
**DRAFT: ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 10TH WORKING PARTY ON
ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH**

Last updated: 29 October 2014

Date: 27–31 October 2014

Location: Queen's forum, Queen's Tower B 7th floor
Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan

Tokyo, Japan

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 daily

Chair: Dr. Rui Coelho; **Vice-Chair:** Dr. Evgeny Romanov

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chair)
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chair)
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-01a: Draft: Agenda for the 10th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-01b: Draft: Annotated agenda for the 10th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-02: Draft: List of documents for the 10th Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch
- 3. OUTCOMES OF THE 16th SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-03: Outcomes of the 16th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
- 4. OUTCOMES OF SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION**
 - 4.1. Outcomes of the 18th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat);
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-04: Outcomes of the 18th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.2. Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to Ecosystems and Bycatch (IOTC Secretariat).
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-05: Review of current Conservation and Management Measures relevant to ecosystems and bycatch (IOTC Secretariat)
- 5. PROGRESS ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF WPEB09** (Chair and IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-06: Progress made on the recommendations of WPEB09 (IOTC Secretariat and Chair)
- 6. REVIEW OF DATA AVAILABLE ON ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH**
 - 6.1. Review of the statistical data available for ecosystems and bycatch species
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-07 Rev_1: Review of the statistical data available for bycatch species (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 6.2. Regional Observer Scheme – Update
 - IOTC-2014-WPEB10-08 Rev_1: Update on the implementation of the IOTC Regional Observer Scheme (IOTC Secretariat)
- 7. REVIEW OF NATIONAL BYCATCH ISSUES IN IOTC MANAGED FISHERIES AND NATIONAL PLANS OF ACTION** (sharks; seabirds; marine turtles) (CPCs and IOTC Secretariat)
 - 7.1. Assessing the need for an NPOA (IOTC Secretariat);
 - 7.2. Updated status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and the implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations (CPCs).

- IOTC–2013–WPEB09–09 Rev_1: Status of development and implementation of National Plans of Action for seabirds and sharks, and implementation of the FAO guidelines to reduce marine turtle mortality in fishing operations (IOTC Secretariat)

8. NEW INFORMATION ON BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA RELATING TO ECOSYSTEMS AND BYCATCH SPECIES

- 8.1. Review new information on environment and ecosystem interactions and modelling, including climate change issues affecting pelagic ecosystems in the IOTC area of responsibility.
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–33: Preliminary review of ICCAT, IOTC and IATTC progress in applying an ecosystem approach to fisheries management (Juan-Jordá MJ, Arrizabalaga H, Dulvy NK, Cooper AB & Murua H)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–34: Applications of the SEAPODYM model to swordfish in the Pacific and Indian Ocean (Dragon AC, Lehodey P & Senina I)

9. GILLNET FISHERIES: PROBLEMS AND NEEDS (recommendations from the SC / decisions of the Commission)

- 9.1. Regional review of the data available for gillnet fleets operating in the Indian Ocean.
 SC16.14 (para. 38) *The SC reiterated its previous **RECOMMENDATION** that the Commission considers allocating funds to support a regional review of the current and historical data available for gillnet fleets operating in the Indian Ocean. As an essential contribution to this review, scientists from all CPCs having gillnet fleets in the Indian Ocean, in particular those from I.R. Iran, Oman, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, should collate the known information on bycatch in their gillnet fisheries, including sharks, marine turtles and marine mammals, with estimates of the likely order of magnitude where more detailed data are not available. A consultant should be hired for 30 days to assist CPCs with this task (budget estimate: Table 3).*
NOTE: Not funded by the Commission at its 18th Session. Incorporated into the Work Plan for the new Fishery Officer (Science).
- 9.2. Training for CPCs having gillnet fleets on species identification, bycatch mitigation and data collection methods and also to identify other potential sources of assistance – Development of plans of action.
 SC16.15 (para. 39) *The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocate funds in its 2014 and 2015 budgets for the IOTC Secretariat to facilitate training for CPCs having gillnet fleets on bycatch mitigation methods, species identification, and data collection methods (budget estimate: Table 4).*
NOTE: Approved by the Commission. Regular Budget: US\$19,000 in 2014 and US\$36,000 in 2015.

10. SHARKS AND RAYS

- 10.1. Review new information on the biology, stock structure, bycatch mitigation measures, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–12: Issues for t-RFMOs in relation to the listing of shark and ray species by the CITES with particular reference to the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (Clarke S & IOTC Secretariat)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–13 Rev_1: Species composition, CPUE and length frequency of oceanic sharks based on observer data from the Indonesian longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (Novianto D, Rochman F & Nugraha B)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–14 Rev_1: Estimation Iranian fishing vessels bycatch in IOTC are of competence in 2013 (Shahifar R, Khorshidi S & Shabestari BJ)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–15: Characterisation of shark bycatch from tuna longliners operating in the UK(OT) between 2000 and 2010 from observer and vessel logbook data (Moir Clark J)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–16: Status of the shark fishery ban in the Maldives and the Implementation of the National Plan of Action on Sharks (Ali K)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–17 Rev_1: Diversity and abundance of pelagic shark bycatch in the tuna fishery of the Indian seas (Sethi B & Mathew A)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–18 Rev_2: Preliminary results of the LL-SHARKs project: a comparison of wire versus monofilament traces in the Portuguese pelagic swordfish fishery in the Southwest Indian Ocean (Santos MN, Coelho R, Lino PG)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–19: Low value bycatch from tuna and trawl operations along the southern peninsular India (Pillai SL, Dineshbabu AP, Kizhakudan SJ, Thomas S & Maheswarudu)

- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–20: **Withdrawn**
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–21: Observation on reproduction biology of blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the Indian Ocean (Zhu J & Dai X)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–22: Modelling growth of blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) and silky shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) in the southwest Indian Ocean assessed by back-calculated length from vertebrae (Rabehagasoa N, Vigliola L, Lorrain A, Sabarros PS, Romanov E & Bach P)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–23: Characterisation of blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) hotspots in the South-West Indian Ocean (Selles J, Sabarros PS, Romanov E, Dagorne D, Le Foulgoc L & Bach P)
- 10.2. Historical data series for sharks and rays, in particular for blue shark and oceanic whitetip shark; SC16.17: (Para 41) **NOTING** that there is extensive literature available on pelagic shark fisheries and interactions with fisheries targeting tuna and tuna-like species, in countries having fisheries for sharks, and in the databases of governmental or non-governmental organisations, the SC **AGREED** on the need for a major data mining exercise in order to compile data from as many sources as possible and attempt to rebuild historical catch series of the most commonly caught shark species, in particular blue shark and oceanic whitetip shark. In this regard, the SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission allocates funds for this activity, in the 2014 and 2015 IOTC budgets.
- NOTE:** The Commission did not allocate funds in the Regular Budget. The \$60,000 requested will need to be found from an external source for 2015.
- 10.3. Indian Ocean Shark multi-Year Program (IO-ShYP)
- Presentation of the IO-ShYP plan (IO-ShYP01 workshop 14-16 May 2014, Olhão Portugal);
 - IOTC–2014–IOShYP01–R[E]: Report of the Indian Ocean Shark Year Program workshop (IO-ShYP01)
 - Discussion on further development of IO-ShYP plan;
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–11: DRAFT: Indian Ocean shark multi-year research program (IO-ShYP) (Chair)
 - Adoption of IO-ShYP plan.
- 10.4. Data for input into stock assessments (indicators), in particular for blue shark and oceanic whitetip shark (all);
- Catch and effort
 - Catch at size
 - Growth curves and age-length key
 - Catch at age
 - CPUE indices and standardised CPUE indices
 - Tagging data
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–24: Blue shark catches by the Portuguese pelagic longline fleet between 1998-2013 in the Indian Ocean: catch, effort and standardized CPUE (Coelho R, Santos MN & Lino PG)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–25 Rev_1: Standardised catch rates of blue sharks caught by the Taiwanese longline fishery in the Indian Ocean (Tsai W-P & Liu K-M)
 - IOTC–2014–WPEB10–26: Standardised CPUE of blue shark caught by Japanese longliners (Yokawa K & Kanaiwa M)
- 10.5. Development of technical advice on the status of the shark stocks (all);
- 10.6. Update of shark species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all).

11. OTHER BYCATCH AND BYPRODUCT SPECIES INTERACTIONS

- 11.1. Review new information on other bycatch and byproduct, in terms of biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all).
Resolution 13/11 (Para. 4) *The IOTC Scientific Committee, the IOTC Working Party on Tropical Tunas, and the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch shall annually:*
- a) review the information available on bycatch (retained and discarded) by purse seine vessels; and
 - b) provide advice to the Commission on options to sustainably manage discards in purse seine fisheries.
- 11.2. Marine turtles
- Review new information on marine turtle biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all);

- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–27: Impact of large pelagic fisheries on the survival of sea turtles in Sri Lanka (Maldeniya R)
- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–28: High mortality of Olive Ridley Turtles (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) in Ghost nets in the central Indian Ocean (Stelfox MR, Hudgins JA, Ali K & Anderson RC)
 - Development of technical advice on the status of marine turtle species (all).

11.3. Seabirds

- Review new information on seabird biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all);
- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–29: Preliminary identification of minimum elements to review the effectiveness of seabird bycatch mitigation regulations in tuna RFMOs (Small C, Wolfaardt A, Tuck G, Debski I, Papworth W, & Kim MA)
- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–30 Rev_1: Seabirds in the seas around Sri Lanka: their interaction in pelagic fisheries (Maldeniya R, Ratnasuriya MIG, Jayasekara JHA & Danushka P)
 - Development of technical advice on the status of seabird species (all).

11.4. Marine mammals

- Review new information on marine mammal biology, ecology, fisheries interactions and bycatch mitigation measures (all);

Resolution 13/04 *On the conservation of cetaceans*. (Para. 6) *The Commission requests that the IOTC Scientific Committee develop best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of encircled cetaceans, taking into account those developed in other Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, including the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and that these guidelines be submitted to the 2014 Commission meeting for endorsement.*

- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–31: Cetaceans and Tuna Fisheries in the Western and Central Indian Ocean (Anderson RC)

11.5. Marine mammal identification cards (all).

- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–32: A concept note on the need to develop an IOTC identification guide for marine mammals (Romanov EV, Anderson C, Bach P, Moazzam M)

12. RESEARCH RECOMMENDATIONS AND PRIORITIES

12.1. Revision of the WPEB Program of Work 2015–2019.

- IOTC–2014–WPEB10–10: Revision of the WPEB Program of Work plan (2015–2019) (Chair & IOTC Secretariat)

13. OTHER BUSINESS

- 13.1. Development of priorities for an Invited Expert/s at the next Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch meeting (Chair);
- 13.2. Date and place of the 11th Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Chair & IOTC Secretariat);
- 13.3. Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 10th Session of the Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (Chair).