

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL (CIAT) INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION (IATTC)

MEMORANDUM

14 February 2023

Ref.: 0065-410

To: Commissioners and Heads of Delegation

cc.: Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, Indonesia, Liberia

From: Arnulfo Franco, Director, SAC Chair

Re: Schedule of 14th Annual meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and working groups – May 2022 – schedule and proposed arrangements – CORR.

I have the pleasure of informing you that the 14th meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) as well as the meetings of associated working groups will be held in La Jolla, California.

The working groups and the Committee will meet at the ballroom of the **Embassy Suites Hotel**, 4550 La Jolla Village Dr., La Jolla, CA 92122, telephone (858) 453-0400.

As already posted on the website of the Commission, the proposed schedule of the meetings would be as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
11 – 12 (AM) May 2023	1 st Meeting of the Permanent Working Group on Ecosystem and Bycatch
12 (PM) – 13 May 2023	7 th Meeting of the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Working Group on FADs
15 – 19 May 2023	14 th Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee

1. Participation and registration:

Despite the suspension of the limitations that made it impossible to convene in-person meetings, it is well known that the COVID 19 pandemic persists and therefore it is imperative that specific measures be taken to ensure the health and well-being of the participants in these meeting

- (a) **Limited access to the presential meetings:** in addition to the Chair and Secretariat, access to the meeting rooms shall be restricted to officially registered delegations.

There shall be no limitation on the number of persons in each delegation. However, no more than 3 members per delegation shall be allowed in the plenary room at any one time. This number may be less in the case of meetings in smaller rooms.

- (b) **Health precautions**: All delegations are encouraged to have all their members vaccinated. The wearing of a mask in meeting room will be optional.
- (c) **Registration**: Each delegation member is requested to register individually and without delay by filling in the online form that will be made available on the website.

It is essential that each CPC provide at the earliest the names of the members of its delegation to Ms. Monica Galvan, mgalvan@iattc.org, with their respective functions within the delegation (Head of Delegation, Alternate Head of Delegation, Delegation Member (Adviser/Expert) as well as their individual (private or institutional) email addresses.

2. **Agenda**:

The “**Provisional Agenda**” is attached to this memorandum and can be found also in the meeting website of the Commission.

Annex. As indicated.-

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

14TH MEETING

La Jolla, California (USA)

15-19 May 2023

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of agenda	
3. Research planning:	
a. Strategic Science Plan (2024-2028)	SAC-14-01a
b. Staff Research Activities and Workplans (SSP 2024-2028)	SAC-14-01b
4. Progress and outcomes in the implementation of previous SAC and Working Groups (WG) recommendations	SAC-14-02
5. The fishery in the EPO:	
a. The tuna fishery in 2022	SAC-14-03
b. National reports	
c. Longline observer program reports	
d. Transshipment observer program	
6. Stock assessments:	
a. Potential bias on the 2020 and 2021 tropical tuna catch estimates resulting from COVID-19	
b. Tropical tunas stock status indicators (SSIs)	SAC-14-04
c. Bigeye (BET) and yellowfin (YFT) tunas stock assessment:	
i. BET: exploratory analysis	SAC-14-05
ii. YFT: exploratory analysis	SAC-14-06
d. Skipjack tuna (SKJ) stock assessment	
i. IATTC Regional Tuna Tagging Program	SAC-14-07
ii. 1 st External Review of the SKJ stock assessment for SKJ	
iii. Spatiotemporal tagging modeling for SKJ	
iv. SKJ stock assessment: exploratory analysis	SAC-14-08
v. Proposed interim target and limit reference points for SKJ	SAC-14-09
e. 2 nd workshop on improving the risk analysis for tropical tunas in the EPO	
f. Updates from ISC WGs:	
i. Pacific bluefin tuna (PBFT)	
ii. North Pacific albacore tuna (NP-ALB)	
g. Other species	
i. South EPO swordfish (SWO) benchmark assessment	
7. Modelling:	
a. Workplan for tropical tuna Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)	
b. CAPAM workshops	
c. Poseidon model	
8. Data collection:	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Electronic monitoring (EM) program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. EM review rates (purse-seine fleet): exploratory analysis ii. Updated staff considerations and recommendations b. Enhanced Monitoring Program (EMP) for BET catches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Results of the pilot study and workplan for 2023 ii. Logistical aspects of data collection c. 1st Workshop on data improvement (industrial longline fishery) d. Improvements: Morphometric relationships and biological sampling for priority species 	SAC-14-10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9. FADs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Biodegradable FADs: prototypes performance b. Report of the FADs WG 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Ecosystem and bycatch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ecosystem considerations b. Report of the Ecosystem and Bycatch WG c. Dolphin research: update d. Vulnerable species best handling practices: knowledge and research gaps 	SAC-14-11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Sharks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Silky and hammerhead sharks: impact of alternative management measures on vulnerability status (EASI-fish assessment) b. Improvements on shark data collection for EPO coastal States: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Central America: pilot study final report ii. Others: ABNJ (phase 2) 	SAC-14-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Achotines Laboratory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Research program and activities: future directions 	SAC-14-13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Staff recommendations to the Commission 	SAC-14-14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. SAC recommendations to the Commission 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Other business 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Adjournment 	