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Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement
Accord relatif aux Pêches dans le Sud de l'Océan Indien

Scientific Committee

La Réunion, Monday 19 August 2024

SC CIRCULAR n° 2024-12

SUBJECT: Update on Project ALF-2024-01 (Alfonsino age protocol development)

Dear Heads of Delegation of the Scientific Committee,

Dear Colleagues,

The Scientific Committee Project ALF-2024-01 (Alfonsino age protocol development) aims to hold a technical workshop for fish agers to develop a protocol for ageing sectioned otoliths of Alfonsino. This was provisionally scheduled for the end of the 2024 calendar year, to be hosted at the fish ageing lab at the South Pacific Community (SPC) in Noumea, New Caledonia.

Due to the ongoing social unrest in New Caledonia, it may not be possible to hold the technical workshop at SPC in 2024. However, depending on how events unfold, it may be possible in January or February 2025.

Given the planned timetable for future work on Alfonsino, this project would need to be completed before SC10. The project leads (Dr S. Brouwer and Dr T. Okuda) are currently considering new arrangements for the technical workshop which will now likely take place at the start of 2025. I will update you on the new arrangements when these have been determined

Sincerely yours,

Alistair Dunn

SIOFA Scientific Committee Chair