

Provisional Agenda for the Third Meeting of the Stock and Ecological Risk Assessment Working Group (SERAWG3)

Mix of correspondence and videoconference

8–11 March 2021

Videoconference 8 and 9 March from 6:00 to 9:00 am (UTC)

Adoption of the report (11 March) by videoconference from 6:00 to 9:00 am (UTC) and e-mail

Co-Chairs: Dr Tom Nishida (Stock Assessment) and Vacant (Ecological Risk Assessment)

Red: High priority, must be treated in session, by correspondence and video conference

Black: Urgent, may be treated in session or by correspondence

Grey: Will be not be addressed this year due to the reduced format and postponed to 2022

1. Opening

- 1.1 **Opening statement from the Co-Chairs**
- 1.2 Introduction of participants

2. Administrative arrangements

- 2.1 **Adoption of the agenda**
- 2.2 Confirmation of meeting documents
- 2.3 **Appointment of rapporteurs**
- 2.4 Review of the SERAWG functions and terms of reference

3. Alfonsino

- 3.1 Update on the fishery
- 3.2 Data catalogue of available variables and attribute data in SIOFA
- 3.3 Review of progress against CMM 2020-15 (Demersal stocks)
- 3.4 Review of alfonsino workplan (SC5 report Annex H)
- 3.5 **Resource analyses by member countries**
- 3.6 **Future work plan**
- 3.7 **Recommendations**

4. Patagonian Toothfish

- 4.1 Update on the fishery
- 4.2 Review of progress against CMM 2020-15 (Demersal stocks)
- 4.3 Review of Patagonian toothfish workplan (SC5 report Annex H)
- 4.4 Resource analyses by member countries
- 4.5 Relevant information from CCAMLR
- 4.6 **Future work plan**
- 4.7 **Recommendations**

5. Orange roughy

- 5.1 Update on the fishery

- 5.2 Review of progress against CMM 2020-15 (Demersal stocks)
- 5.3 Review of orange roughy workplan (SC5 report Annex H)
- 5.4 Resource analyses by member countries
- 5.5 Future work plan
- 5.6 Recommendations

6. Other species

- 6.1 Update on the fisheries
- 6.2 Review of progress against CMM 2020-15 (Demersal stocks)
- 6.3 Review of other species workplan (SC5 report Annex H)
- 6.4 Resource analyses by member countries
- 6.5 Future work plan
- 6.6 Recommendations

7. Technical work to inform reference points and harvest strategy development -

- 7.1 Report of the consultancy for the SIOFA Harvest Strategy Development (Project SER2020-01)
- 7.2 Future work plan

8. Ecological risk assessment

- 8.1 Deepwater chondrichthyans
 - 8.1.1 Implementation of FAO shark guides (CMM 2019-02, para. 8) and other efforts to improve data collection
 - 8.1.2 Review of progress against CMM 2019-12 (Sharks), including development of precautionary bycatch limits (CMM 2019-12 para. 4)
 - 8.1.3 Future work plan
 - 8.1.4 Advice to the Scientific Committee
- 8.2 Teleosts and others
 - 8.2.1 Update on progress with teleosts ERA
 - 8.2.2 Priority species for further assessment
- 8.3 Report of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries - Dr Fridtjof Nansen cruise (2018)
- 8.4 Future work plan
- 8.5 Recommendations

9. SIOFA stock assessment framework – implementation, including species categorisation and data characterisation, including refining SIOFA species list

- 9.1 Review and discussion

10. Consideration of SERAWG work plan and resource requirements

- 10.1 Work plan to realise the General Objectives relating to the 2020 EU Grant
 - 10.1.1 Report of the consultancy to coordinate, plan, and assist implementation of science consultancies to support the SIOFA scientific working plan (Project SCM2021-01)
- 10.2 Support the assessment of the key target stocks
- 10.3 Management of vulnerable Marine Ecosystem
 - 10.3.1 Updates to ERA work – Updates the teleost ERAs with better and more recent input data
- 10.4 Management of other ecosystems components

10.4.1 Updates to ERA work – Seabirds, Mammals, By-catch species

10.5 Reinforcing the data collection, SIOFA data/bases systems, coding and data processes

10.6 Review and update of the Scientific Committee workplan

11. Consolidated advice to Scientific Committee

12. Appointment a new Co-chair of the SERAWG (Ecological Risk Assessment)

13. Future meeting arrangements

14. Other business

15. Adoption of the meeting report

16. Close of meeting

UE GRANT AGREEMENT (Extracted from ANNEX 1)

2020–2022 Support to SIOFA Scientific Work on key stocks, ecosystems, and data

The SIOFA relies on a strong scientific basis for decision-making, and therefore the grant requested focuses on 5 General Objectives of scientific basis:

General Objective 1 (GO1): Support the assessment of the key target stocks (alfonsino, tooth fish and orange roughy);

- Specific Objective 1: Working towards improving the stock assessment of alfonsino. According to the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC) future stock assessments for alfonsino should consider: potentially using tow-by-tow data, developing data catalogues to understand variables for effective standardisation work, improving future abundance estimation by applying acoustic data, conducting research towards better estimating M , clarifying time-area coverage, the complex behaviour of alfonsino, etc. A feasibility study of the cost-benefit of collecting acoustic data could be conducted. Data Poor Stock management approaches should be also explored.
- Specific Objective 2: Supporting toothfish related research.
- Specific Objective 3: Addressing the main tasks related to orange roughy in the work plan concerning the stock structure, age frequency, target strength and data collection protocol.
- Specific Objective 4: Saya de Malha bank fisheries.

Actions and implementation

- Stock structure studies (orange roughy, alfonsino, toothfish)
- Additional otolith collection and ageing - growth equation for all species ages
- Better stock assessment and usage of acoustic survey data
- Biologically appropriate catch limits for Patagonian Toothfish in Del Cano Rise and Williams Ridge
- Saya de Malha bank fisheries

Expected results and their use

The scientific assessment of the fishery resources, taking into account the environmental and oceanographic characteristics of the Area, will provide scientific advice and recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties for the formulation of measures regarding the sustainable management of fishing activities. Better and more robust stocks assessment are the main expected result of this General Objective.

General Objective 2 (G02): Management of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs);

- Specific Objective 5: the definition and implementation of robust methodologies for the mapping and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and
- Specific Objective 6: the mitigation of possible impacts on associated and dependent species.
- Specific Objective 7: Investigate possible habitat suitability modelling.

Actions and implementation

- Investigation of a holistic framework for assessing and preventing SAIs on VMEs
- Support work on benthic bioregionalization (underway) and (future) investigate possible habitat suitability modelling
- Investigation of representative protected areas (relevant to the bioregionalization work)

- Updates to the ERA work - update the teleosts ERAs with better and more recent input data

Expected results and their use

This General Objective will result in the development of the understanding of the impact of fishing on the marine environment. In particular, encouraging and promoting scientific cooperation in scientific research in order to improve knowledge on VMEs. The outcomes will be used as a basis for the recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties for the formulation of conservation and management measures regarding the protection of VMEs.

General Objective 3 (G03): Management of others ecosystem components.

- Specific Objective 8: Defining interactions with seabirds, mammals, bycatch species, etc.

Actions and implementation

- Updates to the ERA work - Considering seabirds, mammals, by catch species, etc.

Expected results and their use

The gaps in knowledge in the SIOFA Area extend to several taxa and to large parts of the shelf and deep-sea ecosystems. Concerned by the dependent species such as marine mammals, seabirds, by catch species or other species of concern, the expected result of this General Objective will be to define and diminish the interactions by analysing other ecosystem components distributions with fisheries managed by SIOFA. The outcomes will be used as a basis for the recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties for the formulation of science-based Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs).

General Objective 4 (G04): Reinforcing the data collection, SIOFA data/base systems, and coding and data processes.

Expected results and their use

Time series of fishing effort, catch, etc are already part of the SIOFA Database. However, the adequacy of these data can be evaluated only in the context of the purposes for which they are used and currently there are strong limitations both for the Secretariat and final users. The expected result is to make operational and reinforce the accessibility of the database to users, the coverage or completeness, and also credibility of the data collection process and the internal management process that uses the data including the time-consuming compilation and filing of raw data.

General Objective 5 (G05): Making operational the Scientific Working Groups and Scientific Committee (SC) supporting and facilitating the external expertise needed for advancing on the SC multiannual Workplan.

Actions and implementation

- External expert(s) in support of the activities of the PAEWG
- External expert(s) in support of the activities of the SERAWG
- External expert(s) in support of the activities of the SC

Expected results and their use

Appropriate external knowledge undertaken by independent expert(s) will help to assure the highest quality and the scientific standards review (of any kind) as part of the SIOFA scientific process. The expected result is assuring that the best available science is available and in use in support of management measures in SIOFA. Dissemination of results is assured as meeting reports (Scientific Committee and its Working Groups) will gather the outcomes of each specific objective. It is also expected that the broader research community will benefit from this research through publications in

specialised fisheries and marine environment scientific journals showing the outcomes of these General Objectives.