
**DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE 6TH SESSION OF THE
WORKING PARTY ON ECOSYSTEMS & BYCATCH
27-30 OCTOBER 2010**

1. OPENING

- Adoption of agenda
- Appointment of rapporteurs
- Opening remarks including update on Kobe process

2. INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

- Update on the Kobe process

3. REVIEW OF THE DATA ON BYCATCH AND ECOSYSTEMS

- Update on the data available in the IOTC database (Secretariat)
- Data from other sources
- Status of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme
- Advice and recommendations

4. SHARKS

- Review of any National Plans of Action relating to reduction of shark bycatch in tuna fisheries
- Research programmes on sharks
- Improvement on shark identification
- Stock assessment / ERA on sharks
- Conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC (*Discussion on way forward following Commission's rejection of WPEB/SC recommendation to land sharks with fins attached*).
- Advice and recommendations

5. SEABIRDS

- Review of any National Plans of Action for reducing incidental catches of seabirds in longline fisheries
- Update from Birdlife International
- Research on interaction between seabirds and tuna fisheries in the Indian Ocean
- Advice and recommendations

6. TURTLES

- Review of any National Plans of Action for the reduction of sea turtle bycatch in tuna fisheries
- Research on effect of sea turtles mitigating measures (*eg. circle hooks*)
- Advice and recommendations

7. MAMMALS

- Research programmes on marine mammals
- Advice and recommendations

8. OTHER SPECIES

- Research programmes on other species
- Advice and recommendations

9. DEPREDATION

- Review of available data on depredation
- Requirement for improvement of the data on depredation
- Possible consequences of depredation on stock assessment
- Advice and recommendations

10. ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES

- Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA) for bycatch monitoring, analysis and management, in an RFMO context
- Advice and recommendations

1. OTHER BUSINESS