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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS**
(Malta, 10-17 November 2015)

TENTATIVE COMMISSION AGENDA (ANNOTATED)

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Mr. S. Depypere, Commission Chair. Dignitaries from the host CPC will also make some opening remarks.

2. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements

*The tentative agenda has been circulated as document **PLE-100/15**. The Secretariat will serve as rapporteur, if requested. The letter from the Commission Chair regarding priorities and logistical issues is available as **PLE-117/15**. The tentative timetable for the meeting is **GEN-002/2015**. An explanation of meeting document numbers is contained in **GEN-003/15**. All documents will be available on line. Instructions on how to connect will be circulated as **GEN-005/15**.*

3. Introduction of Contracting Party Delegations

*Mr. Driss Meski, ICCAT Executive Secretary, will introduce the Contracting Party Delegations. El Salvador and Liberia are welcomed as new Contracting Parties. As in previous years, Delegates are requested to give opening statements in writing only. The list of participants will be made available during the meeting as **GEN-006/15**.*

4. Introduction of Observers

*Mr. Driss Meski, ICCAT Executive Secretary, will introduce the observers present. **GEN 006/15***

5. Review of the work of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

*Dr. David Die, Chair of the SCRS, will present the main findings and recommendations of the SCRS on general issues, contained in the SCRS Report **PLE-104/15**, including responses to Commission requests to evaluate of data deficiencies pursuant to [Rec. 05-09] and assess the ecological importance of the Sargasso Sea to tuna and tuna-like species and ecologically associated species. Rec. [12-12], paragraph 1. The Secretariat report on Research and Statistics is distributed as **PLE-105A/15**.*

6. Review of the report of the Panel 2 Intersessional meeting and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the intersessional meeting of Panel 2 has been made available as document **PLE-110/15**. The Chair will indicate the sections to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies.*

7. Review of the report of the Tenth Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM) and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the Working Group on IMM has been made available as document **PLE-101/15**. The Chairman will indicate the sections to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies.*

8. Review of the report of the Working Group on FADs

*The report of the Working Group on FADs has been made available as document **PLE-116/15**. The Chair will indicate the sections to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies.*

- 9 Review of the report of the Third Meeting of the Working Group on Convention and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the Working Group on Convention Amendment has been made available as document **PLE-107/15**. This Report contains the draft amendments proposed by the Working Group for the consideration of the Commission.*

Two proposals from Canada previously submitted to the Working Group on Convention Amendment have been re-tabled and have been assigned to Item 22, Other Matters.

10. Review of the report of the Second Meeting of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM) and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue between Fisheries Scientists and Managers is available as **PLE-112/15**.*

11. Review of the report of the Third Meeting of the Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists in support of the Western Atlantic Bluefin tuna Stock Assessment (WBFTWG) and consideration of any necessary actions

*The report of the Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists in support of the western Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment has been made available as document **PLE-106/15**. The Chair will indicate the sections to be considered by the Commission subsidiary bodies.*

12. Review of report of the Working Group on Performance Review

***PLE-103/15** contains the Draft Terms of Reference drawn up by the Virtual Working Group on this issue.*

13. Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration (STACFAD)

*The Chair of STACFAD will report on the work undertaken and the recommendations of STACFAD, including the budget and contributions for the 2016/17 period (**STF-203/15**); the Mechanism for financing and allocating the Meeting Participation Fund (**STF-206/15**) and the ICCAT communication policy (**STF-205/15**) which will be presented to the Commission for consideration and possible adoption. The STACFAD Chair will also report the Commission findings on the use of the Working Capital Fund and recommendations for the future financing of, inter alia, the eBCD and AOTTP projects and the procedures for the selection of the next Executive Secretary.*

14. Reports of Panels 1 to 4 and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein.

*If available during the meeting, the Panel Reports will be distributed as, **PA1-550/15**, **PA2-650/15**, **PA3-750/15**, and **PA4-850/15**. The Commission should consider Recommendations forwarded by the Panel for adoption.*

15. Report of the Conservation and Management Measures Compliance Committee (COC) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

*The Commission should consider recommendations forwarded by the Committee, as well as the Compliance Tables (**COC-304/15**) and actions which may be required on the basis of the COC discussions, which will be available in **COC-308/15**.*

16. Report of the Permanent Working Group for the Improvement of ICCAT Statistics and Conservation Measures (PWG) and consideration of any proposed recommendations therein

*The Commission should consider recommendations forwarded by the Group, including the approval of IUU list (**PWG-405/15**)*

17. Assistance to developing coastal states and capacity building

*The Secretariat has prepared **PLE-108/15** summarising the activities during the last year. This paper will be presented by the Executive Secretary. More details can be found in **STF-202/15**.*

18. Review of the implementation of the Kobe recommendations

*The Executive Secretary will present document **PLE-111/15***

The Commission may wish to consider future joint actions by tRFMOs. Two areas, CLAV maintenance and possible cooperation with IOTC on port inspection measures, have been identified for consideration.

In addition, ICCAT is chairing an MSE workshop under the Kobe process, as well as a meeting on Ecosystem based fisheries management implementation.

19. Report on the implementation of the GEF project

*Information is contained in document **PLE 109A/15** and **PLE-114/15**. As agreed in 2012, the Commission should review ICCAT participation in the GEF/ABNJ project.*

20. Intersessional meetings in 2016

The Commission may wish to set the dates and venues for intersessional meetings in 2016.

21. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs

22. Other matters

- *Ecosystem and precautionary approaches: Canada has presented two draft proposals for consideration, Draft Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Application of an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management **PLE-119/15** and a draft Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Use of the Precautionary Approach in Implementing ICCAT Conservation and Management Measures **PLE-120/15**.*
- *Cooperation with other international organisations: **PLE 109-A/15** contains information relating to cooperation with various international fora and includes for consideration:
1) A draft agreement prepared by the Secretariats of OSPAR and ICCAT
2) A draft proposal from USA and other ACAP Parties for a Memorandum of Understanding with ACAP*
- *Review of the Role of the Council: The letter received from Uruguay in relation to this issue has been distributed as **PLE-115/15***
- *Streamlining of ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions: As requested by STACFAD, the Secretariat has prepared, in consultation with the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies, document **PLE-113/15**. In addition, the Secretariat has presented **PLE-118/15** relating to the unification of statistical requirements. This document was presented in 2014, when it was agreed that it would be further considered at the 2015 meeting.*

23. Date and place of the next meeting of the Commission

The dates proposed for the next Commission meeting are 14-21 November 2016

24. Adoption of the report and adjournment.

**TENTATIVE AGENDA OF THE CONSERVATION AND
MANAGEMENT MEASURES COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC)**

1. Opening of the Meeting

*The meeting will be opened by Mr. Derek Campbell, Compliance Committee Chair. The letter from the Chair regarding priority issues has been distributed as **COC-310/15**.*

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of the Agenda

*The Agenda has been circulated as **COC-300/15***

4. Review of actions taken by CPCs in response to letters of concern and Chair letters arising from 2014 meeting.

*The responses to the letters sent following the 2014 Commission meeting are contained in document **COC-309/15**.*

5. Review of implementation of and compliance with the ICCAT requirements

5.1 Compliance tables

*The Compliance Tables, **COC-304/15** will be distributed by the Secretariat before the Meeting. Delegations wishing to introduce changes must request them **in writing** before 18:00 hours, Tuesday, 10 November 2015. Changes should be given to the ICCAT reception desk or sent to info@iccat.int.*

5.2 CPC Annual Reports, Statistical data summaries Compliance summaries

*Annual reports submitted by CPCs are available as **COC-301/15**; The Secretariat Report on Research and Statistics, **PLE-105A/15** gives details of data submissions received before 13 October 2015. A summary of information for the implementation of Rec. 11-15 is contained in **COC-303/15**. The Secretariat has prepared draft individual compliance summaries based on the information submitted by each CPC. These summaries also contain references tocompliance issues raised for each CPC during the year which may need to be considered. These ..will be made available as **COC-308/15**.*

***COC-303/15** and **PLE-105A/15** contain information on shark data and other information collected under pertinent Recommendations.*

5.3 Inspection and observer reports

*Inspection reports received under the Joint Scheme of International Inspection are summarised in Table 1 of the Secretariat's Report to the Compliance Committee. Information on Port Inspection required under Rec. 12-07 is also contained in the **COC-303/15**.*

*Observer reports for the ROP-BFT are contained in Annexes 1 and 2 to **COC-305/15**. Observer reports from the ROP-transshipment have been published on the password protected web site in accordance with the provisions of Rec. 12-06. Observer reports received under the Tropical Tuna observer programme, being implemented domestically by the CPCs involved, are contained in Annex 3 to **COC-305/18**.*

5.4 Other relevant information

- *Reports on Access Agreements have been summarised and made available as Table 11 to **COC-303/15**.*
- *No information was submitted by NGOs in accordance with Rec. 08-09 in 2015.*
- *Paragraph 23 and 25 of Rec. 11-01 require that information on FAD management plans be submitted by the Executive Secretary to the Compliance Committee. The information*

received has been summarised in Appendix 3 of COC 303/15. The original reports are available electronically as Annex 1 to Appendix 3 of COC 303/15. Reports submitted by CPCs on E-BFT fishing plan implementation and implementation of Rec.13-07/14-04 are contained in document COC-302/15.

6. Actions to address issues of non-compliance by CPCs arising from Items 4 and 5

The outcomes of the discussions of the above documents will determine the actions to be taken. These will be included in the final version of COC-308/15 to be attached to the report of the Committee.

7. Review of information relating to NCPs and consideration of any necessary actions

As requested by the Commission, the Secretariat sent letters to Cambodia, Dominica, Grenada and St. Kitts & Nevis. No direct responses were received from these countries, but the report submitted by CARICOM contains information pertaining to Dominica, Grenada as St. Kitts & Nevis.

8. Review of requests for cooperating status

Bolivia, Chinese Taipei, Guyana and Suriname currently enjoy cooperating status. Their compliance summaries are included in COC-308/15. No new requests were received in 2015.

9. Recommendations to the Commission to improve compliance

The SCRS has prepared a protocol for reporting Task I data in order to be able to analyse correctly the data needed for the implementation of Rec. 11-15. This draft protocol is contained in COC-306/15.

COC-303/15 contains some requests for clarification on conservation and management measures. Responses to these requests would be helpful for CPCs to ensure correct implementation.

10. Election of Chair

11. Other matters

12. Adoption of Report and adjournment

It is expected that the Report will be adopted by correspondence. If available during the meeting, it will be distributed as COC-350/15.

**TENTATIVE AGENDA
OF THE PERMANENT WORKING GROUP FOR THE
IMPROVEMENT OF ICCAT STATISTICS AND CONSERVATION MEASURES (PWG)**

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Mr. T. El Ktiri, Chair of the PWG

2. Appointment of the Rapporteur

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda has been circulated as PWG-400/15.

4. Consideration of actions referred from the IMM Working Group

The Report of the IMM Working Group has been circulated as document PLE-101/15. This report contains a 'draft Recommendation by ICCAT establishing an ICCAT observer programme of fishing activities within the ICCAT Convention area' (Appendix 3) and a 'draft Resolution by ICCAT for a model joint international inspection scheme' (Appendix 4), as well as a 'draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify and Amend Aspects of ICCAT's Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Programme to Facilitate the Application of the eBCD System' (Appendix 6) and a 'draft Recommendation by ICCAT Supplementing the Recommendation for an Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (eBCD)

System' (Appendix 8). Agreement on these texts was not reached at IMM Working Group, but it was agreed that they would be further discussed at the PWG meeting.

5. Consideration of the effectiveness and practical aspects of implementation of:

5.1 Catch Documentation and Statistical Document Programmes

Recommendations 01-21; 01-22; 03-19; 11-20: 13-16 and 13-17 apply.

See also item 4 of the agenda regarding draft proposals.

5.2 Progress of eBCD

The report of the Technical Working Group is contained in document PWG-403/15. A 'draft Recommendation by ICCAT to Clarify and Amend Aspects of ICCAT's Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Programme to Facilitate the Application of the eBCD System' is contained in Appendix 6 of PLE-101/15, which has also been circulated as PWG-408/15, and a Draft Recommendation by ICCAT Supplementing the Recommendation for an Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (eBCD) System in Appendix 8 of the same document. A draft Recommendation by ICCAT Supplementing the Recommendation for an electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (eBCD) System has also been submitted as PWG-404/15

5.3 ICCAT Regional Observer Programmes

Recs. 12-06 and 14-04 currently apply.

Information on the implementation of the observer programmes is contained in PA2-601/15; information on the observer programme for at-sea transshipment is contained in PWG-402/15. Belize has requested a revision of the cost calculations for participation in the ROP-Transshipment which should be considered and instructions given to the Secretariat for calculation of 2016-17 and beyond.

5.4 At-sea and in-port transshipment requirements

Rec. 12-06 applies. Reports from CPCs are contained in COC-305/15.

5.5 Rules for chartering and other fishing arrangements

The following Recommendations apply: 13-14 and 14-07. Provisions relating to chartering are also contained in: 01-21, 01-22, 03-12, 11-18, 12-07, 13-10 and 14-04.

A summary of chartering arrangements and reports from CPCs have been presented to the compliance committee in COC-303/15.

5.6 At-sea vessel sighting and inspection programmes

Currently, Resolution 94-09 remains in force. Rec. 14-04 also applies. PLE-101 (Report of 10th IMM Meeting) contains a draft Recommendation on Joint Inspection in Appendix 4 of that report. A draft proposal, Draft [Recommendation][Resolution] by ICCAT for a [Model] Joint International Inspection Scheme, has been submitted and is available as PWG-406/15.

5.7 Port inspection schemes and other port State measures

Compliance with implementation of Rec. 12-07 is contained in COC-303/15. PWG may wish to consider possible future actions under Rec. 14-08 to improve the effectiveness of this measure. Additional information from the Secretariat relating to the development of a training course and the use of the ePSM system is available in PWG-401/15 and in the Administrative Report.

- 5.8 Vessel listing requirements
Clarifications and improvements to the requirements were made in 2014. The Rules for Submitting Vessel lists have been incorporated into the Guidelines for submitting data and information required by ICCAT
- 5.9 Requirements of the Consolidated List of Vessels (CLAV)
The future of coordination of CLAV monitoring and data base maintenance may need to be considered through the Kobe process.
- 5.10 Vessel Monitoring Satellite System requirements
Rec. 14-09 and 14-04 currently apply.
- 5.11 Flag State responsibilities
Rec. 03-12 specifically lists the duties of flag States, although additional responsibilities are implicit in other ICCAT Recommendations.
- 5.12 Other issues
6. Consideration of additional technical measures needed to ensure effective implementation of ICCAT's conservation and management measures
7. Review and establishment of the IUU vessel list
*The provisional list for consideration by the PWG is contained in document **PWG-405/2015***
8. Recommendations to the Commission based on findings of above
PWG-401/15 contains some requests for clarification on conservation and management measures. Responses to these requests would be helpful for CPCs to ensure correct implementation.
9. Election of Chair
10. Other matters
11. Adoption of the report and adjournment

**TENTATIVE AGENDA OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION (STACFAD)**

1. Opening of the meeting
The meeting will be opened by the STACFAD Chair, Ms. Sylvie Lapointe.
2. Appointment of the Rapporteur
The Secretariat will serve as rapporteur, if requested.
3. Adoption of the Agenda
*The Tentative Agenda has been distributed as **STF-200/15**.*
4. Reports from the Secretariat
 - 4.1 2015 Administrative Report
*The Secretariat's Administrative Report is presented as **STF-201/15***
 - 4.2 2015 Financial Report
*The Secretariat's Financial Report is presented as **STF-202/15***

- 4.3 Review of progress of the payment of arrears and voting rights
Information on arrears is contained in STF-204/15.
5. Consideration of financial implications of measures proposed and SCRS requests
The Commission has requested CPCs making proposals which may have financial/resource impacts on the Commission/Secretariat to present these for discussion in STACFAD. The SCRS Recommendations to the Commission which have financial implications are contained in item 18 of the SCRS Report (PLE-104/15) and STF-208/15.
6. Assistance to developing CPCs and identification of mechanism to financing the Meeting Participation Fund and other capacity building activities
PLE-108/15 contains information on the use of funds in 2015, and the situation of existing funds. The report on expenditure and estimation of future financing of this Fund is contained in STF-209/15.
7. Consideration of other programmes/activities which may require additional or extra-budgetary funding
Funding of the GYPB and AOTTP may need to be considered, as well as future funding of eBCD. Requests from the SCRS for funding are contained in STF-208/15, with details in PLE-104/15.
8. Consideration of procedures for approving utilisation of the Working Capital Fund
Some CPCs raised concerns regarding the lack of clarity in the Financial Regulations regarding the procedures for authorising use of the Working Capital Fund and it was agreed that STACFAD needed to develop guidelines for this. Information on the status of the WCF and committed funds is contained in document STF-207/15.
9. Review of findings of virtual Working Group on communications policy and actions required
The report of this virtual working group and its proposals will be distributed as STF-205/15.
10. Procedures for selection of the Executive Secretary
The draft Terms of Reference developed by the virtual Working Group are contained in STF-206/15
11. Budget and Contracting Party contributions for 2016 and 2017
The draft budget for 2016/17 was circulated (4962/15) on 21 July 2015, and is contained in STF 203/15 for consideration
12. Election of Chair
13. Other matters
Streamlining of ICCAT Recommendations: Following the 2014 decision of STACFAD, the Secretariat followed the procedure indicate and has circulated document PLE-113/15.
14. Adoption of the report and adjournment

TENTATIVE AGENDA OF PANEL 1

1. Opening of the meeting
The meeting will be opened by Côte d'Ivoire, Chair of Panel 1.
2. Appointment of Rapporteur
3. Adoption of Agenda
The tentative agenda has been distributed as PAI-500/15.

4. Review of Panel membership

Document GEN-004/15 lists the Contracting Parties that are members of the Panel.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Relevant information is contained in the SCRS report PLE-104/15. The SCRS Chair will present the SCRS findings, as well as its responses to the Commission on the evaluation of the efficacy of the area/time closure referred to in paragraph 24 for the reduction of catches of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin Rec. [14-01] paragraphs 26, and the evaluation of the potential impact on the level of catches of the detailed capacity management plan submitted by Ghana. Rec. [14-01] paragraph 2.

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities

In accordance with paragraph 38 of Rec. 14-01 Recommendation by ICCAT on A Multi-Annual Conservation and Management Programme for Tropical Tunas shall be revised in 2015.

When considering management measures, the Panel should take into account the recommendation of the SWGSM that “To support the development of HCRs and associated reference point, starting at the 2015 Commission meeting, the Panels commence discussion to identify management objectives, as well as, relevant parameters for HCR and performance indicators on a stock by stock basis, with priority focus on North Atlantic albacore, bluefin tuna, North Atlantic swordfish and tropical tunas;”

The European Union has submitted a draft Recommendation by ICCAT to establish an ad hoc Working Group on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), PAI-501/15. Panel 1 may also wish to review the findings of the Working Group on FADS, distributed as PLE-116/15.

7. Research

The Executive Secretary will present an update on the implementation of the AOTTP.

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

TENTATIVE AGENDA OF PANEL 2

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Japan, Chair of Panel 2.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of Agenda

The tentative agenda has been distributed as PA2-600/15.

4. Review of Panel membership

Document GEN-004/15 lists the Contracting Parties that are members of the Panel.

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Relevant information is contained in the SCRS report PLE-104/15. The SCRS Chair will present the SCRS findings, as well as its responses to the Commission on the annual update on any changes of the estimated bluefin catch rates per vessel and gear. Rec. [14-04] paragraphs 43; results of exploration of operationally viable technologies and methodologies for determining the size and biomass at the points of capture and caging, Rec. [14-04] paragraph 82; the evaluation of the results of the 100%

coverage programme using stereoscopic cameras systems or alternative techniques that provide the equivalent precision to refine the number and weight of the fish during all caging operations. Rec. [14-04] paragraph 83; and the evaluation of the bluefin tuna national observer programmes conducted by CPCs, together with any advice on future improvements, Rec. [14-04] paragraph 88.

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

When considering management measures, the Panel should take into account the recommendation of the SWGSM that “To support the development of HCRs and associated reference point, starting at the 2015 Commission meeting, the Panels commence discussion to identify management objectives, as well as, relevant parameters for HCR and performance indicators on a stock by stock basis, with priority focus on north Atlantic albacore, bluefin tuna, north Atlantic swordfish and tropical tunas;”

*The Panel may also wish to take into account the findings of the Working Group of Fisheries Managers and Scientists in Support of the Western Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment, available as document **PLE-106/15**, as well as the report on the intersessional meeting of Panel 2, **PLE-110/15**.*

7. Research

*The activities carried out in 2015 and future plans for the GBYP are contained in Appendix 4 to **PLE-104/15**.*

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

TENTATIVE AGENDA OF PANEL 3

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by South Africa, Chair of Panel 3.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of Agenda

*The tentative agenda has been distributed as **PA3-700 /15**.*

4. Review of Panel membership

*Document **GEN-004/2015** lists the Contracting Parties that are members of the Panel*

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

*Relevant information is contained in the SCRS report **PLE-104/15**. The SCRS Chair will present the SCRS findings*

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the *ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities*

TACs and catch limits for southern albacore for 2016 were set in 2013, through Rec. 13-06

7. Research

8. Election of Chair

9. Other matters

10. Adoption of the report and adjournment

TENTATIVE AGENDA OF PANEL 4

1. Opening of the meeting

The meeting will be opened by Brazil, Chair of Panel 4

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

3. Adoption of Agenda

The tentative agenda has been distributed as PA4-800 /15

4. Review of Panel membership

Document GEN-004/2015 lists the Contracting Parties that are members of the Panel

5. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS)

Relevant information is contained in the SCRS report PLE-104/15. The SCRS Chair will present the SCRS findings.

6. Measures for the conservation of stocks and implementation of the ICCAT Criteria for the Allocation of Fishing Possibilities

A stock assessment for blue shark was carried out in 2015. The SCRS was of the view that the uncertainty in the results highlights the need for continued monitoring of the fisheries by observer and port sampling programmes.

When considering management measures, the Panel should take into account the recommendation of the SWGSM that “To support the development of HCRs and associated reference point, starting at the 2015 Commission meeting, the Panels commence discussion to identify management objectives, as well as, relevant parameters for HCR and performance indicators on a stock by stock basis, with priority focus on north Atlantic albacore, bluefin tuna, north Atlantic swordfish and tropical tunas;”

The European Union has submitted the following draft proposals pertaining to swordfish: a draft Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of North Atlantic Swordfish (PA4-803/15) and a draft Recommendation by ICCAT for the Conservation of South Atlantic Swordfish (PA4-804/15).

A “Draft Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries Managed by ICCAT”, document PA4-802-A/15 has been submitted for consideration of Panel 4, as well as a Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on the Conservation of Porbeagle Shark Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries, available as PA4-805/2015. A Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on Porbeagle Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries has also been submitted by the European Union, and is available as PA4-806/15, as well as a Draft Recommendation by ICCAT on Shortfin Mako Caught in Association with ICCAT Fisheries, available as PA4-807/15. Any additional proposals received before the deadline set by the Commission Chair will be circulated during the meeting.

7. Research

The Working Group on Small Tuna has recommended, inter alia, the continuation of the ICCAT annual SMTYP research programme activities in 2016 to further improve the biological data collection for the main species identified by the Group. The Shark Working Group has also presented a research plan included in PLE-104/15.

8. Election of Chair
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report and adjournment