



ISC/16/PLENARY/01

16th Meeting of the  
International Scientific Committee  
for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean  
Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan  
13-18 July 2016

## **ISC Action Plan<sup>1</sup>**

(2015-2016)

ISC

July 2016

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared for the Sixteenth Meeting of the International Scientific committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), 13-18 July, 2016, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. Document should not be cited without permission of the authors.

## 2015-2016 ISC ACTION PLAN

## I. ISC CHAIRMAN and OFFICE of the CHAIR

1. Gather information on criteria used by other organizations to determine when stock assessment updates should be performed (11.10 ISC13)
2. Keep working with official channels to formalize ISC and identify potential funding mechanisms.
3. Consider genetic shark tagging as topic for future ISC seminar (3.5)
4. Determine how ISC can provide scientific support to assist the WCPFC and IATTC with identifying an appropriate suite of biological reference points for northern stocks (5.1)
5. Oversee finalization and submission of ISC-PICES collaboration framework with J. King by October 2015 PICES meeting (5.2)
6. Discuss need for input from IATTC managers with IATTC's Executive Director (6.1)
7. Plan a workshop with tuna RFMOs on the use of stock fishery indicators as an alternative to full assessments for 2016 or 2017. (6.4)
8. Emphasize three ISC needs (1) for member countries to submit working papers on methods to disaggregate grouped catch data for sharks into individual species (2) for member countries to participation and prepare for WG activities and (3) for member countries to support the participation of their scientists in ISC WG activities (6.4)
9. Follow up with China regarding lack of data submissions (9.1)
10. Work with the Executive Director of IATTC and WCPFC regarding exchange of data inventories (9.1)
11. Discuss data rules and procedures with the WCPFC data manager on the margins of WCPFC SC meeting in order to harmonize ISC processes with WCPFC's (9.1)
12. Remind WGs, members and DA of new data review process (9.3)
13. Establish an advisory group on CKMR by Dec 2015 to develop sampling program (10.0)
14. Review US-Japan MoU draft from ~1997 and distribute background to ISC members (12.1)
15. Review list of recommendations from last peer review, and distribute prioritized list to ISC members (12.2)
16. Incorporate changes to ISC operations into ISC manual (12.3)
17. Notify other organizations that they need to document requests to ISC separately in a letter to the ISC Chair (12.5)

18. By March 2016, develop a template for WGs to present information on stock status and conservation advice and schedule for submitting all ISC documents (12.6)
19. Remind members and WGs of new document submission schedule (12.6)

## II. 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 2015 for the July 2016 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 2014
3. All – submit ISC16 documents by date TBD by March 1; Final stock assessment reports should be submitted by date TBD. See #18 under I. Chairman and OOC.
4. All – check in on progress of CKMR program at January 2016 Bluefin Futures meeting in Monterey, Ca.
5. Japan – prepare to host ISC16.

## III. ALBWG

1. Present ALBWG MSE proposal to WCPFC NC11 meeting in Sept 2015 (6.1)
2. Conduct workshop for managers on fishery objectives and harvest control rules for MSE in Japan in April 2016 (6.1)
3. Conduct intersessional workshop to review 2014 assessment model and new research to improve the stock assessment in Japan in April 2016 (6.1)
4. Chair will participate as a member of STATWG (9.1).
5. Provide data and executable files for assessments (9.1)
6. Comply with new data review process (9.3)

## IV. PBFWG

1. Conduct a workshop on data finalization for the full assessment in Nov 2015 in Taiwan (6.2)
2. Conduct full assessment workshop in late Feb 2016 in La Jolla (6.2)
3. Chair will participate as a member of STATWG (9.1).
4. Provide data and executable files for assessments (9.1)
5. Comply with new data review process (9.3)

## V. BILLWG

1. Conduct BUM data prep workshop in Hawaii in Jan 2015 (6.3)
2. Conduct a BUM assessment update in March 2016. (6.3)3
3. Chair will participate as a member of STATWG (9.1).
4. Provide data and executable files for assessments (9.1)
5. Comply with new data review process (9.3)

## VI. Shark WG

1. Identify a data manager
2. Help convene a workshop with tuna RFMOs on the use of sock fishery indicators as an alternative to full assessments. (6.4)
3. Provide WCPFC SC with an annotated bibliography in support of their task to identify whether BSH is a northern stock (6.4)
4. Chair will participate as a member of STATWG (9.1).
5. Provide data and executable files for assessments (9.1)
6. Comply with new data review process (9.3)

## VII. STATWG

1. Database Administrator - Complete ISC data inventory and forward to the WCPFC Secretariat and IATTC by 31 July 2015
2. Database Administrator - Remind members and WGs of new data review process (9.3)
3. Webmaster - Maintain ISC website
4. Webmaster - Update WG pages