



La Réunion, Wednesday 31st of January 2024

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

Dear Heads of Delegation of the SIOFA Scientific Committee,

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to thank those delegations that provided feedback on the Provisional Agenda distributed through SC Circular 2024-02 and transmit to you the Revised Provisional Agenda for the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC9), to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from the 18th to the 27th of March 2024.

The Revised Provisional Agenda of SC9 is included as Annex A of this Circular, and is also available as document SC-09-ADM-04 on the meeting page (<https://siofa.org/meetings/sc9>).

I take this chance to remind those delegations that have not yet registered to the meeting, to do so at their earliest convenience. All delegates are requested to register their attendance to these meetings as soon as possible and no later than Saturday 20 February 2024 by completing the form provided as document [SC-09-ADM-01](#) and emailing it to the SIOFA Secretariat (Science Officer, marco.milardi@siofa.org).

I would also like to remind you that meeting documents must be submitted via email to the SIOFA Secretariat (Science Officer, marco.milardi@siofa.org), by these dates:

- **Monday 12 February 2024** Deadline for submission of SC9 working papers.
- **Monday 4 March 2024** Deadline for submission of SC9 information papers.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Thierry Clot

SIOFA Executive Secretary

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

ANNEX A: Revised Provisional Agenda for the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

Berkeley Hotel Pratunam, Bangkok, Thailand

Chair: Mr Alistair Dunn

Vice-chair: Mr Pavarot Noranarttragoon

1 Opening

- 1.1 Welcome from the *Scientific Committee* Chair
- 1.2 Introduction of participants
- 1.3 Introduction to the meeting facilities and meeting arrangements

The Chair of the Scientific Committee will open the meeting and welcome delegations of the SIOFA Committee, observers, and invited experts. The organisation of the meeting, chairing and local arrangements will be discussed. The Secretariat will introduce the meeting facilities and the other meeting arrangements.

2 Administrative arrangements

- 2.1 Adoption of the agenda
 - Confirmation of meeting documents
 - Appointment of rapporteurs

The Provisional Agenda for the Ninth Meeting of the Scientific Committee was prepared and distributed in accordance with Rules of Procedure.

The Scientific Committee Chair will request the meeting adopt the agenda for the meeting, confirm the list of meeting documents, and appoint rapporteurs. Note that the Secretariat will supply a meeting rapporteur for all plenary sessions of SC9. The Scientific Committee Chair may also appoint a lead rapporteur from the SC delegations to assist the SIOFA rapporteur in developing the report text. Once an agenda item has been closed, the draft report text will be made available to the meeting participants for comment. The lead rapporteur will consult and incorporate the comments into report text for final circulation, and then be checked and signed off by the Scientific Committee Chair. The final report text will then be made available to participants for report adoption.

- 2.2 Scientific Committee Chairs report

The Scientific Committee Chair will report on intersessional activities undertaken since the Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Committee.

3 Fisheries Reports

- 3.1 Annual National Reports 2024
 - CCP annual National Fisheries Reports

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

Presentation of National Reports by each CCP, followed by questions and discussion. CCPs should prepare a short presentation on their National Report for distribution and presentation during the meeting.

CPUE for primary species

Presentation of the work on nominal and standardized CPUE by CCPs (MoP10 report, paragraph 95).

Guidelines for the submission of National Reports

Discussion of the SIOFA Guidelines for submitting National Reports (SC8 report, paragraph 46).

3.2 Summary of SIOFA fisheries

Overview of SIOFA fisheries 2024

CCP fishery characterisations

3.3 Ecosystem and Fisheries Summaries 2024

Presentation and discussion of the Ecosystem and Fisheries Summaries for the selected species, i.e., toothfish (Dissostichus spp. TOT, Dissostichus eleginoides, TOP, Dissostichus mawsoni, TOA), alfonsino (Beryx spp. ALF, Beryx splendens, BYS, Beryx decadactylus, BXD), orange roughy (Hoplostethus atlanticus, ORY), oilfish (Ruvettus pretiosus, OIL, and Lepidocybium flavobrunneum, LEC), hapuka (Polyprion spp., HAU, wreckfish (Polyprion americanus, WRF) and hapuku wreckfish (Polyprion oxygeneios, WHA)), and common mora (Mora moro, RIB).

3.4 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

4 New and exploratory fisheries

4.1 Bottom fishing footprint

The Secretariat will provide an update on the bottom fishing footprint.

4.2 Development of new and exploratory fisheries

The MoP has undertaken to initiate an intersessional process to consider how new fishing should be considered (MoP10 report, paragraph 115). The SC will consider any new advice for the MoP following from SC8, paragraph 95.

4.3 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

5 Data Access and Dissemination

5.1 Exchange of scientific toothfish data with CCAMLR

5.2 Developments to the data section of the SIOFA website

5.3 The SIOFA standard operating procedure for data use and data requests

The Secretariat will report on the outcomes of exchange of scientific toothfish data with CCAMLR, developments to the data section of the SIOFA website, and the SIOFA standard operating procedure for

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

data use. In addition, the SC will consider the Secretariat report on data requests that relate to scientific activities (SC8 report, paragraph 119).

5.4 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

6 Harvest strategies

6.1 Presentation of the Report of the Joint MoP and SC Intersessional Workshop to Define Harvest Strategy Management Objectives (WS2023-HSMO)

6.2 Development of harvest strategies for Orange Roughy

Consideration of potential management objectives (WS2023-HSMO, paragraph 23)

Consideration of potential performance indicators (WS2023-HSMO, paragraph 23)

Development of the Orange Roughy fisheries monitoring regime and assessment approaches (MoP10 report, paragraphs 83 and 85)

Management Strategy Evaluations

Breakout rules (WS2023-HSMO, paragraph 30-31)

6.3 Development of harvest strategies for Toothfish

Consideration of potential management objectives (WS2023-HSMO, paragraph 28)

Consideration of potential performance indicators (WS2023-HSMO, paragraph 28)

Development of the Toothfish fisheries monitoring regime and assessment approaches (MoP10 report, paragraphs 83 and 85)

Management Strategy Evaluations

Breakout rules (WS2023-HSMO, paragraph 30-31)

6.4 Other matters

Additional species that would be amenable to the development of monitoring programmes and harvest strategies

Definitions of the quantitative terms that used for describing probabilities (WS2023-HSMO report, paragraph 38)

Development of generalised approaches for stock maintenance and rebuilding approaches (SC8 report, paragraph 179)

Updates to the timeline for the development of harvest strategies

Development of the agenda for the 2nd Joint MoP-SC Harvest Strategies Workshop

6.5 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

7 Stock assessments and advice

7.1 Orange roughy

Descriptive characterisation

Stock monitoring and data collection (including acoustics)

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee will consider the outputs of related projects SER2022-ORY1, ORY-2023-01 and -02.

Stock assessment

Updates to the fisheries summary

The Scientific Committee will consider any new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessments for orange roughy in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for this species.

7.2 Alfonsino

Descriptive characterisation

Stock monitoring and data collection (including acoustics)

The Scientific Committee will consider the outputs of related projects SER2022-BS1 and -BYS2.

Stock assessment

Updates to the fisheries summary

The Scientific Committee will consider any new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessments for alfonsino in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for this species.

7.3 Toothfish

Descriptive characterisation

Stock monitoring and data collection

The Scientific Committee will consider the outputs of related projects SER2022-TOP1 and -TOP2, TOT-2023-01.

Stock assessment

Updates to the fisheries summary

The Scientific Committee will consider any new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessments for toothfish in the SIOFA Area, including management arrangements for toothfish and update the fisheries summary report for this species.

7.4 Oilfish

Descriptive characterisation

Stock monitoring and data collection

Stock assessment

Updates to the fisheries summary

The Scientific Committee will consider any new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessments for oilfish in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary reports for these species.

7.5 Other species

Preliminary quantitative assessment of Portuguese Dogfish (MoP10, paragraph 105)

Other species

Updates to the fisheries summaries

The Scientific Committee will consider any new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessments for other species in the SIOFA Area and update the relevant fisheries summary reports for these species.

7.6 Advice to the MoP

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

8 Bycatch and incidental captures

8.1 Deepwater chondrichthyans

Review of progress against CMM 12(2023) (Sharks), including development of precautionary bycatch limits

The Scientific Committee will review progress against CMM 12(2023) (Sharks) including the outputs of projects DWS-2023-01 and DWS-2023-02.

8.2 Development of a SIOFA skate tagging programme

As requested by the MoP, the Scientific Committee will consider the development of a SIOFA skate tagging programme (MoP9 report, paragraph 107)

8.3 IOTC bycatch in the SIOFA Area

8.4 Seabirds, mammals, and bycatch of other species of concern

Report on observations of marine mammals interacting with fishing gear
Seabird mitigation measures and seabird data collection

The Scientific Committee will review the Secretariat report on the observations of seabirds interacting with fishing gear, and consider how seabird mitigation measures and seabird data collection (SC8 report, paragraph 268) may be further progressed.

8.5 Advice to MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

9 Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

9.1 Annual report of VME encounters

9.2 VME data and the setting VME of encounter thresholds

9.3 VME mapping project (PAE2021-02)

The Scientific Committee will consider the outputs of related project PAE2021-02.

9.4 Management options for preventing SAls on VMEs (MoP10 report, paragraph 137)

9.5 Options for recording of VME taxa by line or line segment (MoP10 report, paragraph 142)

9.6 Revisions of the list of VME taxa

The Scientific Committee will consider proposals on VME indicator taxa.

9.7 Advice to MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

10 Marine protected areas

10.1 Protocols to designate and evaluate MPAs

The Scientific Committee will consider the outputs of related project PAE2022-MPA1.

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

10.2 Advice to MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance, including protocols for designating new protected areas and methods for evaluating MPAs.

11 Data standards

11.1 Annual catch and effort data submission

The Secretariat will provide an update on information submitted by CCPs on catch and effort data.

11.2 Observer Harmonisation

Presentation of the report of the Workshop on Harmonisation of Scientific Observers
(WS2024-OBS)

Harmonisation of Scientific Observer programmes

The Scientific Committee will review the workshop report on the harmonisation of observer programmes and the related project SEC2022-OBS1, and consider how the projects may be progressed further.

11.3 E-monitoring

11.4 Lost gear reported under CMM 02(2023) Annex A

The Secretariat will provide an update on information submitted on lost gear against CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards) Annex A.

11.5 Proposals for revisions to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards)

Discussion of any proposals for revisions to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards).

11.6 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

12 SIOFA Performance Review

12.1 Recommendations

12.2 Advice to the MoP

Consideration of the recommendations of the MoP arising from the first SIOFA Performance Review (MoP10 report, paragraph 18-25).

13 Cooperation with external bodies

Updates and discussions on SIOFA's cooperation with external bodies.

13.1 FIRMS coordination and work

13.2 FAO ABNJ DSF activities

13.3 CCAMLR

13.4 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-03

SUBJECT: Revised Provisional Agenda of the 9th Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

14 Future work

14.1 Climate change

The SC will consider how to address climate issues in relation to its work.

14.2 Progress of EU funded science projects

The Secretariat will provide an update on information on SIOFA science projects.

14.3 Management and coordination of SIOFA science projects

The Secretariat will provide an update on information on SIOFA science projects.

14.4 Scientific Committee workplan and budget

The Scientific Committee will develop the Scientific Committee workplan and budget.

14.5 The 2025 meeting of the Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee will propose the dates for the 10th annual meeting of the Scientific Committee.

14.6 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.

15 Other business

15.1 Election of the Second vice-Chair of Scientific Committee

15.2 SIOFA Rules of Procedure and the Scientific Committee

The MoP recently revised the Rules of Procedure (Part V, Rule 10, 5 & 7) to require working papers to be submitted to the MoP and Compliance Committee 40 days in advance of the meeting (MoP10 report, paragraph 276 and Annex R). With these changes, the submission deadlines for Scientific Committee papers may no longer be clearly specified. The Scientific Committee will consider these and advise the MoP if changes are required.

15.3 Advice to the MoP

The Scientific Committee will advise the MoP on matters of relevance.