

**PROPOSED ROADMAP FOR PA1 INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS IN 2021**

*(Submitted by Chair of Panel 1)*

Dear colleagues,

As you all know, we are going through an exceptional and challenging period due to the COVID-19 pandemic and it is difficult to predict when it will end. The situation has prevented meetings being held this year. In addition a number of health measures involving multiple restrictions have been taken by many States, making it almost impossible to hold an in-person meeting before May 2021. To address this situation and to ensure the continuance of our discussions, I propose a multifaceted scheme for adopting measures that we have postponed.

Therefore, I propose an in-person intersessional meeting be held in **June 2021** to address pending Panel 1 business. A meeting agenda will be duly submitted. However, Panel 1 faces some challenges regarding the state of overexploitation of the tropical tuna stocks (see the attached list containing some priorities for 2021).

CPC feedback will enable the roadmap to be further improved.

As regards this list, I request feedback on the likelihood of potential advancement on some key points through one or two virtual meetings each lasting 2 days (with a maximum duration of 4.5 hours per meeting), before the in-person meeting takes place. Support from the Secretariat will be required for logistical aspects.

If the suggestion of holding two 2-day virtual meetings is approved, the first meeting would be held in **February 2021** and the second one in **April 2021**.

I would like refer for your consideration the priorities listed below which would be addressed at the two meetings.

**Virtual meeting in February 2021**

- 1) Bigeye tuna TAC for 2022 and beyond
- 2) Allocation key for TAC distribution

**Virtual meeting in April 2021**

- 1) Limitation on number of FADs for 2022 and beyond

In preparation for these virtual meetings, I suggest that exchanges take place via correspondence. This will enable us to optimise the virtual meetings, which will be short (4.5 hours).

I recognise that these conditions are not ideal but my intention is to engage in frank discussions on pending business so as to facilitate the in-person meeting.

I would like to reiterate my availability and I am relying on your cooperation so that together we can achieve our objective of adopting effective conservation and management measures for our stocks. I also encourage bilateral and multilateral dialogue which will facilitate our exchanges.

**Annex 1**

**List of Panel 1 priorities for 2021**

- 1) Bigeye tuna TAC for 2022 and beyond
- 2) Allocation key for TAC distribution
- 3) Yellowfin tuna TAC for 2022 and beyond
- 4) Allocation key for yellowfin tuna TAC distribution, if applicable
- 5) Review of the FAD closure season
- 6) Limitation on number of FADS in 2022 and beyond
- 7) Review of the electronic and/or observer monitoring programmes
- 8) Review of the terms of reference to carry out an evaluation of monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms implemented in ICCAT CPCs