

3rd Meeting of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue Between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM)

2017 Overview

3rd SWGSM Meeting - 29-30 June 2017 in Madrid, Spain

- 21 CPCs attended, including scientists and managers.
- Objectives of Meeting:
 1. To analyze how management objectives have been established for priority stocks (N-ALB, BFT, N-SWO, and tropical tunas);
 2. To inform on which performance indicators have been identified; and
 3. To report on the progress to date toward Management Strategy Evaluation(MSE)/Harvest Control Rule (HCR) development.

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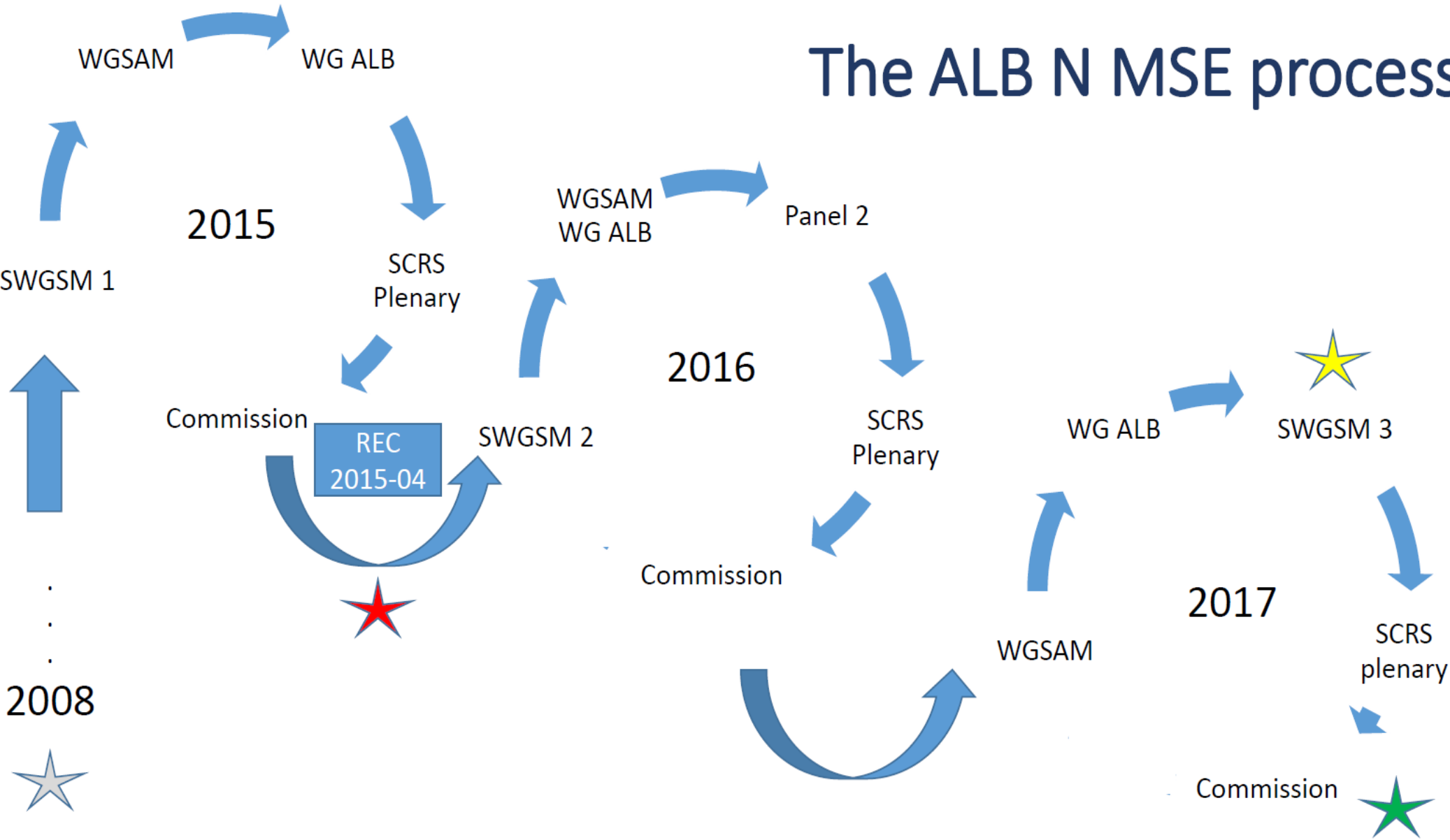
- Other updates during the meeting:
 1. An overview of the outcomes of the 2016 Joint Tuna RFMOs Working Group on Management Strategy Evaluation;
 2. A summary of the work developed during the Joint Meeting of tuna RFMOs on the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management; and
 3. A number of recommendations of the Independent Performance Review were assigned to be addressed by the SWGSM. For the majority of these recommendations, action is already underway. To continue this work, the SWGSM should continue to meet, particularly given that the SCRS should be fully funded to follow through on the specifics of this work.

- Status of HCRs and Actions taken in 2017 for Priority Stocks.

SWGSM reviewed progress on MSE made by SCRS and the Commission and provide input to the process and specifically the SCRS.

This input was considered by the SCRS in the elaboration of its annual report and its recommendations regarding MSE and HCRs

The ALB N MSE process



Northern Albacore MSE

Next steps for the SCRS in 2018:

- Work electronically to continue refining the MSE.
- Conduct further diagnostic tests, document assumptions and explore additional operating models.
- To effectively communicate results.

Bluefin Tuna MSE

Next steps:

- a. SCRS will develop alternative management procedures, including candidate HCRs, and test them through simulation as part of the MSE.
 - b. SCRS will continue developing appropriate simulation models that encompass the current understanding of system dynamics.
 - c. Ensure wide collaboration when conducting MSE work; and
 - d. Progress work through the GBYP.
- SWGSM was informed that work may take an additional year beyond what was originally anticipated.

North Atlantic Swordfish MSE

Next Steps:

- SCRS to conduct joint technical meeting of SWO and BFT MSE in 2018.
- Begin to identify management objectives and performance indicators in 2018.
- Evaluate and present candidate management procedures.

Review of Roadmap

- In 2016, the Commission agreed on a 5-year road map to advance MSE for priority stocks: northern albacore, North Atlantic swordfish, bluefin tuna and tropical tunas.
- Development of MSE requires specialized scientific expertise and takes substantial time; these resource needs must be considered and supported by the Commission if the work is to continue as planned.

Revised MSE Schedule proposed by SCRS

	2018				2019				2020			2021	
	ALB-N	BFT	SWO-N	TROP	ALB-N	BFT	SWO-N	TROP	ALB-N	SWO-N	TROP	SWO-N	TROP
Development of OM framework			X	X									
Conditioning of OM				X							X		X
Development of OM alternatives			X					X					
Finalization of diagnostics and improvements of MP evaluations	X												
Re-evaluation of performance of MPS in light of definition of exceptional circumstances	X												
Development of MPs		X			X	X	X	X					X
Evaluation of MPs		X				X	X		X		X		X
Independent review of MSE process	X	X							X	X	X		
Production of documentation for stakeholders explaining results of MSE for BFT					X				X	X		X	

Overview of SWGSM Meetings

- SWGSM provides an important forum for managers to ask questions and develop a deeper understanding of the MSE process and terminology.
- Also an opportunity for managers to provide input that guides the process.
- A more informal dialogue may help increase engagement by all CPCs.