Secretary will announce the meeting timetable and arrangements. The provisional timetable is published in document GEN-002/2017.

3. Introduction of Contracting Party Delegations

*The Executive Secretary will introduce the Contracting Party delegations
The list of participants will be made available during the meeting as GEN-006/2017.
As usual, opening statements should be presented in writing.*

4. Introduction of Observers

*The Executive Secretary, will introduce the observers in attendance
The list of participants will be made available during the meeting as GEN-006/2017.
Observers may present statements in writing.*

5. Review of the Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Dr. David Die will present the main findings and recommendations of the SCRS on general issues, contained in the SCRS Report PLE-104/2017, including responses to Commission requests, including:

- *Suggestions to improve the effectiveness of scientific observer programs, including possible revisions to Rec. 16-14 and/or with respect to implementation of these minimum standards*
- *Results of the review Rec. 14-09 [on VMS] and any suggested revisions to improve its effectiveness*
- *Results of the findings of the Shark Species Group regarding exemption of the necessity for data submission by CPCs.*
- *Development of rules of procedure, including a code of conduct for scientists and observers*

Individual species will be dealt with in the Panels.

The Secretariat report on Research and Statistics is distributed as PLE-105/2017.

6. Review of the Report of the Intersessional Meeting of Panel 4, and consideration of any necessary actions

The report of the intersessional meeting of Panel 4 has been made available as PLE-101/2017. The Chair will indicate the sections to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies.

7. Review of the report of the Fifth Meeting of the Working Group on Convention Amendment and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the intersessional meeting of the Working Group on Convention amendment has been made available as **PLE-107/2017**. The Chair's paper on the Convention Amendment is contained in **PLE-112/2017**.*

8. Review of the report of the Working Group to Follow up on the Second Performance Review and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the Working Group to follow up on the Second Performance Review has been made available as **PLE-103/2017**. At its 2017 Annual Meeting the Commission will consider the outcomes of ad-hoc Working Group and decide on a work plan. The Chair will indicate any sections which may need to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies.*

9. Review of the Report of the Third Meeting of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM)

*The report of the meeting of the SWGSM has been made available as **PLE-106/2017**. The Chair will indicate any sections which may need to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies*

10. Review of the reports of the First Joint tuna RFMO Working Group on FADs and the Third meeting of the ICCAT Working Group on FADs and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the intersessional meeting of the First Joint Tuna RFMO Working Group on FADs has been made available as **PLE-110/2017**, and the Third meeting of the ICCAT Working Group on FADs as **PLE-111/2017**. The Chair will indicate the sections to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies*

11. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

*The Chair of STACFAD will report on the work undertaken and the recommendations of STACFAD, including the budget and contributions for the 2018/19 period (**STF-203/2017**). The biennial budget will be presented to the Commission for consideration and possible adoption.*

The STACFAD Chair will also report the Commission findings on the use of the Working Capital Fund and recommendations for the future financing of, inter alia, the eBCD and AOTTP projects. The Chair will inform the Commission of the decisions taken in relation to the hiring of the next Executive Secretary, and on the next edition of the ICCAT Basic Texts.

12. Reports of Panels 1 to 4 and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

*If available during the meeting, the Panel Reports will be distributed as, **PA1-550/2017**, **PA2-650/2017**, **PA3-750/2017**, and **PA4-850/2017**. The Commission should consider Recommendations forwarded by the Panel for adoption.*

13. Report of the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

*The Commission should consider recommendations forwarded by the Committee, as well as the Compliance tables (**COC-304/2017**) and actions which may be required on the basis of the COC discussions, which will be available in **COC-308/2017**. The COC may be guided in its actions by Res. 16-17.*

14. Report of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

*The Commission should consider recommendations forwarded by the Group, including the approval of the IUU list (**PWG-405/2017**).*

15. Assistance to developing coastal States and capacity building

*The Executive Secretary will summarise the activities during the last year. More details can be found in **STF-202/2017**. See also item 16 for possible future actions.*

16. Cooperation with other organisations

*The Executive Secretary will present updates on activities taken in conjunction with other fora, including with other tuna RFMOs through the Kobe process and in cooperation with GEF/ABNJ. Information will be contained in documents **PLE-108/2017**, **PLE-109/2017** and **PLE-115/2017**.*

17. Inter-sessional meetings in 2018

The Commission may wish to set the dates and venues for intersessional meetings in 2018.

18. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs

The Commission is required to elect a Chair and Vice-Chairs in accordance with paragraph of Article III of the Convention.

19. Other matters

*19.1. Streamlining of ICCAT conservation and management measures. The Secretariat, in conjunction with the Chairs of the relevant bodies, has prepared **PLE-113/2017** for consideration by the Commission.*

*19.2 Japan has proposed some Draft Guidelines for Submission of Proposals, which are contained in **PLE-119/2017** for consideration.*

19.3. Other matters may be raised by Contracting Parties present at the meeting, or by the Chair, if required.

20. Date and place of the next meeting of the Commission

The dates proposed for the next Commission meeting are 19-29 November 2018.

21. Adoption of the report and adjournment

ANNOTATED AGENDA OF THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES
COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC)

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Mr. Derek Campbell, Compliance Committee Chair.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of the Agenda

*The Agenda has been circulated as **COC-300/2017***

4. Review of actions taken by CPCs in response to letters relating to issues arising from the 2016 meeting

*The responses to the letters sent following the 2016 Commission meeting are contained in document **COC-309/2017**. Responses from non-Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities are contained in **COC-310/2017**.*

5. Review of implementation of and compliance with the ICCAT requirements:

5.1 Compliance tables

*The Compliance Tables, **COC-304/2017** will be distributed by the Secretariat before the Meeting. Delegations wishing to introduce changes must request them **in writing** before 18:00 hours, Monday 13 November 2017. Changes should be given to the ICCAT reception desk or sent to info@iccat.int*

5.2 CPC Annual Reports, Statistical data summaries, Compliance summaries

*Annual reports submitted by CPCs are available as **COC-301/2017**; The Secretariat Report on Research and Statistics, **PLE-105/2017** gives details of data submissions received before 15 October 2017. A summary of information for the implementation of Rec. 11-15 is contained in **COC-303/2017**. The Secretariat has prepared draft individual compliance summaries based on the information submitted by each CPC. These summaries also contain references to compliance issues raised for each CPC during the year which may need to be considered. These will be made available as **COC-308/2017**. A summary of the difficulties encountered (as reported by the CPCs) in the implementation of ICCAT conservation and management measures is given in **COC-311/2017**.*

5.3 Inspection and observer reports

*Inspection reports received under the Joint Scheme of International Inspection are summarised in Table 1 of the Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee. Information on Port Inspection required under Rec. 12-07 is also contained in the **COC-303/2017**.*

*Observer reports for the ROP-BFT are contained in Annexes 1 and 2 to **COC-305/2017**. Observer reports from the ROP-transshipment have been published on the password protected web site in accordance with the provisions of Rec. 12-06. Observer reports received under the Tropical Tuna observer programme, being implemented domestically by the CPCs involved, are contained in Annex 3 to **COC-305/2017**.*

5.4 Information on implementation of shark recommendations

*The responses to the Shark Implementation Check Sheet have been compiled in **Appendix 3** to document **COC-303/2017***

5.5 Other relevant information

*The reports on implementation of Rec. 14-04 are contained in document **COC-302/2017**. Information submitted by a contracting party in accordance with Rec. 08-09 is contained in **COC-307/2017**.*

5.6 CPC-by-CPC review of compliance with ICCAT requirements

The review will be carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down in Res. 16-22.

5.7 Review of information relating to NCPs

*Responses received from non-CPCs are contained in document **COC-309/2017***

6. Actions to address issues of non-compliance by CPCs and issues relating to NCPs arising from items 4 and 5

*The outcomes of the discussions of the above documents will determine the actions to be taken, in accordance with Res. 16-17. These will be included in the final version of **COC-308/2017** to be attached to the report of the Committee.*

7. Review of progress of the Working Group on the development of an online reporting system

*An update of the progress made is contained in document **COC-306/2017**.*

8. Review of requests for cooperating status

No new requests for cooperating status were received in 2017.

9. Recommendations to the Commission to improve compliance

10. Election of Chair

11. Other matters

12. Adoption of report and adjournment

**ANNOTATED AGENDA
OF THE PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE
IMPROVEMENT OF ICCAT STATISTICS AND CONSERVATION MEASURES (PWG)**

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Mr. Fabrizio Donatella, Chair of the PWG.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of the Agenda

*The Agenda has been circulated as **PWG-400/2017**.*

4. Consideration of the effectiveness and practical aspects of implementation of:

4.1 *Catch Documentation and Statistical Document Programs*

*Information is contained in the Secretariat Report to the PWG (**PWG-401/2017**), Section 1 and document **PWG-403/2017**. Rec. 15-10 requires that the Commission shall review the validation derogation [for the EU] at its 2017 Annual meeting for decision on its possible extension, as well as the alternative approach [to provide the approximate weight of individual fish within the catch upon offloading, which is determined through representative sampling] shall apply through 2017 unless extended by the Commission after considering CPC reports on its implementation. The report by the European Union on its implementation of the derogation to validate eBCD for the trade events among its Member States is contained in **PWG-404/2017**.*

*Proposals to amend the CDS have been submitted by Norway (**PWG-409/2017** and **PWG-410/2017**), by Japan (**PWG-412/2017**) and by EU (**PWG-411/2017**). A proposal on future financing has been submitted to STACFAD by the Chair of the Working Group as **STF-207/2017**.*

4.2 *Observer Programmes*

*Information on the implementation of the ROP-BFT observer programmes is contained in **PA2-601/2017** and on the ROP-Transshipment observer programme for at-sea transshipment is contained in **PWG-402/2017**.*

4.3 *At-sea and in-port transshipment requirements*

*The ICCAT transshipment programme was updated in 2016 [Rec. 16-15] to include carrier vessels transshipping in port on the ICCAT Record of Carrier Vessels. The Record can be consulted at www.iccat.int/en/vesselsrecord.asp. More information on transshipment requirements is contained **PWG-402/2017** and **COC-305/2017**.*

*The United States of America has submitted a draft Recommendation on Protecting the Health and Safety of Observers in ICCAT's Regional Observer Programs, available as **PWG-407/2017**.*

4.4 *Rules for chartering and other fishing arrangements*

*A summary of chartering arrangements and reports from CPCs have been presented to the Compliance Committee in **COC-303/2017**. A table summarising information on Access Agreements is also included in **COC-303/2017**.*

4.5 *At-sea vessel sighting and inspection programs*

*Inspection reports submitted under the ICCAT Scheme of Joint Inspection are available as Annex 3 to **COC-303/2017**. A summary of reports are contained in **COC-303/2017**.*

*The United States of America has proposed a draft Resolution by ICCAT Establishing a Pilot Program for the Voluntary Exchange of Inspectors to Conduct Joint International Inspections At Sea, which has been distributed as **PWG-408/2017**.*

4.6 *Port inspection schemes and other port State measures*

*Inspection reports are presented in Table 1 of **COC-303/2017**. Rec. 14-08 stipulates that "this recommendation will be evaluated and reviewed at the latest in 2017". In addition, the findings of the Port Inspection Expert Working Group need to be considered, and decisions taken in light of the outcomes. The Report is available as **PWG-406/2017***

4.7 *Vessel listing requirements*

*Information is contained in document **PWG-401/2017**.*

4.8 *Vessel Monitoring Satellite System requirements*

*The data and tables regarding VMS messages received by the Secretariat are contained as **COC-303/2017**. Information regarding development aspects are contained in **PWG-401/2017**; Section 10. Rec. 14-09 requires that the "Commission shall review this Recommendation no later than 2017 and consider revisions to improve its effectiveness, including by changing the transmission frequency, taking into account SCRS advice, the different nature of various fisheries, cost implications, and other relevant considerations, including generally accepted MCS best practices."*

4.9 *Flag State responsibilities*

4.10 *Other issues*

5. Consideration of additional technical measures needed to ensure effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures

6. Review and establishment of the IUU vessel list

*The provisional IUU list is contained in **PWG-405/2017***

7. Recommendations to the Commission based on findings of above

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

ANNOTATED AGENDA
OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION (STACFAD)

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Secretariat will serve as rapporteur, if requested.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

*The Agenda has been circulated as **STF-200/2017***

4. Reports from the Secretariat

4.1 2017 Administrative Report

*The Administrative report will be available as **STF-201/2017***

4.2 2017 Financial Report

*The Financial report will be available as **STF-202/2017**. The Status of the ICCAT Working Capital Fund is contained in document **STF-210/2017**.*

4.3 Review of progress of the payment of arrears and voting rights

*Document **STF-204/2017** will identify those CPCs whose payments are in arrears*

5. Consideration of financial implications of measures proposed and SCRS requests

*The Performance Review Panel recommended that before the adoption of each new recommendation, there should be an assessment as to the likely impact on the Secretariat's workload that its implementation implies. The Report of the Performance Review Panel is available as **PLE-103/2017**.*

6. Assistance to developing CPCs and identification of mechanism to finance the Meeting Participation Fund and other capacity building activities

*Rec. 13-09 stipulates that this Recommendation will be evaluated and reviewed at the latest in 2017. Information on the MPF is presented in **STF-208/2017**.*

***STF-209/2017** contains the report on the scientific capacity fund.*

7. Consideration of other programs/activities which may require additional or extra-budgetary funding

*Funding mechanisms for the ICCAT GBYP and for any future developments / system upgrades in the eBCD need to be considered. **STF-207/2017** contains a proposal by the eBCD WG Chair to finance the eBCD, which may require changing the Financial Regulations.*

*In addition, the findings of the Port Inspection Expert Group for Capacity Building and Assistance may need to be taken into consideration. The Report of the Port Inspection WG is presented in **PWG-406/2017**.*

8. Review of findings of Virtual Working Group on Communications Policy and actions required

*Any updates will be reported through **STF-205/2017**.*

9. Selection and nomination of the Executive Secretary

Following personal interviews, the Head Delegates will hold a closed session to vote for their preferred candidate. The selection will be endorsed at STACFAD and by the Commission Plenary.

10. Procedures for the selection at the 2018 meeting of the auditor for the next five year period

11. Budget and Contracting Party contributions for 2018/19

*The draft budget for the biennial period 2018/19 was circulated in advance to all Contracting Parties and is also presented in document **STF-203/2017**.*

12. Election of Chair

13. Other matters

*13.1. Since the last publication of the Basic Texts, the Commission has adopted several changes to the Rules of Procedure and the Financial Regulations. **STF-206/2017** compiles these changes, and it is proposed that the Secretariat publish an updated version of the Basic Texts in 2018.*

The [performance review] Panel recommends, in line with good management practice, that ICCAT reviews every five years, through an independent human resources consultancy company, the staffing profile and workload of the Secretariat and, if necessary, adjust it to accurately reflect current and programmed workloads. In that review, the company should also review the staff assessment process - The Panel recommends that STACFAD be responsible for the terms of reference and the follow-up to the report of the consultancy. The Committee may wish to consider this recommendation and suggest actions.

14. Adoption of the report and adjournment

ANNOTATED AGENDA OF PANEL 1

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda

*The Agenda has been distributed as **PA1-500/2017***

4. Review of Panel membership

The Executive Secretary will inform the Panel of any change in membership.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

*In 2017 the SCRS shall review its 2016 recommendations on observer coverage and advise the Commission on appropriate coverage levels for each tropical tuna fishery, taking in consideration the full suite of monitoring tools in the fishery. The SCRS report is distributed as **PLE-104/2017***

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities

*If the total of catches exceeds the TAC in a given year, the excess amount shall be paid back by CPCs to which a catch limit has been granted for the species concerned. Excess quantities shall be deducted the following year on a prorata basis from the adjusted quotas/catch limits of the CPC concerned, as per paragraphs 9 and 10. The Panel need to advise the Compliance Committee of the adjustments to be made to the compliance annex presented in **COC-304/2017***

The Commission shall consider development/management plans of coastal developing CPCs and fishing/management plans of other CPCs submitted in 2017, so that adjustments can be made to the existing catch and capacity limits and other conservation measures in 2018, as appropriate [Rec. 16-01, para 51]

*The Commission shall review the provisional limits [on FADs] laid down in paragraph 16 at its 2017 Annual meeting following the advice of SCRS and the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs [Rec. 16-01, para 17]. The fishing management plans are presented in document **PA1-501/2017** and the reports on the WG on FADs as **PLE-111/2017**. FAD Management plans are contained in Annex 6 to **COC-303/2017**.*

*Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire have presented a draft Recommendation on the prohibition of discards of tropical tuna by purse seiners. The proposal is contained in **PA1-502/2017***

7. Research

*[AOTTP] Additional information contained in the SCRS report, document **PLE-104/2017**.*

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

Ghana shall notify a comprehensive and detailed capacity management plan to the Commission at least 90 days before the Annual Meeting. The approval is notably subject to the assessment by the SCRS of the potential impact of such a plan on the level of catches. At the SCRS meeting, the Secretariat confirmed that the data sets required to conduct that analysis had been submitted by Ghana, but noted that additional work is required to combine the datasets into a single format that can be used to support the necessary analyses. This work could not be conducted in time to respond to the Commission in 2017. The Group recommended that the Secretariat compile the data needed to support the analysis of Ghanaian fishing capacity in time to conduct these analyses in 2018.

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

ANNOTATED AGENDA OF PANEL 2

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda

*The agenda has been distributed as **PA2-600/2017***

4. Review of Panel membership

The Executive Secretary will inform the Panel of any change in membership.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

*SCRS Chair will present the results of the bluefin tuna stock assessment. The SCRS report is distributed as **PLE-104/2017***

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

*The report on the implementation of the ROP-BFT is contained in document **PA2-601/2017**. This document includes some requests from the implementing consortium for clarification on some issues; it would be appreciated if the Panel could provide some answers to the questions raised.*

During the endorsement of fishing plans, it was noted that there was no legal requirement to and count dead discards, and it was noted that Panel 2 should be consulted in this regard.

In accordance with Rec. 14-04, paragraph 7, the Commission may decide by the end of 2017 on advisable changes of the management framework for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna. In addition, the adjustment for Turkey and Egypt shall be re-established at the 2017 Commission meeting [Rec. 14-04].

*The Panel needs to set a TAC for 2018, and possibly beyond, for both eastern and western bluefin tuna. A proposal to amend Rec. 14-04 has been submitted by Norway and published as document **PA2-602/2017**, with the rationale published as **PA2-603/2017**.*

*A letter from Albania requesting an increase in their quota has been made available as **PA2-604/2017**.*

*Japan has put forward a Draft Resolution Concerning Trade of Bluefin Tuna Exceeding Quota, which has been published as **PA2-605/2017**.*

Based on the SCRS inputs and advice provided pursuant to paragraph 12 above and the dialogue process indicated in paragraph 13, the Commission shall then endeavour in 2017 to adopt HCRs for the North Atlantic albacore, including pre-agreed management actions to be taken under various stock conditions. The application of HCR/MSE is an iterative process [Rec. 16-06, para 14].

7. Research

*[ICCAT GBYP] Additional information contained in the SCRS report, document **PLE-104/2017**.*

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

ANNOTATED AGENDA OF PANEL 3

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda has been distributed as PA3-700/2017

4. Review of Panel membership

The Executive Secretary will inform the Panel of any change in membership.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

Rec. 13-06 provides that "By the time of the Commission Meeting, those CPCs with underages in the previous year shall inform the amount of their underage they intend to use in the following year. The total underage from the TAC from one given year, minus the underages to be used by those CPCs wishing to do so, may be shared among those CPCs wishing to complement their quota, irrespective to their underages, to the limit of 25% of their original quota". Panel 3 may need to advise the Compliance Committee on any adjustments to be made to the compliance annex presented in COC-304/2017

7. Research

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

ANNOTATED AGENDA OF PANEL 4

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of Agenda

*The Agenda has been distributed as **PA4-800/2017***

4. Review of Panel membership

The Executive Secretary will inform the Panel of any change in membership.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

*SCRS Chair will present the results of the shortfin mako and swordfish stock assessments, and shall provide the Commission with the confirmed average round weight and gilled and gutted weight, corresponding to the LJFL of 100cm. The SCRS report is distributed as **PLE-104/2017**.*

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

*The Commission shall establish at its 2017 meeting conservation and management measures for North Atlantic swordfish on the basis of the SCRS advice resulting from the next stock assessment as well as the Resolution by ICCAT on Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities [Res. 15-13]. In support of this effort, the Commission shall consider development/management plans of coastal developing CPCs and fishing/management plans of other CPCs so that adjustments can be made to the existing catch limits and other conservation measures, as appropriate. [Rec. 16-03, para 5]. Plans submitted are contained in document **PA4-801/2017**.*

The provisions relating to quota/catch limits for southern swordfish, Rec. 16-04, will also need to be considered.

*The United States of America has submitted a draft Recommendation on shark species caught in association with ICCAT fisheries. This proposal is contained in **PA4-802/2017**.*

*Japan has presented a Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on the Conservation of North Atlantic Stock of Shortfin Mako Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries, distributed as **PA4-803/2017**.*

7. Research

The SCRS shall also develop a new data collection initiative as part of the ICCAT Enhanced Program for Billfish Research to overcome the data gap issues of those fisheries, in particular artisanal fisheries of developing CPCs, and shall recommend the initiative to the Commission for its approval in 2017.

*[EBPR, SRDCP and SMTYP data collection and research programs] Additional information contained in the SCRS report, document **PLE-104/2017**.*

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment