



Madrid, 27 April 2018

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 2678 / 2018

SUBJECT: 2018 ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA STOCK ASSESSMENT MEETING
(Pasaia, Spain – 16-20 July 2018)

I have the honour to inform you that the 2018 ICCAT Bigeye Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting will be held on 16-20 July 2018, in Pasaia, Spain.

Attached please find the objectives, the tentative agenda of the meeting and other relevant information about the organization. I would appreciate it very much if you distribute this announcement to scientists who may contribute by participating in the meeting. This announcement will also be published on our web site.

In order to have an estimation of the number of participants in advance of the session I would also appreciate if you could send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting by **2 July 2018**.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.



Driss Meski
Executive Secretary

- **Commission Officers:**

Commission Chair:	R. Delgado	COC Chair:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	S. Depypere	PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
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- **Head Delegates/Head Scientists**
- **Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities**

Attachment: Objectives, Tentative Agenda and Information for participants.

2018 ICCAT BIGEYE TUNA STOCK ASSESSMENT MEETING
(Pasaia, Spain – 16-20 July 2018)

Objectives

Paragraph 44 of Recommendation [16-01] requested the SCRS to conduct a new stock assessment for bigeye tuna in 2018. This is consistent with the strategic research plan of the SCRS and is considered a priority because: 1) the last assessment was conducted in 2015 2) the overexploited status of the stock requires a close monitoring of the population, 3) the TAC agreed for 2016 had been overshot, 4) since the last assessment there have been significant changes to the historical fishery data, and 5) new information from the AOTTP Programme is available to inform the stock assessment. Accordingly, in 2017 the SCRS elaborated a work plan for 2018 which included a stock assessment of bigeye tuna and a data preparatory meeting to collate and analyze all existing information required for stock assessment.

Details on the preparatory work, responsibilities and deadlines for the provision of data and documents, for this meeting are herein included.

Tentative Agenda

1. Opening, adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Summary of available data for assessment
 - 2.1 Biology
 - 2.2 Catch, effort, size and CAS/CAA estimates
 - 2.3 Relative Abundance estimates
3. Stocks Assessment Methods and other data relevant to the assessment
 - 3.1 Stock Synthesis
 - 3.2 BioDyn
 - 3.3 VPA – 2 box
 - 3.4 JABBA
4. Stock status results
 - 4.1 Stock Synthesis
 - 4.2 BioDyn
 - 4.3 VPA 2 Box
 - 4.4 JABBA
 - 4.4 Synthesis of assessment results
5. Projections
 - 5.1 Kobe matrix for bigeye tuna
6. Recommendations
 - 6.1 Research and statistics
 - 6.2 Management
7. Other matters
8. Adoption of the report and closure

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Venue and location

The meeting will be held from 16 (Monday) to 20 July (Friday) 2018 (registration starts at 08:30 am, 16 July). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 18:00.

The meeting will be held at the AZTI – Tecnalia, Herrera Kaia Portualde z/g, 20110 Pasaia, Spain.

2. Contact information

Chair of meeting: Hilario Murua (hmurua@azti.es)
AZTI Technalia
Itsas Ikerketa Saila, Herrera Kaia Portualde z/g
20110 Pasaia, Gipuzkoa, Spain
Tel: +34 667 174 433

Secretariat contact: Miguel Neves dos Santos (miguel.santos@iccat.int)
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
c/ Corazón de María 8, 6th floor
Madrid 28002, Spain
Tel: +34 91 416 5600; Fax: +34 91 415 2612

3. Language

The working language for the meeting will be English, as no simultaneous translation can be provided. Scientific documents can be written in English, French or Spanish.

4. Call for scientific papers

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant scientific papers. In order to better organize the meetings, in 2014 the SCRS established deadlines for submitting documents, which were revised in 2015. These deadlines provide the rapporteurs with valuable information to better fit the meeting timetable as well as allow the Secretariat to make the documents available to participants in advance of the meeting. In 2015 the SCRS “proposed that a new deadline for the submission of SCRS documents should be implemented; these documents should be provided in their entirety at least one week before the meeting in which they are to be presented to facilitate their review by participating scientists prior to these meetings”. As such the full documents for this meeting should be provided to info@iccat.int or miguel.santos@iccat.int by **9 July 2018**. Authors are reminded to closely follow the [Guidelines for Authors of Scientific Documents](#) for the ICCAT SCRS and [Collective Volume Series](#). Furthermore, the original documents (text, tables and figures) should be prepared in WORD or compatible software.

5. Provision of data

CPCs are requested to submit or update Task I or Task II data (including completing the re-estimation of the historic Ghanaian statistics and estimations of *faux poisson*) up until the year 2017, by **15 May 2018** at the latest.

6. Funding

Funding is available to cover travel and subsistence expenses for a scientist from each ICCAT developing Contracting Party who can provide information relevant to the meeting objectives, particularly in reference to provision of data.

According with the Rules of Procedure for the Administration of the Special Meeting Participation Fund adopted at the 2014 Commission meeting, requests should be received **45 days** in advance, i.e. **1 June 2018**. Requests for financial assistance cannot be accepted after that date.

All the information related with the [ICCAT special funds for participation in ICCAT meeting and capacity building](#) is available in the ICCAT web site. It is highly recommended to visit this web page in advance and to strictly follow the protocols. In particular, it is necessary to fully complete the invitation form including explanations of the expected contribution to the meeting and how it relates to the meeting objectives.

7. Hotel information

A list of hotels located in San Sebastián and around AZTI Pasaia are provided below. Participants are asked to make their own reservations.

Hotel	Website
APARTAMENTOS FEELFREE RENTALS Peña y Goñi Kalea, 3, 20002 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 56 36 54	http://feelfreerentals.com/
HOTEL PENSION GROSEN Av de Navarra, 30, 20002 San Sebastián, Guipúzcoa Teléfono:634 28 88 16	http://www.pensiongroesen.com/
RESIDENCIA OLARAIN Ondarreta Pasealekua, 24, 20008 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 00 33 00	http://www.olarain.com/
HOTEL ARRIZUL *** Peña y Goñi Kalea, 1, 20002 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 32 28 04	http://www.arrizul.com/
HOTEL LONDRES **** Zubieta Kalea, 2, 20007 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 44 07 70	www.hlondres.com
HOTEL NH ARANZAZU **** Vitoria-Gasteiz, 1, 20018 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 21 90 77	https://www.nh-hoteles.es/hotel/nh-collection-san-sebastian-aranzazu
HOTEL SILKEN AMARA PLAZA **** Plaza Pío XII, 7, 20010 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 46 46 00	www.amaraplaza.com
HOTEL TRIP ORLY **** Zaragoza Plaza, 4, 202007 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 46 32 00	http://es.solmelia.com/hoteles/espana/san-sebastian/tryp-orly/home.htm

<p>HOTEL COSTA VASCA **** Avenida Pio Baroja, 15, 20008 San Sebastián, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 31 79 50</p>	<p>http://www.barcelo.com/BarceloHotels/es-ES/Hotels/Spain/SanSebastian/CostaVasca/Home</p>
<p>HOTEL PALACIO DE AIETE **** Goiko Galtzara Berri Kalea, 27, 20009 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 21 00 71</p>	<p>http://www.hotelpalaciodeaiete.com</p>
<p>HOTEL ASTORIA 7 **** Familia Santua Kalea, 1, 20010 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 44 50 00</p>	<p>http://www.astoria7hotel.com</p>
<p>HOTEL HESPERIA DONOSTI **** Zarautz Kalea, 120, 20018 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 31 91 00</p>	<p>https://www.nh-hoteles.es/hotel/nh-san-sebastian-donosti?gmb</p>
<p>HOTEL EUROPA *** San Martin Kalea, 52, 20007 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 47 08 80</p>	<p>http://www.hotelhusaeuropa.com/</p>
<p>HOTEL EZEIZA ** Av de Satrustegi, 13, 20008 Donostia, San Sebastián, Guipúzcoa, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 21 43 11</p>	<p>www.hotelezeiza.com</p>
<p>HOTEL PARMA ** Paseo de Salamanca, 10, 20003 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 42 88 93</p>	<p>http://www.hotelparma.com/</p>
<p>HOTEL ZARAGOZA PLAZA * Zaragoza Plaza, 3, 20007 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 45 21 03</p>	<p>http://www.hotelzaragozaplaza.com/</p>
<p>HOTEL PUNTA MONPAS ** Jose Miguel Barandiaran Kalea, 32, 20013 Donostia, Guipúzcoa Teléfono:943 28 55 85</p>	<p>http://www.puntamonpashotel.com/</p>
<p>HOTEL MONTE IGUELDO **** Itsasargi Pasealekua, 134, 20008 Donostia, Gipuzkoa Teléfono:943 21 02 11</p>	<p>http://www.accorhotels.com/es/hotel-1987-mercure-san-sebastian-monte-igueldo/index.shtml</p>