

PROGRESS MADE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF WPM06 AND SC18

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PURPOSE

To provide participants at the 7th Working Party on Methods (WPM) with an update on the progress made in implementing those recommendations from the previous WPM meeting which were endorsed by the Scientific Committee (SC), and to provide alternative recommendations for the consideration and potential endorsement by participants as appropriate given any progress.

BACKGROUND

At the 6th Session of the WPM, participants agreed on a series of actions to be taken by participants, CPCs, and the IOTC Secretariat on a range of issues. The subsequent table developed and agreed to by the WPM was provided to the SC for its endorsement at its meeting in November 2015.

DISCUSSION

The Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee include the following seven core tasks, which are to be supported by the various Working Parties.

- a) recommend policies and procedures for the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of fishery data;
- b) facilitate the exchange and critical review among scientists of information on research and operation of fisheries of relevance to the Commission;
- c) develop and coordinate cooperative research programmes involving Members of the Commission in support of fisheries management;
- d) assess and report to the Commission on the status of stocks of relevance to the Commission and the likely effects of further fishing and of different fishing patterns and intensities;
- e) formulate and report to the sub-commission, as appropriate, on recommendations concerning conservation, fisheries management and research, including consensus, majority and minority views;
- f) consider any matter referred to by the Commission;
- g) carry out other technical activities of relevance to the Commission.

Recalling that the SC, at its 16th Session adopted a set of reporting terminology SC16.07 (para. 23), which was subsequently endorsed by the Commission at its 18th Session in 2014 (S18, para 10), to further improve the clarity of information sharing from, and among the science bodies, the following two term levels should be noted when interpreting the Reports and Appendix I to this paper:

Level 1: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to the next level in the structure of the Commission:

RECOMMENDED, RECOMMENDATION: Any conclusion or request for an action to be undertaken, from a subsidiary body of the Commission (Committee or Working Party), which is to be formally provided to the next level in the structure of the Commission for its consideration/endorsement (e.g. from a Working Party to the Scientific Committee; from a Committee to the Commission). The intention is that the higher body will consider the recommended action for endorsement under its own mandate, if the subsidiary body does not already have the required mandate. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for completion.

Level 2: From a subsidiary body of the Commission to a CPC, the IOTC Secretariat, or other body (not the Commission) to carry out a specified task:

REQUESTED: This term should only be used by a subsidiary body of the Commission if it does not wish to have the request formally adopted/endorsed by the next level in the structure of the Commission. For example, if a Committee wishes to seek additional input from a CPC on a particular topic, but does not wish to formalise the request beyond the

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mandate of the Committee, it may request that a set action be undertaken. Ideally this should be task specific and contain a timeframe for the completion.

In addition to the Recommendations endorsed by the SC at its 18th Session, the SC also made several requests which, although are not passed to the Commission for its endorsement, are considered actions which the Scientific Committee has the mandate to issue. The revised recommendations are contained in Appendix I for the consideration and potential endorsement by the WPM07.

RECOMMENDATION

That the WPM **NOTE** the progress made in implementing the recommendations and requests of the 6th Session of the WPM, and consider whether revised recommendations need to be sent to the SC for its consideration.

APPENDICES

Appendix I: Progress made on the Recommendations and Requests of WPM06

APPENDIX I

Progress made on the recommendations and requests of WPM06 and SC18

WPM06 Rec. No.	Recommendation from WPM06	SC18 Rec. No.	Recommendation adopted by the SC18		Progress/Comments
WPM06. 01	<p><i>Proposal for a Technical Committee on Management Procedures</i></p> <p>(para. 11): NOTING with concern the lack of adequate communication of the IOTC MSE process between the Scientific Committee and the Commission to date, the WPM RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee consider, and forward to the Commission (if appropriate), the following draft outline to establish a formal communication channel for the science and management dialogue to enhance decision making. The possible adjustments to the mechanisms of communication between the Commission and the IOTC Scientific Committee to improve efficiency could include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The progress of the MSE process will benefit from having communication between the Scientific Committee and the Commission more formally structured, for example, through a dedicated Technical Committee on MP that would serve as an effective two-way channel for scientists to communicate the results of the ongoing MSE work. The Technical Committee on MP would require that specific terms of reference in line with the priorities identified in Resolution 14/03, that roles and responsibilities of both fisheries managers and scientists, and possible interactions and feedback, 	SC18.18	Yes (Para.59)	S20 ²	<p>Update:</p> <p><i>On establishing a technical committee on management procedures dialogue</i></p> <p>(Para 128): The Commission ADOPTED Resolution 16/09 <i>On establishing a technical committee on management procedures dialogue</i> (Appendix XXIV). This Resolution aims at enhancing the dialogue and mutual understanding between the Scientific Committee and the Commission on matters relating to management procedures, and the decision making response of the Commission in relation to management procedures, The Resolution addresses the priorities identified in Resolutions 14/03 <i>On enhancing the dialogue between fisheries scientists and managers</i>, and 15/10 <i>On target and limit reference points and a decision framework or any subsequent resolutions addressing Management Strategy Evaluation</i></p>

² Taken from *draft* Commission Report IOTC-2016-S20-R which was still subject to adoption by correspondence at the time of writing



	<p>are developed and clarified within this framework. The Technical Committee on MP could meet in conjunction with the annual Commission Session, to facilitate full attendance by CPCs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Technical Committee on MP would augment the ability of the Scientific Committee to communicate the progress of the MSE process. • The Technical Committee on MP would focus on the presentation of results and exchange of information necessary for the Commission to consider possible adoption of harvest strategies, utilizing standard formats for the presentation of results to facilitate understanding of the material by the non-technical audience. • It would be advisable that the agenda of the Technical Committee on MP would place an emphasis on the elements of each MP that require a decision by the Commission. To facilitate such decisions, wherever necessary, interim choices should be offered to the Commission, noting that these choices can be modified at a later stage in the review. The MSE is an iterative process that allows for adjustments as the work, and the understanding of the elements involved, progresses. 			<p>and Management Procedures. This Resolution supersedes Resolution 14/03 On enhancing the dialogue between fisheries scientists and managers.</p>
<p>WPM06.0 2</p>	<p>Presentation and evaluation of MSE results (<i>para. 40</i>): The WPM RECOMMENDED a draft list of performance statistics representing a suite of candidate management objectives, provided in Appendix IV which provides a means of measuring the performance of alternative management procedures against different objectives.</p>		<p>Presentation and evaluation of MSE results (Para. 60) The SC ENDORSED the draft list of performance statistics representing a suite of candidate management objectives, provided in Appendix VI which provides a means of measuring the performance of alternative management procedures against different objectives.</p>	<p>Update: [Completed]</p>
<p>WPM06.</p>	<p>Revision of the WPM Program of work (2016–2020)</p>		<p>Program of Work (2016–2020) and assessment</p>	<p>Update: [Completed]</p>



03	(para. 53): The WPM RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee consider and endorse the WPM Program of Work (2016–2020), as provided at Appendix V .		schedule (Para. 152) The SC NOTED paper IOTC–2015–SC18–09 which provided the Scientific Committee (SC) with a proposed Program of Work for each of its Working Parties (WP), including preliminary prioritisation of the elements requested by each WP. The aim of is to develop an overall Program of Work Plan for 2015–19 which will deliver the information the Commission has requested to meet the objectives of the IOTC	
WPM06.04	Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the next biennium (para. 67): The WPM RECOMMENDED that the SC note that Dr Toshihide Kitakado (Japan) and Dr Iago Mosqueira (EU,Spain) were elected as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the WPM for the next biennium.		Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of the SC and its subsidiary bodies The SC RECOMMENDED that the Commission note and endorse the Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons for the SC and its subsidiary bodies for the coming years, as provided in Appendix VII.	Update: Completed
WPM06.05	Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 6th Session of the WPM (para. 74): The WPM RECOMMENDED that the Scientific Committee consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from WPM06, provided at Appendix VI .		The SC RECOMMENDED that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SC18, provided at Appendix XXXVII .	Update: Completed

WPM06 Report	WPM06 REQUESTS	Update/Progress
Para. 46	Tier approach for providing stock status advice The WPM NOTED that the proposal assumes that the main objective of such a system is to guide participants and Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of Working Parties when interpreting and communicating results, and providing advice based on those, for different stock assessment	Update: Not addressed specifically by SC18, however, the workplan was endorsed in Appendix XXXIVh of the SC18 report (WPM Program of Work).



	<p>methods. The WPM AGREED that it was not clear if the Scientific Committee suggestion shared this objective, and REQUESTED that the Scientific Committee clarifies what the motivations and objectives of such a system would be</p>	
Para. 52	<p>Revision of the WPM Program of work (2016–2020)</p> <p>The WPM REQUESTED that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the WPM, in consultation with the IOTC Secretariat, develop Terms of Reference (TOR) for each of the high priority projects detailed on the WPM Program of Work (2016–2020) that are yet to be funded, for circulation to potential funding bodies.</p>	Update: [ongoing]
Para. 55-56	<p>Special Session on MSE at the 18th Scientific Committee meeting</p> <p>NOTING paper IOTC-2015-WPM06-INF10 which outlined a draft program for a special session on MSE at the Scientific Committee, the WPM REQUESTED that the Chairpersons of the Scientific Committee and WPM, in conjunction with the IOTC Secretariat, consider making such a session part of its agenda for every SC Session.</p> <p>The WPM SUGGESTED the session should run for 1 to 2 hours and include a short introduction to MSE, followed by an interactive session based around a simplified MSE that allows participants to understand the dynamics of a management procedure and the necessary trade-offs between management objectives. Specific details will be agreed upon intersessionally.</p>	<p>Update: [ongoing]</p> <p>Special session on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)</p> <p>(Para. 66-68): “The SC NOTED that a special session on Management Strategy Evaluation took place during the SC meeting, following a request from the Working Party on Methods. The session gathered members of the WPM involved in the development of MSE for IOTC stocks. A presentation on Management Procedures and their evaluation and comparison through MSE explained the steps involved in this process and the roles of scientists and managers. The SC NOTED that this was followed by a practical exercise in which participants could use a simplified Operating Model to tune a Management Procedure to achieve certain management objectives given different levels of uncertainty. The SC THANKED the demonstrators for their work and agreed that there is a need for this kind of effort to help members understand the details and progress of the work on Management Strategy Evaluation”.</p> <p>This has been added as an agenda item for the SC19 IOTC-2016-SWC19-01a (Agenda item 7.6.1): Special session on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)</p>
Para. 69	<p>Date and place of the 7th and 8th Sessions of the WPM</p> <p>NOTING the importance of the Management Strategy Evaluation process,</p>	Update: 2016 - WPM07 held in conjunction with WPTT18 in Seychelles



<p>and following a discussion on who would host the 7th and 8th Sessions of the WPM in 2016 and 2017 respectively, the WPM REQUESTED that the IOTC Secretariat liaise with CPCs to determine if they would be able to host the 7th and 8th sessions of the WPM respectively (Table 1). Ideally, the WPM shall be held in conjunction with the WPTT each year.</p>	<p>2017 - [ongoing]</p>
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