

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

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## MEMORANDUM

31 March 2025

Ref.: 0129-410

To: Commissioners and Heads of Delegation

c.c.: Bolivia, Chile, Honduras, ~~Indonesia~~, Liberia

From: Arnulfo L Franco, Director

Re: 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) (2-6 June 2025) and other related meetings (26-31 May 2025)

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A. I have the pleasure of informing you that the **16th Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)** (2-6 June 2025) will be held in a **presential format**, in the Embassy Ballroom of the hotel Embassy Suites La Jolla, located at 4550 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego, California 92037; (858) 453-0400.

Necessary arrangements will be made to ensure that **remote participation** is also possible.

B. The meeting will be organized and conducted in accordance with the **new format** that was successfully adopted and implemented last year. It may be recalled that its two main elements are the possibility for members to participate in a remote manner, partially or entirely and, regarding the substantive contents of the meeting, focusing on issues and questions related to the conservation and management of the resources, in order to make the most of the very limited time available (a maximum of five days).

This new format is reflected both in the **tentative schedule** and the **provisional agenda** and that are attached to this memorandum. A more detailed provisional annotated agenda can also be accessed on the website.

C. During the week immediately prior to the SAC meeting, the following meetings will also be held in the same venue and in a presential format (but with the same possibility for remote participation): **3rd Meeting of the Ecosystem and Bycatch Working Group** (26-27 May); **9th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on FADs** (28-29 May) and the **5th Workshop on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for Tropical Tunas** (30-31 May). The corresponding provisional agendas as well as documents will be posted on the IATTC website in a timely manner.

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- D. All delegations and participants wishing to make a reservation at the hotel Embassy, where the meetings will take place, may benefit of the special room rate that the Commission has secured: **US\$234.03** (plus taxes) for single occupancy. Reservations may be made directly with the hotel by using the following link: [Tuna Commission Scientific Meetings 2025](#). The deadline for booking rooms at this rate is **12 May 2025**.
- E. In order to facilitate the **registration** process, it is kindly requested that each CPC provides the names of its delegation members to Mrs. Monica Galvan, [mgalvan@iattc.org](mailto:mgalvan@iattc.org), with their respective functions within the delegation, including Head of Delegation, Alternate Head of Delegation, Delegation Member (Adviser/Expert) as well as their individual (private or institutional). Additionally, we would appreciate it if delegation members registered individually using the online form, [16th Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee | IATTC](#).

Lastly, registration for the meeting will start on Monday 26 May at 8:30 a.m., and will continue until Monday 2 June and the sessions will commence at 9:00 a.m. Any **documents** available before each meeting will be placed on the [Commission's website](#).

F. As referred to above, please find attached:

- the **provisional agenda** of the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SAC (Annex 1).
- a tentative **timetable** for the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SAC (Annex 2).

Annexes: as indicated. –

## Annex 1

<b>SAC 16</b>	
<b>PROVISIONAL AGENDA</b>	
	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of agenda	
3. The fishery in the EPO	
a. The tuna fishery in 2024	SAC-16-01
4. Tropical tunas: stock assessments and data collection	
a. Stock status indicators (SSIs)	SAC-16-02
b. Yellowfin (YFT) benchmark assessment	SAC-16-03
c. Skipjack (SKJ) risk assessment	SAC-16-04
d. Improving the IATTC traditional purse-seine port sampling program	SAC-16-05
5. Tropical tuna: development of harvest strategies	
a. BET Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)	SAC-16-06
b. Staff recommendations for conservation and management: tropical tunas	SAC-16-11
c. Strategic Science Plan (2026-2030): workplan for stock assessments and development of harvest strategies for the tropical tunas	SAC-16-07
6. FADs	
a. Report of the FADs WG	
7. Temperate tunas and other species	
a. Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF): MSE and harvest strategies (ISC and joint IATTC-WCPFC-NC WG)	
b. North Pacific albacore tuna (NP-ALB): Harvest strategies (ISC)	
c. South Pacific albacore tuna (SP-ALB): Harvest strategies (WCPFC)	
d. Staff recommendations for conservation and management: temperate tunas	SAC-16-11
e. Strategic Science Plan (2026-2030): workplan for the temperate tunas	SAC-16-07
8. Ecosystem and bycatch	
a. Sharks and rays	
ii. List of Ray species under the purview of the IATTC	SAC-16-08
iii. Characterization of longline fleets in the Convention Area	SAC-16-09
iv. Guidelines for best handling and release practices for sharks (update)	SAC-16-10
b. Climate change	
i. Report on 1 <sup>st</sup> Workshop on Climate Change	
c. Staff recommendations for conservation and management: ecosystem and bycatch	SAC-16-11
d. Strategic Science Plan (2026-2030): workplans on ecosystem and bycatch topics	SAC-16-07
e. Report of the Ecosystem and Bycatch WG	
9. Staff recommendations	SAC-16-11
10. Other business	
11. SAC recommendations	
12. Adjournment	

**Annex 2**

**SAC 16**

**TENTATIVE TIMETABLE**

	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
Morning	Tropical Tuna - Talks on Stock Assessment and Recommendations for Management	Harvest Strategies of Tropical Tuna - Talks on MSE/HS and Recommendations for Management	Temperate Tuna and Other Species - Talks on Stock Assessment MSE/HS and Recommendations for Management	Ecosystem and Bycatch - Talks and Recommendations	Staff recommendations, Other business, Discussion -SAC Recommendations
Lunch					
Afternoon	Discussion session 1	Discussion session 2	Discussion session 3	Discussion session 4	Discussion - SAC Recommendations