

*Annex 10***REPORT OF THE STATISTICS WORKING GROUP WORKSHOP**

International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species
in the North Pacific Ocean

11-12 July 2012
Sapporo, Japan

1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Ren-Fen Wu, ISC STATWG Chairman, opened the meeting and welcomed participants from Canada, Chinese-Taipei, Japan, U.S.A., and WCPFC (Attachment 1). Gerard DiNardo, ISC Chairman, introduced Dr Jerry Ault of the University of Miami who will be observing the function of the meeting as the Chair of the ISC Review Panel.

2.0 APPOINTMENT OF RAPORTEURS

John Childers (U.S.A.) and Hidetada Kiyofuji (Japan) were appointed as rapporteurs, with Darryl Tagami (U.S.A.) appointed as lead rapporteur.

3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

The agenda for the Statistics Working Group workshop was considered and adopted with a minor revision (Attachment 2).

One Information Paper and 5 presentations were reviewed, and distributed (Attachment 3).

4.0 NATIONAL DATA CORRESPONDENTS

National Data Correspondents were identified as follows but ISC Chairman should confirm:

Canada – John Holmes
China –Xiaojie Dai (not present)
Chinese-Taipei – Zhong-Yo Chen
Japan – Koji Uosaki (not present)
Korea –Sang-Chul Yoon (not present)
Mexico –Michel Dreyfus and Luis Fleischer (not present)
U.S.A. – John Childers
IATTC – Nick Vogel (not present)

WCPFC – Peter Williams (not present)

5.0 INTERCESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

5.1 Information Paper 1: Report on STATWG Intercessional Meetings presented by Ren-Fen Wu (*ISC/12/STATWG-1/INFO-1*)

The STATWG Chairman reviewed the discussions of the STATWG steering group at two intercessional meetings conducted since the 2011 ISC Plenary: August 2011 meeting in Taipei, and May 2012 meeting in Shimizu.

The group suggested that a data quality label be provided by the Data Correspondents for their Member data and added to the metadata format. It was also suggested that examples be provided for the group to review, and that the quality rating should include a value for unknown or undeterminable.

The group suggested that the term discard be defined during the current STATWG meeting. It was clarified that all of the Category I data submitted to the ISC database by Members are retained catch or landings, but discards and retained catch should both be reported in Category I. It was clarified by the Data Administrator that the ISC database has been modified to accept discard data in Category I. The group suggested that Members should focus on discards of target species and ISC species of interests (including sharks) first, and later for all other catch including non-target species (incidental catch and bycatch). The group discussed ex-vessel discards at canneries, and that they should be reported as landings. It was also clarified that the condition of discards (live or dead) should be reported for stock assessment purposes.

6.0 STATUS OF STATWG WORK PLAN

The STATWG chair reviewed the 2011 STATWG Work Plan proposed at ISC11 Plenary. It was reported that 11 of 13 items of the work plan were completed in the past year. Two items related to submission of Member metadata were not completed.

7.0 DATA INVENTORY AND METADATA

7.1 ISC Data Inventory and Exchange with WCPFC

The Data Administrator reported that an exchange of data inventories was successfully completed between the ISC and the WCPFC in 2011. The WCPFC has not provided its updated data inventory to the ISC in 2012; the ISC Data Administrator will provide the ISC data inventory to the WCPFC before their SC8 meeting in August, 2012.

The group suggested that the ISC exchange data inventories with the IATTC in the same fashion that it exchanges data inventories with the WCPFC. It was clarified that the ISC has a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with the IATTC that includes provisions for data sharing. The SHARKWG chair noted that IATTC scientists are cooperating to provide IATTC Member shark data to the ISC SHARK WG. It was suggested that the STATWG should investigate the IATTC website for their online data holdings. It was recommended that the ISC Chair initiate dialogue with the IATTC regarding exchanging data inventories according to the IATTC-IOC MOC.

7.2 Status of Public Domain Data

Status of Public Domain Data – oral presentation by Izumi Yamasaki

The Data Administrator stated that the Category Ic data was previously available online by country and species, and that the Category I will be presented by country, species, and gear later in 2012. The Data Administrator is currently experiencing problems with presenting public domain data online due to database updates by Members after the July 1 deadline. In order to address this data updating issue, it was pointed out that the submission of annual data will end on July 1, and that no data updates will be allowed after that deadline, as clearly stated in the ISC Operations Manual. By September 1, 2012, the DA will update public domain tables for Category I and distribute to Member Data Correspondents for review. The final public domain tables will be published on the ISC website by October 1, 2012.

7.3 Metadata Requests and Formats

Status of Missing Metadata – oral presentation by Izumi Yamasaki

The Data Administrator noted that past efforts to collect metadata from Members were unsuccessful and that earlier metadata formats were difficult to use. It was also noted that metadata are needed for both the fisheries and the submitted fisheries data. The Data Administrator proposed a new simplified metadata format that could be more easily implemented by the Members.

The group agreed that Members will review the proposed metadata format for adequacy, and suggest any changes to the metadata structure by July 12. The following changes to the metadata format were proposed by the group:

- ‘Definition Year’ was changed from one field to two fields: ‘Start Year’ and ‘End Year’.
- ‘Methodology’ was added to Category I.
- ‘Data Quality’ was added to Category I.
- ‘Fleet’ was added to Category II
- ‘Fleet’ was added to Category III
- ‘Fish Condition’ was added to Category III
- ‘Sampling Rate’ was added to Category III

The STATWG will review all proposed changes and finalize the metadata formats by October, 2012. The Data Administrator will provide Members with the metadata tables to be completed by November, 2012.

8.0 ISC DATABASE

8.1 Online Data Submission

Status of the ISC Online Data Submission – oral presentation by Izumi Yamasaki

The Data Administrator noted that even with annual improvements to the ISC online data submission system, Members encountered some difficulties with submitting their Category I, II, and III data online.

Canada was successful in submitting their Category I, II, and III data online in 2012. Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and U.S.A. had some difficulties and required assistance from the Data Administrator. Mexico and China did not use the online data submission system.

The Data Administrator noted that a new email notification system was implemented this year which informed Data Correspondents whether their submission was successful or not, and provided helpful error messages. It was suggested that the notification email specify what data submission (i.e., Cat Ic, Ie, II, or III) was successful or not.

To expand use of the online data submission portal, the STATWG Chairman proposed a training workshop be conducted for all Data Correspondents on online data submission. The group recommended that a training presentation be distributed via email by May, 2013, and web-based training sessions be scheduled by June, 2013. It was recognized that time zone differences between Member countries would make scheduling difficult.

8.2 Archival of Species Working Groups' Files

It was reported that 2 terabytes of storage space was made available to ISC Working Groups for archiving of their stock assessment files. Since there is currently no structural design for this storage, the Working Group chairs were instructed to zip their stock assessment files and provide it to the DA for storage. It was noted that guidelines for this archival process would be developed by the STATWG and distributed to the Species Working Group chairs.

8.3 Standardization of Database Codes

Standardization of Database Codes – oral presentation by Izumi Yamasaki

The Data Administrator presented all codes used in the ISC database and their possible values, as well as the numerical fields in the database for Category Ic, Ie, II, and III. Originally designed in

2006, the database codes are in need of updating. The group reviewed the validity of each code's values, and suggested revisions when necessary.

The following changes were approved by the group:

- 'area code' will be separated into fields for 'area size', 'quadrant', and 'latitude / longitude'
- 'catch disposition' (retain/discard) is required for Category I and II data
- 'stock' is not required (but may be used in the Species WG data)
- 'fleet' is required for all submitted data (Category I, II, and III)
- 'sex' is required for Category III data

The group agreed to adopt the IOTC/FAO system for quadrant code and reference points for 1 degree and 5 degree squares. It was noted that appropriate documentation should be included in the ISC Operations Manual and the ISC database user's manual.

It was noted that there have been inconsistent usage of the fleet code between Members, and it was requested that Data Correspondents provide detailed definitions of their Member's fisheries, gear, and fleets by the end of August, 2012.

It was agreed that Members collect data at the lowest taxonomic level possible (i.e., species), and that this be a recommendation to the ISC Plenary for consideration.

There still remain unresolved issues with standardization of ISC database codes for species and gear.

9.0 MEMBER DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

The STATWG chair asked the group for any updates to Member's data collection systems or port sampling programs.

The Japan representative described a new data collection system for small-scale coastal fishery for bluefin tuna. The Japan Fisheries Agency has started a registration system since April 1, 2011 for fishing vessels harvesting PBF with powered fishing boats less than 10 GRT and operating in Sea of Japan and the water on the western side of Kyushu. The registered vessels are required to report monthly the catch amount of PBF, the fishing gear, area of operations, and the fishing port where they unload PBF catch, . The registration system and mandatory reporting for vessels harvesting PBF in the waters on the Pacific side of Japan will be applied in 2012.

The Chinese-Taipei Data Correspondent reported that 8 shark species have been added to the logbook for the small-scale tuna longline fishery.

The Canada Data Correspondent reported that shark identification sheets have been provided to the albacore troll fleet in order to collect data on shark catches by species.

The U.S. Data Correspondent reported no changes to data collection systems.

10.0 PERFORMANCE OF MEMBER COUNTRIES

10.1 Submission of 2011 Data

The STATWG chair reviewed the data submitted by Member countries for 2011 for Category Ic, Ie, II, and III.

Country	Cic Gear	Cle Gear	CII Gear	CIII Gear
CAN	LTN	LTN	LTN	LTN
CHN	LLD, PS		LLD, PS	
JPN	FPN, GND, LLD, LP, LTN, MIS, PS	LLD, LP, PS	LLD, LP, PS	GND
KOR	LLD, PS	LLD, PS	LLD, PS	LLD
MEX	LLD, PS	PS, PL		
TWN	LLD, PS, FPN, GND, HAR, MIS	LLD, PS	LLD, PS	LLD
USA	GND, HAR, LH, LLD, LP, LTN, MIS, PS, RG	GND, HAR, LH, LLD, LP, LTN, MIS, PS, RG	GND, HAR, LLD, LTN, RG	LLD, LTN

ISC Gear Codes*

Code	Gear	Name
FPN	Set-net	Stationary uncovered pound nets
GND	Gill-net	Driftnets
HAR	Harpoon	Harpoons
LH	Handline	-
LLD	Longline	Drifting longlines
LP**	Pole-and-line	-
LTN	Troll	Trolling lines
LX	Hook-and-line	Hooks and lines (not specified)
MIS	Other gears	Miscellaneous gear
NK	Not specified	Gear not known or not specified
PS	Purse-seine	Supporting nets with purse lines (purse seine)
RG	Sport	Recreational fishing gears

* FAO 1999. Definition and classification of fishing gear categories. FAO Fish. Tec. Pap. 222 Rev.1.

** IATTC code.

10.2 Report Card

The STATWG chair noted that the data report card used by the IOTC is too complicated to implement within the ISC and will not be used. Exploring the utility of the IOTC data report card for use in the ISC was a recommendation from ISC11. The 2011 ISC report card was modified to account for timeliness and completeness, and implemented this year.

The STATWG chair presented the 2012 report card for Members based on submission of 2011 data by the July 1 deadline. Timeliness grades were assigned for Category Ic, Ie, II, and III; and completeness grades were assigned for all required fisheries.

- Canada, Chinese-Taipei, and Korea received a high rating for submitting all data on time and being complete for all fisheries.
- Japan submitted all data on time, but was not complete for all fisheries in Category Ie and III.
- USA submitted all data on time, but was not complete for all fisheries in Category II.
- China submitted Category Ic and II data on time, but was not complete for all fisheries. China did not submit any data for Category Ie and III.
- Mexico submitted Category Ic and Ie data late and was not complete for all fisheries. Mexico did not submit any data for Category II and III.

11.0 REVIEWING THE CATCH TABLES

The Data Administrator compared Category I catch statistics submitted by Members to the ISC database and catch statistics from the Members National Reports. The group reviewed the catch tables and the data discrepancies, and the Data Correspondents were responsible for explaining the data discrepancies.

Canada offered that the catch estimates in its National Report were correct, and the catch estimates submitted to the database need to be updated. The data discrepancies were due to late data reporting by vessels, and estimations used for the missing logbooks. Minimal changes are expected to the 2011 data (which are provisional) as the figures submitted to the ISC database are based on 99% logbook coverage (only 2 out of 177 logbooks have yet to be submitted).

Japan explained that the catch estimates were generated from the same database but from different database updates. It was suggested that if the database was frozen, and all summaries were generated from the same data version, data discrepancies could be eliminated.

The USA appeared to have submitted the same data twice in 2007. The USA will need to resubmit the catch time series in order to replace the invalid data with correct data.

12.0 SPECIES WORKING GROUPS' NEEDS

The chairs of the Working Groups for Albacore, Billfish, Pacific Bluefin, and Sharks were asked to present their data needs and concerns. This is provided in the following list:

- Albacore catches from the North Pacific provided by the WCPFC for 2010 and 2011 need to be verified as the figures for some countries were much higher than in previous years
- ISC should exchange data inventories with the IATTC in the same way that it does with the WCPFC
- ISC database needs species specific stock codes for striped marlin and swordfish
- ISC website needs improved data summaries and graphical representations by country and time period for the stakeholder's benefit
- WGs need a timeline for ISC data submission and database updating schedule (cutoff dates)
- Improved communication between the STATWG/DA and Working Groups on the availability of data in the ISC data holdings (particularly for stock assessments)
- Resolve data discrepancies between the IATTC and ISC (particularly for US/Mexico catches in the EPO)
- Current ISC Inventory of shark data for blue and mako sharks (including all possible non-specific shark codes)
- Members need to provide both retained and discarded catch of sharks
- WCPFC inventory of shark data from non-ISC members
- Shark data from China needs metadata to be provided by the Member
- Catch graphs on the ISC species working group pages are misrepresentations of the actual fishery and needs to be annotated properly
- For the recent submissions of shark data, the entire time series for historical catch is needed, not just the previous 2 years
- For shark data that included landings of fin weights, conversions are necessary to estimate total round weights

13.0 ISC WEBSITE STATUS REPORT

Status of ISC Website – oral presentation by Yumi Okochi

The ISC Web Master Yumi Okochi presented the status of the ISC website and the improvements made in the past year since the 2011 ISC Plenary. Improvements include updating of meetings, reports, organization chart, fishery statistics, and ISC recommendations. New species profiles were added on a test site for the albacore, shark, and billfish working groups. The group made suggestions for corrections and enhancements. It was recommended that email links be provided to contact the web master and the species working group chairs with any questions. It was also noted that the Fisheries Statistics section needs to state that statistics presented are annual catches for ISC Member countries only, and do not represent total annual catches in the north Pacific Ocean.

14.0 PERFORMANCE OF ISC DATA ADMINISTRATOR AND WEB MASTER

The representative of Japan, as the supervisor of the ISC Data Administrator (Izumi Yamasaki) and Web Master (Yumi Okochi), reported that he was very satisfied with their performance in the past year since the 2011 ISC Plenary meeting. He noted that their participation in the STATWG steering group and the 2 intercessional meetings were most helpful in successfully meeting STATWG goals.

The ISC Chairman, Gerard DiNardo, concurred and acknowledged the accomplishments made by the STATWG steering group.

The STATWG chair Wu, as well as the STATWG members, extended their appreciation for the contributions made by the Data Administrator and the Web Master.

15.0 CONCLUSIONS, FUTURE WORK PLAN, AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO PLENARY

15.1 Future Work Plan

1. Chair will resolve albacore data issues with WCPFC after ALBWG chair provides information on the data issues by August 1, 2012.
2. DA will exchange data inventory with WCPFC before SC8 meeting and send to Species WG chairs by August 1, 2012.
3. Members will provide the descriptions of fisheries, gear, and fleet by the end of August, 2012.
4. STATWG Steering Group will meet in September, 2012 in Taipei, Taiwan.
5. DA and web master will revise the presentations of public domain data on the ISC website by October, 2012.
6. Web Master will continue to improve ISC website, and publish species pages by October, 2012.
7. STATWG Steering Group will finalize the metadata format by October, 2012, and distribute metadata tables to Members for completion by November, 2012.
8. STATWG Steering Group will finalize standardization of codes for database by October, 2012, and DA will implement code changes and revise the ISC database user's manual by May, 2013.

9. STATWG Steering Group will finalize modifications to online data submission system by October, 2012, and DA will complete the modifications by June, 2013.
10. DA will develop and distribute training presentations for online data submission by May, 2013, and conduct a web-based training session by June, 2013.

15.2 Recommendations to the Plenary

1. ISC Chair, under the Memorandum of Cooperation, initiates discussion with the IATTC Director to facilitate an annual data inventory exchange.
2. Direct Members to provide shark catch data at the lowest taxonomic level possible (i.e., species), and to provide associated discard data in Category I and II.
3. In order to correct inconsistencies and errors in the ISC database, direct Members to provide entire historical time series of Category I, II, III data online for ISC species of interest by July 1, 2013.

16.0 ADJOURNMENT

The next STATWG meeting will be held prior to ISC13 for 2 days at a time and place to be determined.

The Chairman expressed his appreciation to all participants for their contributions and cooperation in completing a successful meeting.

The group adjourned at 1:35 pm on 12 July 2012.

Attachment 1. Agenda

Statistics Working Group

International Scientific Committee for Tunas and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean

11-12 July 2012
Sapporo, Japan

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Appointment of Rapporteurs
3. Adoption of Agenda and Tabling of Documents
4. National Data Correspondents
5. STATWG Inter-cessional Activities
 - i. August 2011 meeting in Taipei
 - ii. May 2012 meeting in Shimizu
6. Status of STATWG Work plan
7. Performance of ISC Data Administrator and Web Master
8. ISC Data Inventory and Metadata
 - i. Reviewing the Catch Tables
 - ii. ISC Data Inventory and Exchange with WCPFC
 - iii. Status of Public Domain Data
 - iv. Missing Metadata
9. ISC Database
 - i. Status of Online Data Submission
 - ii. Standardization of database codes
 - iii. Archival of Species Working Groups' files
10. Member Data Collection Systems
11. Performance of Member Countries
 - i. Submission of 2011 Data
 - ii. Report card for Members
12. Species Working Groups' Needs
 - i. BILLWG
 - ii. ALBWG
 - iii. PBFWG
 - iv. SHARKWG
13. Website Status Report
14. Conclusions, Future Work Plan, and Recommendations to Plenary
15. Adjournment

Attachment 2 -- LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Canada

John Holmes
 Fisheries and Ocean Canada
 Pacific Biological Station
 3190 Hammond Bay Road
 Nanaimo, B.C. , Canada V9T 6N7
John.Holmes@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Chinese-Taipei

Zhong-Yo Chen
 Information Division Overseas Fisheries
 Development Council
 19, Lane 113 Roosevelt Rd., Sec. 4
 Taipei, 10673 Taiwan
zhongyo@ofdc.org.tw

Ren-Fen Wu
 Information Division Overseas Fisheries
 Development Council
 19, Lane 113 Roosevelt Rd., Sec. 4 Taipei,
 10673 Taiwan
fan@ofdc.org.tw

Chi-Lu Sun
 National Taiwan University
 Institute of Oceanography
 1 Section 4 Roosevelt Rd
 Taipei 10617, Taiwan
chilu@ntu.edu.tw

Japan

Hideki Nakano
 National Research Institute of Far Seas
 Fisheries
 7-1 Orido 5 Chome, Shimizu
 Shizuoka, 424-8633 Japan
hnakano@affrc.go.jp

Hidetada Kiyofuji
 National Research Institute of Far Seas
 Fisheries
 7-1 Orido 5 Chome, Shimizu
 Shizuoka, 424-8633 Japan
hkiyofuj@affrc.go.jp

Yumi Okochi
 National Research Institute of Far Seas
 Fisheries
 7-1 Orido 5 Chome, Shimizu
 Shizuoka, 424-8633 Japan
okochi@affrc.go.jp

Kazuhiro Oshima
 National Research Institute of Far Seas
 Fisheries
 7-1 Orido 5 Chome, Shimizu
 Shizuoka, 424-8633 Japan
oshimaka@fra.affrc.go.jp

Yukio Takeuchi
 National Research Institute of Far Seas
 Fisheries
 7-1 Orido 5 Chome, Shimizu
 Shizuoka, 424-8633 Japan
yukiot@fra.affrc.go.jp

Izumi Yamasaki
 National Research Institute of Far Seas
 Fisheries
 7-1 Orido 5 Chome, Shimizu
 Shizuoka, 424-8633 Japan
izyam@affrc.go.jp

U.S.A.

John Childers
 NMFS/SWFSC
 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive
 La Jolla, California 92037 USA
john.childers@noaa.gov

Gerard DiNardo
NMFS/PIFSC
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96822 USA
Gerard.DiNardo@noaa.gov

Sarah Shoffler
NMFS/SWFSC
8604 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, California, 92037 USA
Sarah.shoffler@noaa.gov

Darryl Tagami
NMFS/PIFSC
2570 Dole Street,
Honolulu Hawaii 92037 USA
Darryl.tagami@noaa.gov

Jon Brodziak
NMFS/PIFSC
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96822 USA
Jon.Brodziak@noaa.gov

Suzanne Kohin
NMFS/SWFSC
8604 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, California 92037 USA
Suzanne.Kohin@noaa.gov

ISC Review Panel

Jerald Ault
RSMAS/MBF
University of Miami
4600 Rickenbacker Causeway
Miami, FL 33149
jault@rsmas.miami.edu

WCPFC

Anthony Beeching
Assistant Science Manager
PO Box 2356
Kolonias, Pohnpei 96941
Federated States of Micronesia
anthony.beeching@wcpfc.in

Attachment 3. List of Papers and Presentations

INFORMATION PAPERS

ISC/12/STATWG-1/INFO-1 *Report on STATWG Intercessional Meetings* presented by
Ren-Fen Wu

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation 1 – *Status of Public Domain Data* presented by Izumi Yamasaki
2. Presentation 2 - *Status of Missing Metadata* presented by Izumi Yamasaki
3. Presentation 3 – *Status of Online Data Submission* presented by Izumi Yamasaki
4. Presentation 4 – *Standardization of Database Codes* presented by Izumi Yamasaki
5. Presentation 5 – *Status of the ISC Web Site* presented by Yumi Okochi

Attachment 4. 2012 Data Submission Report Card for ISC Members

2011

Member	CAT Ic	CAT Ie	CAT II	CAT III
CAN				
CHN				
JPN				
KOR				
MEX				
TWN				
USA				

	On Time and Complete
	On Time but Incomplete
	Submitted Late
	Not Provided