

Priorities and cost to incorporate in the budget the interpreting costs of the SCRS intersessional meetings

Following the 2021 request by the SCRS to the Commission for the provision of interpretation services during all the SCRS intersessional meetings, the Commission requested the SCRS to discuss the prioritization of the meetings based on the level of participation of non-English native speakers.

Accordingly, the Secretariat has produced a table (**Table 1**) containing the number of participants that attended the SCRS intersessional meetings between 2020 and 2022, based on their preference in terms of one of the official ICCAT languages. It is worth noting the selected period corresponds to the COVID-19 pandemic, when most meetings were held online. For comparison purposes the attendance during SCRS Plenary meetings during which interpretation is provided is also provided.

Table 1. Preference in terms of the number of participants, for English (ENG) and French (FRA) and Spanish (SPA) at SCRS intersessional meetings between 2020 and 2022. The last row of the column refers to the Plenary meeting for which interpretation is provided. DP + SA – Data Preparatory and Stock Assessment meetings. * In 2020 there was no SCRS plenary meeting during the COVID-19.

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>2020</i>		<i>2021</i>		<i>2022</i>		<i>Average (2020-2022)</i>	
	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>
BFT	232	59	233	51	121	47	195.3	52.3
TROP	100	55	57	36	102	53	86.3	48.0
DP + SA	25	11	52	25	167	90	81.3	42.0
SHK	61	22	52	20	156	76	89.7	39.3
SC-STATS	47	23	49	27	111	59	69.0	36.3
SWO	66	24	139	41	107	42	104.0	35.7
MSE	88	23	76	15	170	65	111.3	34.3
SMT	17	14	39	30	88	45	48.0	29.7
ALB	78	16	65	22	149	50	97.3	29.3
BIL	23	9	60	24	89	39	57.3	24.0
SC-ECO	59	13	50	23	50	28	53.0	21.3
WGSAM	41	9	36	10	48	18	41.7	12.3
Plenary	*	*	98	48	128	59	113*	53.5*

Based on the ranking above, these are the five highest categories in terms of prioritization regarding the provision of interpretation during SCRS intersessional meeting following the criteria set by the Commission:

<i>Rank of priority</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
<i>Category 1</i>	Data preparatory + Stock assessment meetings
<i>Category 2</i>	MSE meetings
<i>Category 3</i>	Tropical Tunas Species Group meetings
<i>Category 4</i>	Bluefin Tuna Species group meetings
<i>Category 5</i>	Sharks Species Group meetings

Accordingly, based on the ranking above and a tentative list of meetings scheduled for 2023, that would include 3 stock assessment meetings, the estimated costs to provide interpretation to the highest category SCRS intersessional meetings would be as follows:

<i>Requested meetings</i>	<i>Duration (No. days)</i>	<i>Category 1</i>	<i>Category 2</i>	<i>Category 3</i>	<i>Category 4</i>	<i>Category 5</i>
<i>Data preparatory + Stock assessment meetings</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
· Blue shark	10	€ 64,500	-	-	-	-
· Albacore	10	€ 64,500	-	-	-	-
· Sailfish	6	€ 38,700	-	-	-	-
<i>MSE</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-
· N-SWO	6	-	€ 38,700	-	-	-
<i>Tropical Tunas Species Group</i>	8	-	-	€ 51,600	-	-
<i>Bluefin Tuna Species Group</i>	3	-	-	-	€ 19,350	-
<i>Shark Species Group</i>	2	-	-	-	-	€ 12,900
Accumulative cost		€ 167,700	€ 206,400	€ 258,000	€ 277,350	€ 290,250

However, the Committee considered that it would be important for the Commission to bear in mind other factors such as the number of CPCs attending the different meetings. Accordingly, the Secretariat prepared a new table (**Table 2**) similar to **Table 1**, which shows the the average number of CPCs that attended the SCRS intersessional meetings between 2020 and 2022 (most held online), based on their preference in terms of one of the official ICCAT languages.

Table 2. Preference in terms of the CPCs, for English (ENG) and French (FRA) plus Spanish (SPA) at SCRS intersessional meetings between 2020 and 2022. The last row of the columns refers to the Plenary meeting for which interpretation is provided. DP + SA – Data preparatory and stock assessment meetings. * In 2020 there was no SCRS plenary meeting during the COVID-19.

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>2020</i>		<i>2021</i>		<i>2022</i>		<i>Average (2020-2022)</i>	
	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>	<i>ENG</i>	<i>FRA+SPA</i>
TROP	51	26	48	20	22	18	40.3	21.3
SHK	5	4	18	17	53	43	25.3	21.3
SC-STATS	20	14	26	14	45	29	30.3	19.0
SMT	25	13	16	9	42	28	27.7	16.7
SC-ECO	26	24	16	11	25	15	22.3	16.7
BIL	19	14	33	19	25	16	25.7	16.3
ALB	4	9	14	17	21	17	13.0	14.3
SWO	9	12	15	9	21	17	15.0	12.7
DP + SA	19	10	19	10	32	17	23.3	12.3
BFT	7	6	19	13	21	15	15.7	11.3
MSE			18	11	30	16	16.0	9.0
SC-ECO	19	4	14	9	15	8	16.0	7.0
Plenary	*	*	17	14	18	17	17.5*	15.5*

Based on the ranking from **Table 2**, the five highest categories in terms of prioritization regarding the provision of interpretation during SCRS intersessional meeting following the alternative criteria set by the SCRS is as follows:

<i>Rank of priority</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
<i>Category 1</i>	Tropical tunas Species Group meetings
<i>Category 2</i>	Sharks Species Group meetings
<i>Category 3</i>	Subcommittee on Statistics meetings
<i>Category 4</i>	Small tunas Species Group meetings
<i>Category 5</i>	Subcommittee on Ecosystems meetings

Accordingly, based on the alternative ranking proposed by the Committee and the tentative SCRS calendar for 2023, the alternative estimated costs to provide interpretation to the highest category SCRS intersessional meetings would be as follows:

<i>Requested meetings</i>	<i>Duration (No. days)</i>	<i>Category 1</i>	<i>Category 2</i>	<i>Category 3</i>	<i>Category 4</i>	<i>Category 5</i>
<i>Tropical tunas Species Group</i>	8	€ 51,600	-	-	-	-
<i>Shark Species Group</i>	2	-	€ 12,900	-	-	-
<i>Subcommittee on Statistics</i>	2	-	-	€ 12,900	-	-
<i>Small Tunas Species Group</i>	5	-	-	-	€ 32,250	-
<i>Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch</i>	2	-	-	-	-	€ 32,250
Accumulative cost		€ 51,600	€ 64,500	€ 77,400	€ 109,650	€ 141,900