



La Réunion, Thursday 19 December 2024

## SIOFA SC-CIRCULAR n° 2024-21

**SUBJECT: Provisional Annotated Agenda of the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee**

Dear Heads of Delegation of the SIOFA Scientific Committee,

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to transmit to you the Provisional Annotated Agenda for the Tenth Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee (SC10), to be held at the marine station of the French Museum of Natural History, in Concarneau, France, from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2025.

The Provisional Annotated Agenda of SC10 is included as Annex of this Circular and is distributed in advance of the scheduled deadline (i.e., 60 days in advance of the meeting, in this case the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2024), for your convenience.

The deadline for comments on the SC10 Provisional Annotated Agenda, to be addressed to the SIOFA Secretariat (Science Officer, [marco.milardi@siofa.org](mailto:marco.milardi@siofa.org)), remains on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2024**, as originally scheduled.

I take this chance to remind you that more information regarding the meeting arrangements and venue were provided in SIOFA SC Circular 2024-18, and the meeting page on the SIOFA website at <https://siofa.org/meetings/SC10>

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](mailto:marco.milardi@siofa.org)), by these dates:

- Working papers - **Saturday, 15 February 2025**
- Information papers - **Monday, 3 March 2025**

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

Sincerely yours,

Thierry Clot

SIOFA Executive Secretary

# Provisional Annotated Agenda for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SIOFA Scientific Committee

**Marine Station of the National History Museum, Concarneau, France**

**Chair: Mr Alistair Dunn**

**Vice-Chairs: Dr Pavarot Noranarttragoon, Dr Zhou Fang**

## 1. Opening

- 1.1. Welcome from the Scientific Committee Chair
- 1.2. Introduction of participants
- 1.3. Opening statements
- 1.4. Introduction to the meeting facilities and meeting arrangements

*The SC Chair will open the meeting and welcome delegations of the SIOFA SC, 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
- 2.2. Confirmation of meeting documents
- 2.3. Appointment of rapporteurs
- 2.4. Scientific Committee meeting report arrangements

*The Provisional Agenda for the Tenth Meeting of the SC was prepared and distributed in accordance with Rules of Procedure.*

*The SC 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 SC10. The SC may also appoint additional rapporteurs 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. Delegates comments on the report text will be included. The final draft report will then be checked and signed off by the SC Chair, and then be made available to participants for report adoption.*

### 3. Fisheries Reports

#### 3.1. Annual National Reports 2025

#### 3.2. CCP annual National Fisheries Reports

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

#### 3.3. Guidelines for the submission of National Reports

*Review of the SIOFA Guidelines for submitting National Reports*

#### 3.4. Summary of SIOFA fisheries

#### 3.5. Overview of SIOFA fisheries 2025

#### 3.6. CCP fishery characterisations

#### 3.7. Ecosystem and Fisheries Summaries 2025

*Presentation of the Overview of SIOFA fisheries, Ecosystem Summary, and Fisheries Summaries for the species not covered in Agenda Item 7 (i.e., hapuka (*Polyprion spp.*, HAU), wreckfish (*Polyprion americanus*, WRF) and hapuku wreckfish (*Polyprion oxygeneios*, WHA), and common mora (*Mora moro*, RIB)).*

### 4. Data Standards, Access and Dissemination

#### 4.1. Annual catch and effort data submission

#### 4.2. 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.*

#### 4.3. Exchange of scientific toothfish data with CCAMLR

#### 4.4. Developments to the data section of the SIOFA website

#### 4.5. 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 data use and data requests.*

#### 4.6. Proposals for revisions to CMM 02(2023) (Data Standards)

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

### 5. SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment

#### 5.1. Review of the SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard

*SC-EXTRA2 recommended that SC10 review the SIOFA Bottom Fishing Impact Assessment Standard*

#### 5.2. Review of new BFIA

*The SC will review any new BFIA submitted by CCPs*

## 6. SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management (PAM)

### 6.1. Development of the Precautionary Approach Framework

*Project PAM-2024-01: Presentation of progress on the development of the SIOFA Precautionary Approach Framework including commentary from the PAM2024-01 expert reviewers*

### 6.2. Development of biological reference points

*Project PAM-2024-02: Presentation of progress on the development of the SIOFA Biological Reference Points including commentary from the PAM2024-02 expert reviewers*

### 6.3. Joint MoP-SC Workshop on the Development of Harvest Strategies (WS2024-HSS) and SC Workshop to progress the SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management Projects (WS2025-PAM)

*The SC Chair will present the report of the Joint MoP-SC Workshop on the Development of Harvest Strategies (WS2024-HSS) and recommendations from MoP10, as well as the convener report of the SC Workshop to progress the SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management Projects (WS2025-PAM)*

### 6.4. Development of harvest strategies for Orange Roughy and Toothfish

*Project PAM-2024-03: Presentation of progress on the development of SIOFA harvest strategies for ORY and TOT including commentary from the PAM2024-03 expert reviewers*

### 6.5. Other matters

*Other matters for the development of the SIOFA Precautionary Approach and Management (PAM) projects, including harvest strategies and future workshops, workplan, projects, and joint MOP-SC workshops.*

## 7. Stock assessments and advice

### 7.1. Orange roughy

#### 7.1.1. Descriptive characterisation

#### 7.1.2. Stock monitoring and data collection (including acoustics)

#### 7.1.3. Stock assessment

#### 7.1.4. Updates to the fisheries summary

*Project ORY-2023-01: Age and growth of orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) (final report).*

*Project ORY-2023-02: Orange roughy (*Hoplostethus atlanticus*) acoustics (final report).*

*Presentation of the report on the ORY stock assessment (Project ORY-2024-01). Consideration of new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessment of ORY in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for this species.*

### 7.2. Alfonsino

#### 7.2.1. Descriptive characterisation

#### 7.2.2. Stock monitoring and data collection (including acoustics)

#### 7.2.3. Stock assessment

#### 7.2.4. Updates to the fisheries summary

*Project ALF-2024-01: Presentation of the report of the Alfonsino Age protocol Development.*

*Consideration of new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessment of ALF in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for this species.*

### 7.3. Toothfish

- 7.3.1. Descriptive characterisation
- 7.3.2. Stock monitoring and data collection
- 7.3.3. Stock assessment
- 7.3.4. Updates to the fisheries summary

*Project SER2022-TOP2: Stock structure of Patagonian toothfish (*Dissostichus eleginoides*) (final report).*

*Project TOT-2024-02: Presentation of the report of the Evaluation of the toothfish monitoring program based on tagging. Consideration of new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessment of TOT in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for this species.*

### 7.4. Oilfish

- 7.4.1. Descriptive characterisation
- 7.4.2. Stock monitoring and data collection
- 7.4.3. Stock assessment
- 7.4.4. Updates to the fisheries summary

*Consideration of new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessment of oilfish in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for these species.*

### 7.5. Other species

- 7.5.1. Quantitative assessment of Portuguese Dogfish

*Project DWS-2024-01: Development of a formal quantitative assessment of Portuguese dogfish catch and determination of the level of sustainable catch (a continuation of DWS-2023-01).*

- 7.5.2. Lobster

*The SC will consider the recommendations from SC-EXTRA2 and provide advice on VME indicator species thresholds and potential long-term management frameworks for the fishery*

- 7.5.3. Other species
- 7.5.4. Updates to the fisheries summaries

*Consideration of new information on stock status, stock monitoring, and assessment of other species in the SIOFA Area and update the fisheries summary report for these species.*

## 8. Bycatch and incidental captures

- 8.1. Deepwater chondrichthyans
- 8.2. Review of progress against CMM 12(2024) (Sharks), including development of precautionary bycatch limits
- 8.3. Protocols and guidelines for mitigating impact of fishing gear

*Project DWS-2024-02: Development of protocols and guidelines for fishing gear to mitigate the ongoing impact of SIOFA fisheries on vulnerable deepwater sharks, including the definitions of leader and wire and other leader types for longline gear, and the application of move-on rules for demersal longline and trawl fisheries to protect vulnerable deepwater sharks.*

*Project DWS-2023-02: Identification and trends in Deepwater Sharks, on a census of deep-sea sharks caught during one trip of a benthic-pelagic factory trawler to Walters Shoal and the SWIO Ridge in early 2024.*

#### 8.4. Development of a SIOFA skate tagging programme

*Discussion on the development of the SIOFA skate tagging programme*

#### 8.5. IOTC bycatch

*The Secretariat will report on IOTC bycatch of SIOFA species in the SIOFA Area*

#### 8.6. Seabirds, mammals, and bycatch of other species of concern

##### 8.6.1. Observations of marine mammals interacting with fishing gear

*The Secretariat will report on observations of marine mammals interacting with fishing gear*

##### 8.6.2. Seabird mitigation measures

*Consideration of any proposals for seabird mitigation measures*

#### 8.7. Discards at sea

*The MoP has requested the SC providing advice on the extent of discarding in SIOFA and the impacts of restrictions on this practice*

### 9. Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

#### 9.1. Report of VME encounters

*The Secretariat will report on any notified VME encounters*

#### 9.2. VME data and the setting VME of encounter thresholds

*Consideration of proposals for recording VME data and the setting VME of encounter thresholds including whether to record of VME taxa by line or line segment*

#### 9.3. Revisions of the list of VME taxa and to the VME taxa ID guides

*Consideration of any proposals for the revision of the list of VME taxa and to the VME taxa ID guides*

#### 9.4. Register of SIOFA VME areas

*Consideration of the register of notified SIOFA VME areas*

#### 9.5. Management options for preventing SAIs on VMEs

*Consideration of any proposals for management options for preventing SAIs on VMEs*

### 10. Marine protected areas

#### 10.1. Monitoring protected areas

*Project PAE2022-MPA1: Protocols to designate and evaluate MPAs in the SIOFA Area (final report)*

#### 10.2. Protected area designation

*Conveners report from the Workshop on Report of the WS2024-PAD. MoP-11-29-Rev2 paper.*

## 11. New and Exploratory Fisheries and Research cruises

### 11.1. New and exploratory fisheries

*Consideration of any proposals for new and exploratory fisheries*

### 11.2. Research cruises

*Consideration of the Nansen research cruise sailing plan and any other proposals for new research cruises.*

*Reports from any research cruises undertaken in previous years*

## 12. Scientific Observers

### 12.1. Observer Harmonisation

*Project SEC2022-OBS1: Establish a framework for scientific observation of SIOFA fisheries (final report)*

*Presentation of the report of the Workshop on Scientific Observers forms (WS2024-OBS2)*

*Introduction to the FAO DSF workshop on SIOFA observer training*

### 12.2. E-monitoring

## 13. Climate change

### 13.1. Observed and projected impacts of climate change

*The SC will consider papers that report on projected impacts of climate change and the practices of other RFMOs*

### 13.2. Scientific advice on the potential implications of climate change

*The SC will consider advice on the potential implications of climate change on SIOFA fisheries*

### 13.3. Climate change projects

*The SC will consider proposal for projects that relate to climate change (MoP10 report, paragraph 159)*

## 14. Cooperation with external bodies

### 14.1. FIRMS coordination and work

*The Secretariat will report on the FIRMS project*

### 14.2. FAO ABNJ DSF activities

*The Secretariat will report on FAO ABNJ DSF activities*

### 14.3. CCAMLR

*The Secretariat will report on cooperation with CCAMLR*

## 15. Future work

### 15.1. Progress of EU funded science projects

*The Secretariat will report on progress of EU funded science projects*

#### 15.2. Management and coordination of SIOFA science projects

*The Secretariat will report on progress of SIOFA science projects*

#### 15.3. The SIOFA Performance Review

*Consideration of the SIOFA Performance Review*

##### Capacity building

*The Secretariat will report on options for facilitating and addressing the capacity building needs of CCP developing states*

#### 15.4. Implementation of Article 13 of the Agreement

*As requested by the MoP, the SC will have a standing agenda item on the implementation of Article 13 of the Agreement*

*The Secretariat will report on a paper that outlines the existing mechanisms to provide support to developing States and other relevant information relating to Article 13*

#### 15.5. Scientific Committee workplan and budget

*The SC will develop the SC workplan and budget.*

#### 15.6. The 2026 meeting of the Scientific Committee

*The SC will propose the dates for SC11.*

### 16. Other business

#### 16.1. Elections of the SC chairperson and vice-chairperson

*As the term of contract for the current SC Chair expires in June 2025, the SC will consider future Chairing arrangements and consider either electing a new Chair or proposing an extension to the current SC Chairs appointment. One of the Vice-Chairs first two-year term is coming to an end, and will need to be renewed for a further term or a new Vice-Chair needs to be elected.*