

FINAL

ISC/18/ANNEX/10



ANNEX 10

*18th Meeting of the
International Scientific Committee for Tuna
and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean
Yeosu, Republic of Korea
July 11-16, 2018*

Report of the STATWG Steering Group Intersessional Workshop

March 2018

July 2018

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Annex 10

REPORT OF STATWG STEERING GROUP INTERSESSIONAL WORKSHOP

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

March 14-15, 2018

Shizuoka, Japan

1.0 Welcome And Introduction

The STATWG Steering Group conducted one intercessional meeting since the 2017 ISC Plenary in Vancouver, Canada. The Chair of the STATWG convened the 7th STATWG steering group meeting from March 14-15, 2018 at the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF), Shizuoka, Japan. The participants included the chair of STATWG, Mr. Ren-Fen Wu, Data Administrator (DA) and Web Master of ISC, Ms. Kirara Nishikawa, former Data Administrator, Dr. Izumi Yamasaki, and the supporting staff from NRIFSF Japan, Dr. Yuki Ohashi and Ms. Kana Chiba (Attachment 1).

2.0 Appointment of Rapporteurs

Ren-Fen Wu (Chinese Taipei) was appointed as rapporteur.

3.0 Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for the STAWG Steering Group meeting was considered and adopted (Attachment 2).

4.0 Personnel Change

According to the email from Dr. Yeo-Jung Kwon on 15th January 2018, Dr. Mi-Kyung Lee will replace Dr. Kwon as the Data Correspondent of Korea. Since Dr. Lee will be responsible for the fishery data submission and preparation of metadata report for Korea this year, the DA will contact her to facilitate the fishery data submission of Korea.

The term of Ren-Fen Wu, chair of STATWG, has been extended for 1 year and will expire this July, 2018. The group will contact possible candidates for chair of STATWG from this May.

5.0 Review Of The Work Plan

The Group reviewed the work plan proposed by the STATWG at the ISC17 Plenary meeting to

determine the status of each assignment, and to update them as necessary. The status of the work plan items reviewed was as follows:

1. DA already had distributed ISC data inventory for CAT. I, II and III to ISC Data Correspondents and Chairs of the species Working Groups, and had published the data inventory on the ISC website according to the time frame set by the STATWG.
2. The stock assessment files for albacore in 2017 had not been received from the species Working Group chair. The DA will contact the chair of ALBWG and follow up on the progress.
3. The modifications of the ISC online data submission system had been completed. The update of the User's Manual is in process, and the DA will forward the revised version to John Childers and Darryl Tagami for review and then distribute to Data Correspondents and upload onto the ISC research website by May 1st this year.
4. The User's Manual of ISC research website has been drafted by STATWG chair and forwarded to Mr. Darryl Tagami, STATWG vice chair, for review. STATWG will then distribute the manual to the ISC chair, chairs/vise chairs/data managers of species WG, and data correspondents of ISC member in May.
5. The DA and Chair of STATWG jointly reviewed the responsibilities, duties and deliverables of the DA, and they considered that there's no amendment needed in the short term.

6.0 Data Checking Protocols

Considering the short time period between the deadline of data submission (June 30) and STATWG meeting in Yeosu (July 6-7), the group recommended that the data checking should be undertaken by data correspondents and the outputs should be forwarded to the DA for compiling and reviewing in the STATWG meeting in July; the data checking outputs should include run charts of annual catch of major species (namely albacore, Pacific Bluefin tuna, swordfish, blue marlin and striped marlin), diagrams of effort distribution by fishery, run charts of catch average weight by major species, and length or weight frequency diagrams and basic statistics (maximum, minimum and medium of length or weight) by major species.

7.0 Metadata

The group reviewed the inventory of metadata on the ISC research website, and found that the metadata is not complete from some members. To facilitate members preparing and updating their metadata, the DA will distribute a template with explanations to data correspondents in May and STATWG will review the metadata received from members in July.

8.0 Category II Public Domain Data

The chair of STATWG made a presentation on the conclusions from technical discussion between Japanese scientists, Ms. Kirara Nishikawa and Dr. Yuki Ohashi, and Taiwanese statisticians, Ms. Sui-Ting Chang, Mr. Chi-Hao Hsiao and Mr. Wei-Jan Wang, from 18 to 19 December 2017 in Taipei. The aims of this technical discussion focused on defining the fishery data and processing procedure, and sharing R-code developed by both sides for processing CAT II public domain data. The conclusions are listed as following:

1. The aggregated 5 degree by 5 degree longline fishery data of Japan, Korea, Taiwan and US, and the aggregated 1 degree by 1 degree troll fishery data of Canada and US will be processed into public domain data.
2. The central point of grid aggregated data will be used as geographic reference point to filter out the data in EEZs or in disputed waters.
3. The waters to be excluded are shown in Attachment 3.
4. The items of CAT II public domain data include country, year, month, latitude and longitude of central point (5*5 for longline fishery and 1*1 for troll fishery), effort, effort unit, catches in weight and in number. The species includes albacore, Pacific Bluefin tuna, swordfish, blue marlin and striped marlin; shark species will be excluded.
5. Using central point as the geographic reference point to filtering data with very high uncertainty, it is highly recommended that the Plenary consider revising the fishery provision rule to request data correspondents to submit CAT II data with additional information indicating inside or outside EEZs.

The group reviewed fishery data provided by members and identified that the longline fishery data provided by Korea has no information of catch in number, which will complicate the process of CAT II public domain data.

9.0 ISC Website

Ms. Kana Chiba gave a presentation on the current ISC website. She indicated that the general information on the webpage of species WGs was outdated, and drafted a new layout for the webpage of species WGs. The group expressed sincere appreciation for her hard work, and noted that it's necessary to notify the chair of species WGs to update the content of their webpages. The group also noted that the webpage for Stock Status lists the recommendations from ISC7 to ISC17. After checking other t-RFMOs' websites, the group recommended ISC only publish the latest information on stock status as a common practice among t-RFMOs.

10.0 Next Steering Group Meeting

The Group recommended a one day preparatory meeting prior to the STATWG meeting in July 6-7, 2018 in Yeosu, Korea.

ATTACHMENT 2
AGENDA

STATWG STEERING GROUP INTERSESSIONAL WORKSHOP

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

14-15 March 2018

Shimizu, Japan

1. Review of the Work Plan
2. Review of the data checking protocols
3. Review of the improvement of the ISC database and data submission system
4. Review of the User's Manual for the ISC research website
5. Review of the responsibilities, duties and deliverables of the DA
6. Agenda for next STATWG meeting

**ATTACHMENT 2
PARTICIPANT LIST**

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ATTACHMENT 3

Waters should be excluded from CATII public domain data

Country	EEZ
Taiwan	Disputed area Senkaku Islands: Japan / China / Taiwan
Taiwan	Taiwanese Exclusive Economic Zone
Japan	Disputed area Senkaku Islands: Japan / China / Taiwan
Japan	Japanese Exclusive Economic Zone
Japan	Disputed area Liancourt Rocks: Japan / South Korea
Japan	Disputed area Kuril Islands: Japan / Russia
Japan	Joint regime area Japan / Korea
South Korea	South Korean Exclusive Economic Zone
South Korea	Joint regime area Japan / Korea
South Korea	Disputed area Liancourt Rocks: Japan / South Korea
Canada	Canadian Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Disputed area: Canada / USA
Canada	United States Exclusive Economic Zone (Hawaii)
Canada	United States Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	United States Exclusive Economic Zone (Alaska)

Country	EEZ
Canada	American Samoa Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Palmyra Atoll Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Puerto Rican Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Virgin Islander Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Guam Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Northern Mariana Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Wake Island Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Jarvis Island Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Howland and Baker Islands Exclusive Economic Zone
Canada	Joint regime area United States / Russia
Canada	Disputed area: Puerto Rico / Dominican Republic
Canada	Johnston Atoll Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Canadian Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Disputed area: Canada / USA
United States	United States Exclusive Economic Zone (Hawaii)
United States	United States Exclusive Economic Zone

Country	EEZ
United States	United States Exclusive Economic Zone (Alaska)
United States	American Samoa Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Palmyra Atoll Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Puerto Rican Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Virgin Islander Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Guam Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Northern Mariana Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Wake Island Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Jarvis Island Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Howland and Baker Islands Exclusive Economic Zone
United States	Joint regime area United States / Russia
United States	Disputed area: Puerto Rico / Dominican Republic
United States	Johnston Atoll Exclusive Economic Zone