
AGENDA FOR THE 15TH WORKING PARTY ON BILLFISH

Updated: 1 June 2017

Date: 10–14 September 2017

Location: San Sebastián, Spain

Venue: AZTI Pasaia

Time: 09:00 – 17:00 daily

Chair: Dr Tsutomu Nishida (Japan); **Vice-Chair:** Dr Evgeny Romanov (EU,France)

1. **OPENING OF THE MEETING** (Chairperson)
2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SESSION** (Chairperson)
3. **THE IOTC PROCESS: OUTCOMES, UPDATES AND PROGRESS**
 - 3.1 Outcomes of the 19th Session of the Scientific Committee (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.2 Outcomes of the 21th Session of the Commission (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.3 Review of Conservation and Management Measures relevant to billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 3.4 Progress on the recommendations of WPB14 (IOTC Secretariat)
4. **NEW INFORMATION ON FISHERIES AND ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL DATA FOR BILLFISH**
 - 4.1 Review of the statistical data available for billfish (IOTC Secretariat)
 - 4.2 Review new information on fisheries and associated environmental data (general CPC papers)
 - 4.3 New information on sport fisheries (all)
5. **SWORDFISH**
 - 5.1 Review new information on swordfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - 5.2 Review of new information on the status of swordfish (all)
 - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - Stock assessments
 - Selection of Stock Status indicators for swordfish
 - 5.3 Development of management advice for swordfish and update of swordfish Executive Summary for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)
6. **MARLINS (Priority species for 2017: Striped marlin)**
 - 6.1 Review new information on marlin biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - 6.2 Review of new information on the status of marlins (all)
 - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - Stock assessments
 - Selection of Stock Status indicators for marlins
 - 6.3 Development of management advice for marlins and update of marlin species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)
7. **INDO-PACIFIC SAILFISH**
 - 7.1 Review new information on I.P. sailfish biology, stock structure, fisheries and associated environmental data (all)
 - 7.2 Review of new information on the status of IP sailfish (all)
 - Nominal and standardised CPUE indices
 - Selection of Stock Status indicators for IP sailfish
 - 7.3 Development of management advice for IP sailfish and update of IP sailfish species Executive Summaries for the consideration of the Scientific Committee (all)

8. DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE MANAGEMENT MEASURES (INCLUDING CLOSURES) FOR BILLFISH IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

9. WPB PROGRAM OF WORK

- 9.1 Revision of the WPB Program of Work (2018–2022) (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 9.2 Development of priorities for an Invited Expert at the next WPB meeting (Chairperson)

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Date and place of the 16th and 17th Sessions of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson and IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.2 Election of a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for the next biennium (IOTC Secretariat)
- 10.3 Review of the draft, and adoption of the Report of the 15th Session of the Working Party on Billfish (Chairperson)