

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

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

3rd WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION (MSE) FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

(by videoconference)

8-9 December 2022

ANNOUNCEMENT

The purpose of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process in fisheries is to compare the performance of alternative management strategies in meeting management objectives, using computer simulations and relevant fisheries performance metrics. Some parts of the MSE process are highly technical and done by scientists, but others, such as defining objectives, performance metrics and management strategies, require input and participation of managers and other stakeholders. A better understanding of the MSE process and its components will strengthen communication among scientists, managers and other stakeholders, as well as foster their participation in the process.

In [Resolution C-16-02](#), the IATTC adopted elements of a management strategy, such as interim reference points and a harvest control rule (HCR), and the [IATTC Strategic Science Plan](#) includes a [work plan](#) for evaluating the IATTC's current strategy, along with alternatives using MSE. Because the elements, concepts and approaches involved in MSE are mostly new for managers and other stakeholders, a series of workshops was planned to introduce MSE to different audiences. With financial support from the FAO-GEF Common Oceans project, introductory workshops on MSE for tropical tunas in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) were held in Panama (2015) and the United States (2018), aimed at managers, and a further five, aimed at the tuna industry, took place during 2019 in Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, and the United States.

The [work plan](#) includes convening a series of MSE Workshops beginning in 2019. The Terms of Reference for these workshops were established in [Resolution C-19-07](#). The first and second IATTC-funded and organized MSE Workshops for tropical tunas in the EPO were held during December 2019 ([workshop report](#)) and May 2021 ([workshop report](#)). Their goals were to explain and clarify the MSE process, enhance communication and foster mutual understanding among fisheries scientists, managers, and other stakeholders on matters related to harvest strategies and MSE, and discuss potential management goals and performance metrics with managers and other stakeholders.

The objectives of this workshop, the third one funded and organized by the IATTC, are to continue to enhance communication and foster mutual understanding among fisheries scientists, managers, and other stakeholders on matters related to harvest strategies and MSE, refine potential performance metrics, reference points and harvest control rules discussed during previous workshops. Alternative Operating Models and Harvest Control Rules for BET MSE will also be discussed. Given the focused nature and time constraints of videoconference meetings, additional stakeholder meetings will be carried out during 7 December 2022 at different times depending on the language, in preparation for the 8-9 December 2022 plenary workshop. Scientists and managers from governments, industry, NGOs, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend (see tentative agenda).

PARTICIPATION: The workshop welcomes participants from CPCs, IGOs and NGOs. A registration form will be posted on the meeting website to allow for individual registration. It would be most appreciated if

participants express their intent to attend to Ms. Monica Galvan, Assistant to the Director, at mgalvan@iattc.org.

ARRANGEMENTS: The Workshop will be held by videoconference, utilizing the Zoom platform. An invitation will be sent individually to each registered participant.

As indicated above, the Workshop will be held on **8 and 9 December 2022**. Each session will have a duration of three hours and will start at **12 PM PST (UTC -8)** to finalize around **3 PM PST (UTC -8)**. The informal sessions of **7 December 2022** will be carried out at the following times, depending on the language:
English: 9 PM PST (UTC -8) - 12 midnight PST (UTC -8), Spanish: 9 AM PST (UTC -8) - 12 noon PST (UTC -8)

For the convenience of the participants, a document will be posted on the website with more precise indications on the ways the meeting will be conducted, taking into account the special requirements and limitations of videoconferencing, using as a model the similar documents that were used for previous IATTC meetings by videoconference.

Languages: English or Spanish (depending on the region) during the informal session of 7 December 2022, with simultaneous interpretation during the 8-9 December 2022 workshop.