

Provisional Agenda

3rd Meeting of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Scientific Committee

20-24 March 2018, Best Western Hotel, 2 rue Doret, 97461, Saint Denis, La Réunion

Meeting Room – Bourbon 1

Chair: Dr Ilona Stobutzki

The provisional agenda for the 3rd meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee has been developed to focus on the areas of work identified in SIOFA CMM 2017/01 and CMM 2017/02, the Scientific Committee Work Plan 2016-19 (SC2 Report Annex M) and previous Ordinary Meetings Meeting of SIOFA to meet the governance requirements set out in the Scientific Committee's terms of reference.

Registration will be open from 08:00 and the meeting will start 09:00 on the 20th March.

A Heads of Delegation meeting will be held on the 20th March 08:00 – 08:45.

NOTE: Prior to this meeting the **SIOFA Working Group on Stock Assessment** will convene 15-18 March 2018 at the same location in meeting room Papangue.

1. Opening

1.2 Opening statement from the Chair

1.2 Introduction of participants

2. Administrative arrangements

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda

2.2 Confirmation of Meeting Reports

2.3 Appointment of rapporteurs

2.4 Review of functions and terms of reference

3. National Annual Reports

In accordance with paragraph 8 of CMM2017/02 each Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE shall provide to the Scientific Committee an annual report. Guidelines for the national annual reports can be found at Annex F SC3 Report. In accordance with paragraph 12 of CMM 2016/01 and Annex 1 thereof, each Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE shall report in their National Report any VME encounter above the thresholds established under paragraph 11 of CMM 2016/01 to the Scientific Committee including action taken in respect of the relevant site.

4. Historical Bottom Fishing Effort

4.1 Historical Catch and Effort Data

In accordance with 2017/02 para 9. Contracting Parties Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall provide to the Secretariat, by 31 January 2017, historical catch, effort data for period 2000 to 2015. Any unverified data submitted to

be updated with verified data before 31 January 2018. Any State or fishing entity that becomes a party to the Agreement, CNCP or PFE after date of CMM adoption shall provide this data within 12 months of becoming Party to the Agreement, or becoming a CNCP or PFE.

4.2 Spatial Extent of Historic Catch Data

In accordance with 2017/01 para 13. Contracting Parties Contracting Parties, CNCPs and PFEs shall, at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee in 2018, submit to the Secretariat relevant data on the spatial extent of its historical bottom fishing effort in the Agreement Area.

5. Bottom Fishing Impact Assessments

Review of submitted BFIAS in line with CMM 2017/01.

Any Contracting Party, CNCP or PFE that authorises or is seeking to authorise any vessel flying its flag to bottom fish in the Agreement Area, shall in accordance with CMM 2017/01 para 14, at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee in 2018, submit to the Secretariat a Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment for its individual bottom fishing activities.

The SC shall consider all BFIAs received at its ordinary meeting in 2018 and provide advice in its meeting report as to;

(a) the likely cumulative impacts of bottom fishing impact activity from vessels flying the flag of a Contracting Party, CNCP or PFE in the Agreement Area; and

(b) whether each BFIA meets an appropriate standard in light of international standards and the SIOFA BFIAs, where applicable.

6. Scientific data Standards

6.1 SIOFA Scientific Database

Update from the secretariat

6.1.1 Exchange of SIOFA Data

Discussion on exchange of data protocols

6.2 Observer Coverage

In accordance with 2017/01 para 32, SC to review the observer coverage levels prescribed in para 31.

6.3 Voluntary Observer Data

In accordance with 2017/02 para 13, SC to review Annex B Voluntary Observer Data.

7. Vulnerable marine ecosystems

7.1 Maps of where VMEs are known to occur, or likely to occur, in the agreement area

Maps of VME encounter/indicator data (secretariat in collaboration with ABNJ project)

7.2 SIOFA Standard Protocols for future protected areas designation

Review of draft criteria after first application

8. SIOFA Working Groups

Reports from SIOFA Working Groups

8.1 Stock Assessment WG

Research work plans for the implementation of stock assessments and related processes

8.1.1 Orange Roughy

8.1.2 Alfonsino

8.1.3 Patagonian Toothfish

8.1.4 Other Species

8.2 Ecological Risk Assessment WG

Including research workplan for implementation of ERAs and related process

8.2.1 Deepwater Chondrichthyans

8.2.2 Protected Areas Steering Committee

9. Proposals to bottom fish in the Agreement Area in a manner at variance with Established Measures

In accordance with paragraph 20 of CMM 2017/01 a Contracting Party, CNCP and PFE seeking to authorise any vessel flying its flag shall submit to the Scientific Committee, at least 30 days prior to an ordinary meeting of the Scientific Committee, a proposal to undertake that activity or activities.

10. Scientific Impact Assessments

In accordance with SIOFA Scientific Committee Operational Work Plan 2016-2019

10.1 Demersal Gillnet operations

10.2 Other gillnets and developing gillnet fisheries

11. Cooperation with other RFMOs and international bodies

11.1 FAO ABNJ Deep Sea project update

11.2 SWIOFC

11.3 Draft Arrangement between SIOFA and CCAMLR to enhance the conservation and rational use of stocks and species of interest to both parties.

11.4 Collaboration with CCAMLR on stock assessment and tagging

12. Scientific Committee Work Plan

12.1 Long term Research Projects and Plan

Review, potential funding opportunities and updating if required

12.2 2017 – 2019 operational work plan and budget

Review and updating if required. Discussion on science budget to provide advice to the Meeting of the Parties.

13. Advice to the Meeting of Parties

14. Future meeting arrangements

The Scientific Committee is asked to agree to (approximate) dates and location for the 3rd meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee.

15. Other business

16. Adoption of the meeting report

17. Close of meeting