



*17th Meeting of the
International Scientific Committee
for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean
Vancouver Canada
12-17 July 2017*

ISC Action Plan¹
2016-2017

July 2017

¹ Prepared for the Seventeenth Meeting of the International Scientific committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), 12-17 July, 2017, Vancouver, Canada. Document should not be cited without permission of the authors.

ISC CHAIRMAN and OFFICE of the CHAIR

1. Keep working with official channels to formalize ISC and identify potential funding mechanisms (4.1).
2. Review and adoption of the MoU between ISC and PICES to allow governments to contribute funds through PICES (12.1).
3. Relationship with WCPFC/NC to establish a mechanism to accept voluntary contributions from governments or private sectors (12.1)
4. Investigate potential arrangements for financial contributions for Secretariat functions (12.1).
5. Identify additional sponsor for the next ISC function review (12.2).
6. Develop the TOR for the review panel (with Japan and the USA) by the end of August 2016 (12.2)
7. Contact other RFMOs about having a workshop to develop “standardized” techniques for data-poor species (4.2).
8. Present an ISC poster on ISC structure and recent activities at the PICES 2016 Annual Meeting with Hidetada Kiyofuji (Japan) (5.2).
9. Reach out to delegation heads to encourage participation in the BILLWG (6.3).
10. Obtain information from Vanuatu about catch at NC 12 (7.1).
11. Follow up with Mexico regarding lack of data submissions (9.1).
12. Follow up with China regarding lack of data submissions (9.1).

I. ISC MEMBERS

1. All – provide summaries of all North Pacific Ocean HMS fisheries (annual catch by species and gear, number of vessels by gear and size category and average size of fish caught by species and fishery for entire NPO for at least ten years or since the start of the fishery) in National Reports; Freeze data as of the end of the last calendar year (e.g. Dec 2016 for the July 2017 ISC Plenary National Report) and to ISC database
2. All – submit entire historical time series of Category I, II, and III data online by 1 July 2017
3. All – submit ISC17 documents by March 1; Final stock assessment reports should be submitted by June 1. See #18 under I. Chairman and OOC.
4. All – check in on progress of CKMR program (collection and sample analysis).
5. All- SHARKWG requested all members document data collection and analysis procedures.

6. All- request science agency staff to review and propose edits to MoU draft by August 5, 2016.
7. Canada – prepare to host ISC17.
8. Canada- seek further information on the catch of “silky shark” (likely soupfin shark) by the Canadian albacore troll vessel.
9. Republic of Korea- extend implementation of the electronic logbook system to the offshore fisheries.
10. Republic of Korea- investigate species identification issue, misidentifying BUM as BLM.

II. ALBWG

1. ALBWG Vice Chair will make a presentation at SC12 on the NPALB MSE (12.5).
2. Discuss proposed management objectives for approval to WCPFC NC12 meeting in Sept 2016 (6.1)
3. Conduct a data preparation workshop in November 2016 in Nanaimo, Canada (6.1).
4. Submit data by January 31, 2017 (6.1).
5. Conduct a benchmark assessment workshop in April 2017 in Shimizu, Japan (6.1).
6. Conduct a 1-day preparation meeting and elect a new chair (6.1).
7. 2017 NPALB stock assessment executive summary to be provided to IATTC in advance of the SAC8 meeting (6.1).

III. PBFWG

1. Conduct a workshop in late February-March in Shimizu, Japan to review the indices and to discuss possible improvements of the assessment model (6.2)
2. Conduct a 1-day preparation meeting in July 2017 (11.1).

IV. BILLWG

1. BILLWG will improve research capacity (6.3)
2. Improve understanding of the changes in CPUE for EPO and SWO in the Japanese longline fishery (6.3).
3. Will work with the Webmaster on website updates (6.3).
4. Examine new information on swordfish population heterogeneity (6.3).
5. Identify a data manager (9.1).

6. Submit data report after assessment that summarizes the data used in the assessment (9.1).

V. Shark WG

1. Identify a data manager (9.1).
2. Submit detailed BSH size and sex data by 1 August 2016 (6.4).
3. Conduct a webinar in September 2016 to review size data summarizations and decide on modeling approach for BSH assessment (6.4).
4. Consider mean length mortality estimator for data-poor shark assessments (6.4).
5. Conduct a BSH final data preparation meeting in November 2016 in the Republic of Korea (6.4).
6. Conduct a benchmark assessment for BSH in March 2017 in TBD (6.4)
7. Submit data report after assessment that summarizes the data used in the assessment (9.1).

VI. STATWG

1. Database Administrator - Complete ISC data inventory and forward to the WCPFC Secretariat and IATTC by 31 July 2016
2. Conduct a 2-day meeting prior to ISC17 Plenary in July 2017 (9.1).
3. Database Administrator - Remind members and WGs of new data review process (9.3 ISC15)
4. Assist Webmaster with website updates (9.1).
5. Webmaster - Update WG pages