

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE  
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA  
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA  
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 27 March 2026

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 02164/ 2026

**SUBJECT: MEETING OF THE STANDING WORKING GROUP ON DIALOGUE BETWEEN FISHERIES SCIENTISTS AND MANAGERS (SWGSM) (online, 27 April 2026)**

Following the adoption by the Commission of the ICCAT meetings scheduled for 2026, I would like to inform you that the Meeting of the Standing Working Group on Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) has been scheduled for **27 April 2026** and has an online format. The meeting times will be 11:00 to 16:30 hours (Madrid time), with two 30-minute breaks at 12:30 and 14:30.

The Tentative Agenda (here attached) will be posted together with any other documents in the [Nextcloud meeting document folder](#). Please note that our mailing distribution list is limited. Therefore, I should like to ask you to circulate this announcement to potential delegates. This announcement will also be included in our [current meetings webpage](#). CPCs wishing to submit any documents for the meeting, are requested to submit these before **13 April 2026**, in order to ensure that they can be translated and published in advance of the start of the meeting. Any additional reports/background information which CPCs may consider of interest to the discussions, should also be provided by **13 April 2026** and will be posted once approved by the Chairs, but will not be translated.

In order to organize the online meeting, which will be based on the ZOOM platform and include simultaneous interpretation, you are kindly requested to send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting by **15 April 2026**. Any late submission of the official delegation may cause a delay in providing participants access to the meeting. All participants must also register for the meeting by **15 April 2026**, using the [online registration form](#) which will soon be available on our [meetings webpage](#).

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Executive Secretary*



Camille Jean Pierre Manel

### DISTRIBUTION:

– **Commission Officers:**

<b>Commission Chair:</b>	Z. Driouich	<b>COC Chair:</b>	D. Campbell
<b>First Vice Chair:</b>	R. Chong	<b>COC Vice Chair:</b>	Y. Vergara
<b>Second Vice Chair:</b>	E. Penas Lado	<b>PWG Chair:</b>	N. Ansell
<b>Chairs and Vice Chairs Panels 1-4</b>		<b>PWG Vice Chair:</b>	M.D. King
<b>SCRS Chair:</b>	C. Brown	<b>STACFAD Chair:</b>	L. Marot
<b>SCRS Vice Chair:</b>	L.G. Cardoso	<b>STACFAD Vice Chair:</b>	B. Chavarría

- **Head Delegates/Head Scientists**
- **Cooperating Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities**
- **Observers**

**Attachments:** Tentative Agenda (SWGSM\_01/i2026) and a letter from the two Co-chairs (SWGSM\_02/i2026).



**Standing Working Group on Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM)**  
*(Online, 27 April 2026)*

**Tentative Agenda**

1. Opening of the meeting and meeting logistics
2. Nomination of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Review of the Revised ICCAT Plan of Action on Climate Change
  - a. Implementation of the Plan of Action
    - i. Commission actions
    - ii. SCRS actions  
(SCRS will provide examples of where work or information related to climate has been integrated into SCRS work)
  - b. Climate-related questions with implications for management
    - i. SCRS presentation of example questions
    - ii. Discussion of the nature and purpose of questions to be developed by the SCRS
  - c. Next steps
5. SCRS Science Strategic Plan
  - a. Overview of the development of the existing draft SCRS Science Strategic Plan and current status
  - b. Discussion of what CPCs would like to see included in SCRS Science Strategic Plan (or suitable alternative)
  - c. The way forward
6. Recommendations
7. Other matters
8. Adoption of report and closure



**Subject:** Context and objectives for the April 2026 SWGSM Meeting

Dear Colleagues,

As we prepare for the upcoming meeting of the **Standing Working Group on Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM)** on **27 April 2026**, we would like to provide some context regarding the proposed agenda and the objectives we hope to achieve together.

### **Plan of Action on Climate Change**

The **Revised ICCAT Plan of Action on Climate Change** calls for this meeting to review the implementation of the plan and a list of climate-related management questions for cooperative development with the SCRS. While the SCRS has integrated climate-related information into its existing work, the development of specific management questions has not yet advanced as envisioned.

This delay partly reflects a need for additional guidance from the Commission on how these questions are expected to be used. Specifically, we look forward to discussing how to interpret and operationalize “implications for management” while addressing potential resource constraints. Greater clarity will ensure that the work of the SCRS aligns closely with Commission expectations.

### **SCRS Science Strategic Plan**

While much of our focus is on climate, we also intend to facilitate a discussion on strategic priorities for the SCRS and how to restart progress on a **Science Strategic Plan** (or a suitable alternative).

The SCRS Chair intends to propose a roadmap to advance this Strategic Plan starting in 2027. To ensure this process is effective, we are seeking early input from the Commission on what CPCs would like to see included in such a plan. While we may not finalize all elements during this meeting, the input received will be vital in developing a formal proposal for the 2026 SCRS Plenary.

We look forward to a productive dialogue in April.

Sincerely,

**Zakia Driouich**  
ICCAT Chair

**Craig Brown**  
SCRS Chair