

Réf.: 2021-08-10-1/SIOFA- SCC

Wellington, Tuesday 10th August 2021

SC-CIRCULAR n° 2021-05

Subject: Joint SIOFA-CCAMLR Workshop on the exchange of scientific toothfish data

Dear Heads of Delegation of the Scientific Committee,
Dear Colleagues

As requested by the Meeting of Parties (MoP8), I have extended an invitation to the Scientific Committee of CCAMLR to a **Joint SIOFA-CCAMLR Workshop on the exchange of scientific toothfish data**, to be held via video conference at 0600–1000 UTC on the Monday 29 November and Wednesday 1 December 2021. Dr Dirk Welsford (CCAMLR Scientific Committee Chair) has agreed to co-convene the workshop with me.

I would like to invite HoDs of the Scientific Committee who have an interest in the workshop to contact me (Alistair Dunn, SIOFA Scientific Committee Chair) or the SIOFA Secretariat with any comments or suggestions for the workshop timetable and agenda. A final draft agenda will be circulated following the 2021 meeting of the CCAMLR Scientific Committee in October 2021.

This workshop would be held as a part of the CCAMLR-SIOFA Arrangement and focus on developing the specifications for an annual exchange of toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) data between SIOFA and CCAMLR for participating SIOFA CCPs and CCAMLR Members — specifically the relevant catch, effort, scientific observer, and tagging data that could be used in stock assessments of the toothfish stocks that straddle or potentially straddle the two Areas.

I propose that:

1. The workshop be conducted online (i.e., by video conference) from **0600–1000 UTC on Monday 29 November and Wednesday 1 December 2021**.
2. The workshop will be co-convened by the Chairs of the Scientific Committees of SIOFA and CCAMLR.
3. The workshop videoconference be hosted by the SIOFA Secretariat.
4. The workshop includes CCPs involved in the SIOFA toothfish fishery who also fish the CCAMLR boundary area, as well as other interested SIOFA CCPs and CCAMLR Members, and the SIOFA and CCAMLR Secretariats.

5. The workshop focusses on the development of a mechanism for the annual exchange of toothfish (*Dissostichus spp.*) data between CCAMLR and SIOFA for participating SIOFA CCPs and CCAMLR Members — specifically relevant catch, effort, scientific observer data, and tagging data that could be used in stock assessments of the Toothfish stocks that straddle or potentially straddle the two Areas.
6. The workshop develops the specifications for the data to be exchanged including, for example:
 - a. Data for tagged toothfish released and recaptured tagged toothfish where either the release or recapture occurred in the SIOFA Area. The exchange of data may include the relevant date, location (lat/long), depth, tag information details (colour, text, number, inscription), toothfish catch and effort records, and scientific observer data including length, sex, and maturity data.
 - b. Total toothfish catch summaries across the following areas:
 - i. CCAMLR: Subareas 58.7 and 58.6, Divisions 58.5.1, 58.5.2, 58.4.3b and 58.4.1.
 - ii. SIOFA: Area 3b except Del Cano Rise, Del Cano Rise (as defined in SIOFA CMM 2019/15), and Area 6.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Dunn' with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alistair DUNN

Chairperson of the Scientific Committee
SIOFA/APSIOI

**ANNEX 1 to CIRCULAR SC 2021-05
LETTER TO CCAMLR**



Ref: 2021-08-10-02-SCC

Wellington, on Tuesday 10th August 2021

Dr Dirk Welsford
Chair of the Scientific Committee
CCAMLR
PO Box 213, North Hobart 7002,
Tasmania, Australia

Subject : Joint SIOFA-CCAMLR Workshop on the exchange of scientific toothfish data

Dear Dr Welsford,

On behalf of the SIOFA Scientific Committee, I would like to invite CCAMLR Members to a **Joint SIOFA-CCAMLR Workshop on the exchange of scientific toothfish data**, to be held via video conference at **0600–1000 UTC** on the **Monday 29 November** and **Wednesday 1 December 2021**.

I also invite those CCAMLR Members who have an interest in the workshop to contact me (Alistair Dunn, SIOFA Scientific Committee Chair) or the SIOFA Secretariat with any comments or suggestions for the workshop timetable and agenda.

I would also like to thank you and accept your offer to co-convene the joint workshop with me. I note that we can work with interested parties to propose a draft agenda for this Joint CCAMLR-SIOFA Workshop for circulation following the 2021 meeting of the CCAMLR Scientific Committee.

At the Eighth Meeting of Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, the SIOFA Scientific Committee Chair was requested to invite delegations of the SIOFA Scientific Committee and Members of the CCAMLR Scientific Committee to a joint SIOFA-CCAMLR workshop that seeks to give effect to data exchange on toothfish fisheries consistent with part 2 'areas of cooperation' element ii (c) and (iii), (iv), and (v) of the *Arrangement between the Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources*¹ (para 202, Report of the MoP8, July 2021)

¹ See <https://www.apsoi.org/about-siofa/international-cooperation/CCAMLR>

Toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) are an important species that occur in the southern parts of the SIOFA area of competence and in the CCAMLR Convention Area. There is potential for individual toothfish stocks to straddle the boundary of the two management bodies. An overarching arrangement between SIOFA and CCAMLR was signed on 28 August 2018 between the Meeting of the Parties of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) and the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) which seeks to facilitate cooperation between the two organisations, particularly with respect to stocks or species of mutual interest. This arrangement identifies a range of areas for cooperation between the two bodies, including data exchange, harmonising approaches, and collaborating on analysis and research.

This workshop would be held as a part of the CCAMLR-SIOFA Arrangement and focus on developing the specifications for an annual exchange of toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) data between SIOFA and CCAMLR for participating SIOFA CCPs and CCAMLR Members — specifically the relevant catch, effort, scientific observer, and tagging data that could be used in stock assessments of the toothfish stocks that straddle or potentially straddle the two Areas.

I propose that:

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5. The workshop focusses on the development of a mechanism for the annual exchange of toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) data between CCAMLR and SIOFA for participating SIOFA CCPs and CCAMLR Members — specifically relevant catch, effort, scientific observer data, and tagging data that could be used in stock assessments of the Toothfish stocks that straddle or potentially straddle the two Areas.
6. The workshop develops the specifications for the data to be exchanged including, for example:
 - a. Data for tagged toothfish released and recaptured tagged toothfish where either the release or recapture occurred in the SIOFA Area. The exchange of data may include the relevant date, location (lat/long), depth, tag information details (colour, text, number, inscription), toothfish catch and effort records, and scientific observer data including length, sex, and maturity data.
 - b. Total toothfish catch summaries across the following areas:
 - i. CCAMLR: Subareas 58.7 and 58.6, Divisions 58.5.1, 58.5.2, 58.4.3b and 58.4.1.

and/or <https://www.ccamlr.org/en/document/organisation/arrangement-siofa>.

- ii. SIOFA: Area 3b except Del Cano Rise, Del Cano Rise (as defined in SIOFA CMM 2019/15), and Area 6.

Sincerely yours,

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Alistair Dunn

Chairperson of the Scientific Committee
SIOFA/APSOI