

Report of the Second Meeting of the Standing Working Group to Enhance Dialogue Between Fisheries Scientists and Managers (SWGSM)

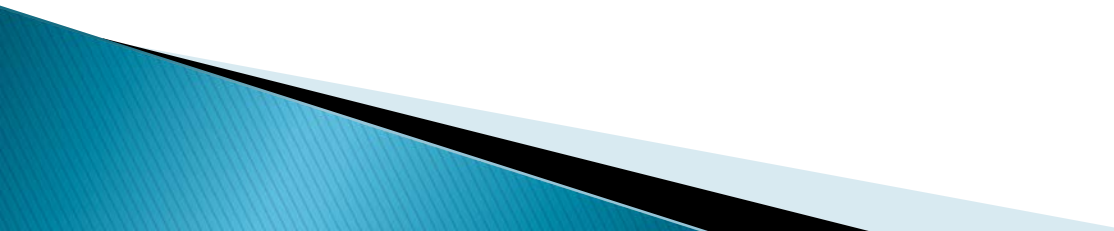
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**MARTIN TSAMENYI (Ghana)
SWGSM Chair**

24th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC
TUNAS *(Malta, 10-17 November 2015)*



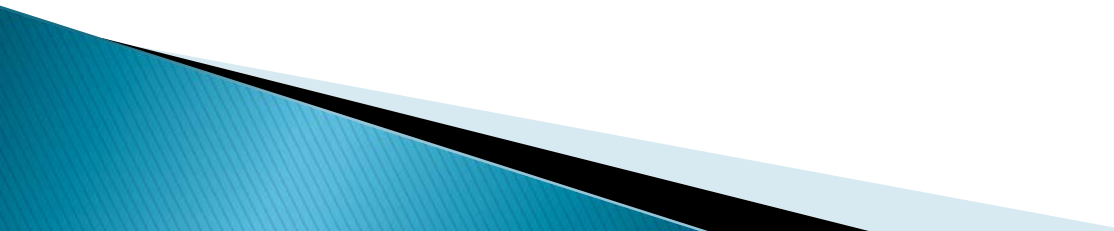
OUTLINE

- ▶ SWGSM 2 Mandate
 - ▶ Report on SWGSM 2
 - Venue and Participation
 - SWGSM 2 Agenda
 - SWGSM 2 Recommendations to the Commission
 - ▶ Chair's Observations
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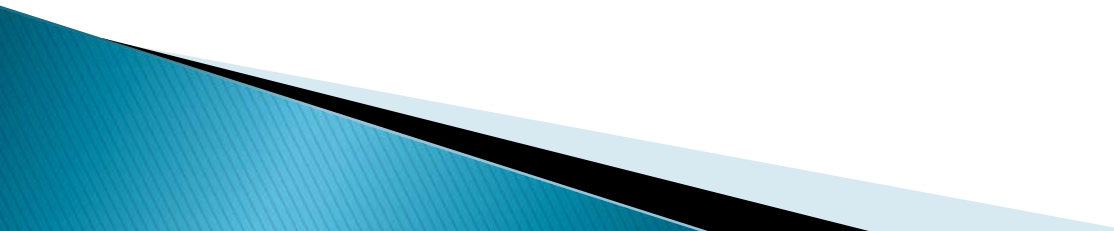
RECOMMENDATION 14-13

- ▶ ***Recommendation by ICCAT Amending the Recommendation by ICCAT for Enhancing the Dialogue Between Fisheries Scientists and Managers [14-13]***
- ▶ **Overall objective:** “... to enhance communication and foster mutual understanding between fisheries managers and scientists, by establishing a forum to exchange views and to support the development and effective implementation of management strategies...”.

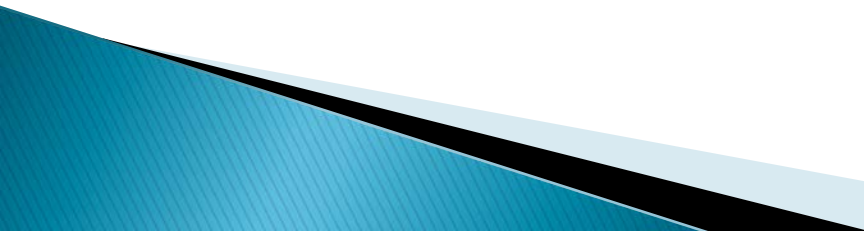
SWGSM MANDATE

- a. Develop a clear framework for making science-based management decisions**
 - b. Develop framework to guide establishment, review and update of management objectives and strategies**
 - c. Improve managers and scientists mutual understanding of concepts related to management strategies**
 - d. Sharing experiences through case studies**
 - e. Providing opportunities to enhance available data**
 - f. Identify research needs and priorities**
 - g. Promote efficient use of science**
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SWGSM 2 Venue and Participation

- ▶ SWGSM 2 took place in Bilbao, Spain from 22-24 June 2015
 - ▶ Participants included
 - 15 CPCs
 - 6 Intergovernmental and non-Governmental Organizations
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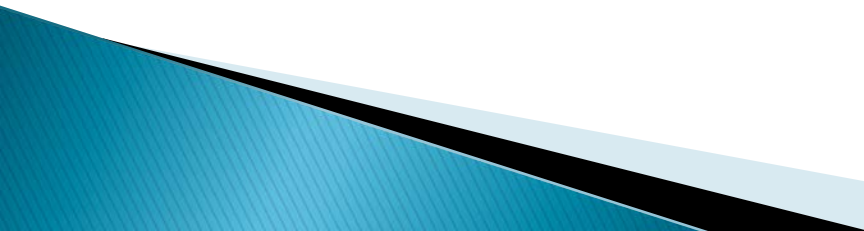
SWGSM-2 Agenda

- ▶ How Harvest Control Rules for ICCAT fisheries might be designed, in the light of specific biological, environmental and socio-economic considerations
 - ▶ Conservation considerations in developing harvest Control Rules . How FMSY and BMSY should be considered (e.g. Are they target or limit reference points? Which probability and timeframe should be associated to these reference points in each case? Should we define reference points based on the precautionary approach?
 - ▶ Ecosystem considerations (e.g. by-catch, impact on other stocks): What are the most appropriate ecosystem indicators that have impact on tuna fisheries?
 - ▶ Socio-economic considerations: What socio-economic indicators should be associated to the different fisheries affecting a same stock?
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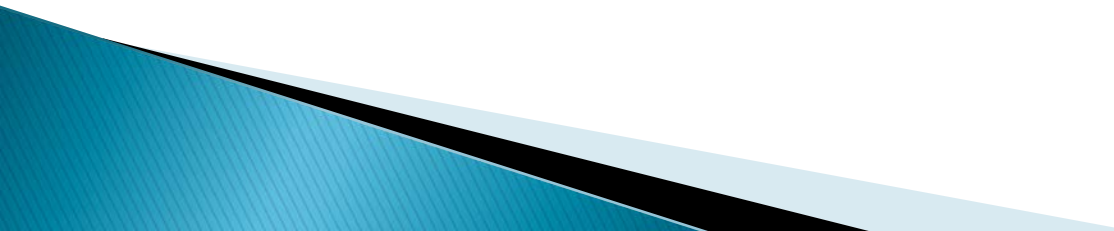
SWGSM2 Agenda

- ▶ Possible needs for social and economic data and research projects
- ▶ Management Strategy Evaluations (MSE) and examples in managed fisheries
- ▶ Detailed examination of case studies proposed in 2014
 - N-ALB
 - N-SWO
 - SKJ
 - BFT
- ▶ Ways in which Rec. [11-13] can be made operational for individual ICCAT stocks, taking into account lessons learned from other fisheries

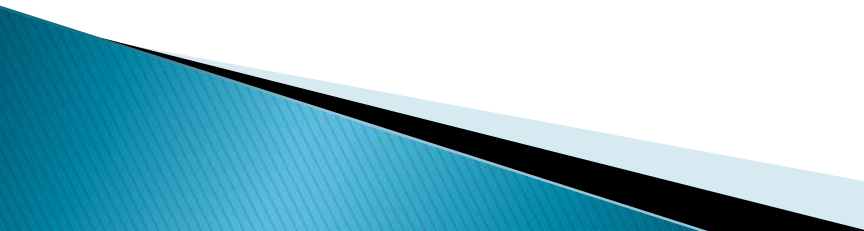
SWGSM 2 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

1. The development of Harvest Control Rules (HCR) and Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for stocks under the purview of ICCAT be considered a high priority.
 2. The dialogue be maintained among CPCs, scientists and managers, and be extended to stakeholders if considered appropriate.
 3. To support the development of HCRs and associated reference points, 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.
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SWGSM 2 RECOMMEDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

4. To examine ways to further define the management framework building on Rec. [11-13], in particular in relation to reference points, associated probabilities and timeframes;
 5. SCRS be tasked to continue work on development of appropriate MSE methods to allow testing the performance and robustness of different management procedures.
 6. A session be allocated at the beginning of the next Commission meeting in Malta to finalise discussion on outstanding issues from the second meeting of the Working Group.
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OUTSTANDING ISSUES– RECOMMENDATION 6

- ▶ SWGSM 2 considered two proposed approaches
 - EU proposal (Appendix 5)–Draft Recommendation
 - US proposal (Appendix 6– Draft Work plan
 - ▶ Working Group suggested consolidation of the two proposals for submission to the 24th Annual Meeting
 - ▶ EU proposal in response to Working Group suggestions
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SWGSM Chair's OBSERVATIONS

- ▶ Low level participation by CPCs not very encouraging
 - 17 in 2014
 - 15 in 2015
- ▶ Rec14-14: Special exemption for SWGSM: 2 members per developing country delegation (one manager and one scientist) are eligible to receive support from the Meeting Participation Fund for Developing Contracting Parties

APPRECIATION

- ▶ Facilitators
 - ▶ SCRS Chair
 - ▶ Rapporteur
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