

Proposed Roadmap for the ICCAT Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for Blue Shark

(Submitted by the European Union)

This proposal intends to propose a schedule to guide the development of harvest strategies for blue shark and follow-up on requests, previously included in ICCAT Recommendations, to the Standing Committee Research and Statistics (SCRS) to provide, if possible, options of Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) with the associated limit, target and threshold reference points for the management of this species in the ICCAT Convention area (ICCAT Recs 16-12, 19-07 and 23-19 for the North Atlantic; ICCAT Recs 19-08 and 23-11 for the South Atlantic).

		<i>Blue shark</i>
2025	Commission at Annual Meeting	<p>The SCRS shall inform the Commission, by 2025 on the feasibility, cost and options for developing an MSE framework. In this work, the SCRS should discuss and list the main sources of uncertainty, from the last assessment, that should be considered in the MSE.</p> <p>The Commission shall discuss operational management objectives, and performance indicators for CMPs.</p>
2026 and beyond*	Commission intersessionally	<p>(2026): SCRS to finalize the uncertainty grid and OM conditioning. Discussion and testing what variables should be in the reference grid and which should be considered as robustness tests.</p> <p>(2026-2027): SCRS to work on CMP development no later than 2026. A selection of CMPs with the best performance, as per COMM management objectives, should be selected by 2027.</p> <p>(2026-2027): COMM (PA4) to meet intersessionally, with SCRS participation, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - discuss CMPs, operational management objectives, and performance indicators; - refine CMPs; - recommend final operational management objectives and identify performance indicators. <p>Ambassadors' meetings to be held.</p>
2026 and beyond*	SCRS development	
	SCRS implementation	
	Commission at Annual Meeting	<p>(Nov 2027 or 2028): COMM to adopt an MP</p> <p>2028: SCRS and COMM to finalize the EC protocol, to be adopted from this point forward.</p>

* Assumes that the workplan is accomplished as described.