

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
AD-HOC WORKING GROUP ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING

1ST MEETING

La Jolla, California (USA)
27-28 November 2023

CO-CHAIR'S REPORT
AGENDA

	Documents
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Opening of the meeting2. Adoption of the agenda3. Review of EMWG Workshops and their Outcomes4. Development of a Workplan for the EMWG5. Other business6. Venue, dates and format of next meeting7. Adjournment	

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Co-chairs presented an overview of Resolution C-22-07 that provided the history and intention of the EMWG. There was not a quorum on the first day of the meeting, but a quorum was met on the second day.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adopted without changes.

3. REVIEW OF EMWG WORKSHOPS AND THEIR OUTCOMES

IATTC staff reviewed the five workshops on EM held to date, noting that the recommendations presented were the same as those presented during the workshops. After the 6th and final workshop in December 2023, the IATTC staff would review the suite of recommendations taking into consideration discussions during the workshops and, if appropriate, propose changes to the recommendations. Those new recommendations, among other things, could be used to inform future discussions on those topics by the EMWG.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF A WORKPLAN FOR THE EMWG

a. Procedures and methods

Co-chairs solicited input from CPCs on how future meetings, whether in person or virtual, would be conducted. There was general support for conducting virtual meetings as recent meetings of the SAC have been conducted (e.g., representatives must be present to speak or request a representative online speak). Members of the EMWG noted the importance of in-person meeting, but also supported meetings not held in conjunction with the annual meetings be held virtually. Additionally, there was general support

for participation of experts in electronic monitoring and collaboration, to the extent appropriate, with Chairs of electronic monitoring working groups in other tuna-regional fishery management organizations.

b. Development of a workplan including topics to be discussed

The Co-Chairs presented a proposal ([INF-A](#)) that provided background and solicited input on whether the IATTC should proceed with developing interim minimum technical and data collection standards first, before working on the various elements of a complete EM Program in the IATTC. Considering that the IOTC and ICCAT adopted minimum standards, and that there are pilot programs developing in the IATTC convention area, the EMWG recommended that the IATTC work toward adoption of interim minimum standards in 2024.

Recognizing the EM Workshops presented elements of an EM Program in a thoughtful order, the EMWG considered whether those topics and similar order should be included in the workplan for the EMWG after interim minimum standards are adopted. After discussion, the order of topics remains open for discussion at future meetings. The italicized text below reflects the edits made during discussion, with differing views on whether institutional structure should be discussed before objectives and scope.

An Alternative of Order of Topics for the Working Group (23-25 April, 2-5 PM San Diego time)

- *(1st topic – spring 2024) Interim minimum technical and ~~minimum~~ data collection standards and priorities, and financial implications for implementation of interim standards and priorities (comment – draft a workplan for the first meeting)*
- *Institutional Structure, EMS Objectives and Scope, ~~–~~ [Institutional Structure]*
- *Institutional Structure [Objectives and scope]*
- *EMS Objectives and Scope*
- *Management considerations (except goals and scope, and financial considerations)*
- *Final standards and priorities data collection standards and priorities*
- *Financial considerations for standard implementation and final priorities*
- *Technical standards*

The EMWG agreed that the Co-chairs will prepare a draft workplan that will be considered by the EMWG in future meetings. The EMWG recommended a virtual meeting in April 2024, and an in-person meeting in August 2024, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the IATTC. It was agreed that the co-Chairs would provide draft interim minimum standards for the consideration by the EMWG at the April 2024 virtual meeting (2nd Meeting of the EMWG), where the EMWG would develop draft recommendations on interim minimum standards. Those draft recommendations would then be considered by the Scientific Advisory Committee during its 15th meeting. After the consultations with the IATTC scientific staff and SAC, the EMWG would develop final recommendations on interim minimum standards during the in-person meeting in August (3rd Meeting of the EMWG). The Commission could then consider these recommendations during the annual meeting.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

6. VENUE, DATES AND FORMAT OF NEXT MEETING

The 2nd Meeting of the EMWG will be held virtually April 23-25, 2024, 2-5 pm San Diego, CA, USA time.

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