

Scientific Committee Draft Agenda 2019 and Workplan 2019-2020

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Below are the draft agenda for the 2019 annual Scientific Committee (SC) meeting and the draft workplan for the SC for 2019-2020. The agenda and workplan will need to change, perhaps considerably, due to the proposed cuts to the Research Fund and high costs for the 2019 SC meeting in Kenya (see IWC/67/FA21).

We **respectfully request** guidance from the Commission for setting SC priorities for the coming biennium that can be implemented within budget constraints.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE DRAFT AGENDA 2019

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- 1.1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks
- 1.2 Appointment of rapporteurs
- 1.3 Meeting procedures and time schedule
- 1.4 Establishment of sub-committees and Working Groups
- 1.5 Computing arrangements

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. REVIEW OF AVAILABLE DATA, DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

- 3.1 Documents submitted
- 3.2 National Progress Reports on research
- 3.3 Data collection, storage and manipulation

4. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

- 4.1 African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO)
- 4.2 Arctic Council
- 4.3 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- 4.4 Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)
- 4.5 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)
 - 4.5.1 Scientific Council
 - 4.5.2 Conference of Parties
 - 4.5.3 Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)
 - 4.5.4 Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
- 4.6 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
- 4.7 Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
- 4.8 Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
 - 4.8.1 Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP)
- 4.9 International Committee on Marine Mammal Protected Areas (ICMMPA)
- 4.10 International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
- 4.11 International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
- 4.12 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- 4.13 North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
- 4.14 North Pacific Marine Science Organisation (PICES)
- 4.15 Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) of the Cartagena Convention for the Wider Caribbean

5. GENERAL ASSESSMENT ISSUES WITH A FOCUS ON THOSE RELATED TO THE REVISED MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (RMP)

- 5.1 Evaluate the energetics-based model and the relationship between $MSYR_{1+}$ and $MSYR_{mat}$

- 5.2 Implications of *ISTs* for consideration of species' and populations' status
- 5.3 General consideration of how to evaluate the effect of special permit catches on stocks and levels of information needed to show improved management performance
- 5.4 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

6. RMP – *IMPLEMENTATION*-RELATED MATTERS (RMP)

- 6.1 Completion of the *Implementation Review* of western North Pacific Bryde's whales
- 6.2 *Implementation Review* of western North Pacific common minke whales

7. ABORIGINAL SUBSISTENCE WHALING (ASW)

- 7.1 Annual review of catch/strike limits
 - 7.1.1 Eastern Canada/West Greenland bowhead whales
 - 7.1.2 North Pacific gray whales
 - 7.1.3 Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bowhead whale
 - 7.1.4 Common minke whale stocks off East Greenland
 - 7.1.5 Common minke whale stocks off West Greenland
 - 7.1.6 Fin whales off West Greenland
 - 7.1.7 Humpback whales off West Greenland
 - 7.1.8 Humpback whales off St. Vincent and The Grenadines
- 7.2 *Implementation Reviews*
 - 7.2.1 Gray whale
- 7.3 *SLA* development for the Greenlandic hunts
 - 7.3.1 Common minke whales off East Greenland
 - 7.3.2 Multispecies
- 7.4 Updates on Aboriginal whaling management scheme
 - 7.4.1 Strike Limit Algorithms
 - 7.4.2 Operational rules
 - 7.4.2.1 Interim relief allowance testing
 - 7.4.2.2 Carryover provisions for all Greenland hunts
 - 7.4.3 Guidelines for *Implementation Reviews*
 - 7.4.4 Guidelines for data and analysis
- 7.5 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

8. WHALE STOCKS NOT SUBJECT TO DIRECTED TAKES

- 8.1 In-depth Assessments (IA)
 - 8.1.1 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific humpback whales
 - 8.1.2 In-depth Assessment of North Pacific sei whales
- 8.2 Evaluation for potential new In-Depth assessments
 - 8.2.1 North Pacific blue whales (NH)
 - 8.2.1.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.2.2 Non-Antarctic Southern Hemisphere blue whales (SH)
 - 8.2.2.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.2.2.2 Antarctic blue whales (Areas III and IV) (SH)
 - 8.2.2.3 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.2.3 Southern Hemisphere fin whales (SH)
 - 8.2.3.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.2.4 North Atlantic sei whales (NH)
 - 8.2.4.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.2.5 North Atlantic right whales (NH)
 - 8.2.5.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.2.6 North Pacific right whales (NH)
 - 8.2.6.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
- 8.3 New information and workplan for other northern stocks (*NH*)
 - 8.3.1 North Pacific fin whales
 - 8.3.2 Omura's whale
 - 8.3.3 North Atlantic Bryde's whales
 - 8.3.3.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 8.3.4 North Atlantic blue whales
 - 8.3.5 North Atlantic humpback whales
 - 8.3.6 North Atlantic bowhead whales not subject to aboriginal subsistence whaling

- 8.3.7 North Pacific bowhead whales not subject to aboriginal subsistence whaling
- 8.3.8 North Pacific sperm whales
- 8.3.9 Other stocks - Northern Indian Ocean sperm whales
- 8.4 New information and workplan for other Southern stocks (*SH*)
 - 8.4.1 Southern Hemisphere sei whales
 - 8.4.2 Southern Hemisphere humpback whales
 - 8.4.3 Southern Hemisphere right whales not the subject of CMPs
 - 8.4.4 Antarctic minke whales
 - 8.4.5 Dwarf minke whales
 - 8.4.6 Southern Hemisphere Bryde's whales
 - 8.4.7 Southern Hemisphere sperm whales

9. STOCKS THAT ARE OR HAVE BEEN SUGGESTED TO BE THE SUBJECT OF CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLANS (CMP)

- 9.1 Stocks with existing CMPs
 - 9.1.1 SE Pacific southern right whales
 - 9.1.1.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 9.1.2 SW Atlantic southern right whales
 - 9.1.2.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 9.1.3 North Pacific gray whales
 - 9.1.3.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 9.1.4 Franciscana
 - 9.1.4.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
- 9.2 Progress with identified priorities
 - 9.2.1 Humpback whales in the northern Indian Ocean including the Arabian Sea
 - 9.2.2 Mediterranean fin whales
 - 9.2.3 South American river dolphins

10. STOCK DEFINITION AND DNA TESTING

- 10.1 Advice on stock structure to other sub-groups
 - 10.1.1 North Pacific minke whale stock structure
- 10.2 DNA testing
 - 10.2.1 Genetic methods for species, stock and individual identification
 - 10.2.2 'Amendments' of sequences deposited in GenBank
 - 10.2.3 Collection and archiving of tissue samples from catches and bycatches and reference databases and standards for diagnostic DNA registries
- 10.3 Guidelines for DNA data quality and genetic analyses
 - 10.3.1 Update DNA quality guidelines to include Next Generation Sequencing data
- 10.4 New statistical and genetic issues concerning stock definition
 - 10.4.1 Simulation tools for spatial structuring (e.g. TOSSM)
 - 10.4.2 Terminology
 - 10.4.3 Close-kin mark-recapture
 - 10.4.4 Epigenetic ageing
- 10.5 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

11. CETACEAN ABUNDANCE ESTIMATES, STOCK STATUS

- 11.1 Summary of abundance estimates and update of IWC consolidated table
- 11.2 Methodological issues
 - 11.2.1 Model-based abundance estimates (and amendments to RMP guidelines)
 - 11.2.2 Review new survey techniques/equipment
- 11.3 Consideration of the status of stocks
- 11.4 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

12. BYCATCH AND ENTANGLEMENTS

- 12.1 Review new estimates of entanglement rates, risks and mortality (large whales)
- 12.2 Reporting of entanglements and bycatch in National progress reports
- 12.3 Mitigation measures for preventing large whale entanglement
- 12.4 Review proposal for global entanglement database
- 12.5 Estimation of rates of bycatch, risks of, and mortality for small cetaceans
- 12.6 Scientific aspects of mitigation measures for small cetaceans
 - 12.6.1 The IWC Bycatch Mitigation Initiative

- 12.6.2 Collaboration with FAO on bycatch related issues
- 12.6.3 Measures to mitigate bycatch of small cetaceans
- 12.7 New information on cetacean bycatch in the Western, Central and Northern Indian Ocean
- 12.8 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

13. SHIP STRIKES

- 13.1 Review estimates of rates of ship strikes, risk of ship strikes and mortality
 - 13.1.1 Review progress on ship strike database
- 13.2 Mitigation of ship strikes in high risk areas
 - 13.2.1 Review progress towards assessing and mitigating ship strikes in previously identified high risk areas
 - 13.2.2 Consideration of methods to identify 'high risk' areas
- 13.3 Co-operation with IMO Secretariat and relevant IMO committees
- 13.4 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

14. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

- 14.1 Pollution 2020 project
 - 14.1.1 Final report of the Pollution 2020 project
 - 14.1.2 Afterlife Pollution 2020 products
 - 14.1.3 Report on mercury in cetaceans
 - 14.1.4 Impact of heavy fuel oils on cetaceans
- 14.2 Diseases of concern
 - 14.2.1 Pathology and epidemiology of morbillivirus and Brucella
 - 14.2.2 Potential for understanding the cumulative effects of exposure to other immunosuppressive stressors in cetaceans
- 14.3 Cumulative impacts
- 14.4 Strandings and mortality events
 - 14.4.1 Update on the IWC Strandings Initiative
 - 14.4.2 New information on unusual mortality events
- 14.5 Noise
- 14.6 State of the Cetacean Environment Report - SOCER
- 14.7 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
- 14.8 Update on other standing topics
 - 14.8.1 Marine debris
 - 14.8.2 Climate change

15. ECOSYSTEM MODELLING

- 15.1 Cooperation with CCAMLR on multi-species modelling
- 15.2 Applications of species distribution models (SDMs) and ensemble averaging
 - 15.2.1 Review progress of guideline for SDMs
 - 15.2.2 Review progress of work on SDMs and ensemble modelling
- 15.3 Modelling of competition among whales
 - 15.3.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
- 15.4 Standing topics
 - 15.4.1 Effects of long-term environmental variability on whale populations
 - 15.4.1.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
 - 15.4.2 Review the information on krill distribution and abundance by NEWREP-A
 - 15.4.3 Ecosystem services
 - 15.4.3.1 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan

16. SMALL CETACEANS

- 16.1 Review of small cetaceans in African waters
- 16.2 Poorly documented hunts of small cetaceans for food, bait or cash and changing patterns of use
- 16.3 Small cetacean task team
- 16.4 Review direct takes and live captures of small cetaceans
- 16.5 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
- 16.6 Status of the voluntary fund for small cetacean conservation research

17. WHALE WATCHING

- 17.1 Assess the impacts of whale watching and swim-with-whale operations on cetaceans
 - 17.1.1 Review report of the workshop on Modelling and Assessment of Whale Watching

- Impacts (MAWI)
 - 17.1.2 Studies on assessing impacts
 - 17.1.3 Potential case-studies: status of whale watching in east Africa and wider Indian Ocean
- 17.2 Update on progress on activities related to the new Whale Watching Five-year strategic plan
- 17.3 Platform of opportunity data
- 17.4 Progress on previous recommendations and on the workplan
- 18. SPECIAL PERMITS
 - 18.1 NEWREP-A
 - 18.1.1 Report on ongoing research
 - 18.1.2 Update on previous recommendations
 - 18.2 NEWREP-NP
 - 18.2.1 Report on ongoing research
 - 18.2.2 Update on previous recommendations
- 19. WHALE SANCTUARIES
- 20. IWC LIST OF RECOGNISED SPECIES
- 21. IWC DATABASES AND CATALOGUES
 - 21.1 Guidelines for IWC catalogues and photo-ID databases (PH)
 - 21.2 Progress with existing or proposed new catalogues (PH)
 - 21.2.1 Integration of eastern South and Central Pacific blue, humpback and fin whale photo-catalogues
 - 21.2.2 Southern Hemisphere and Indian Ocean humpback whales catalogues
 - 21.2.2.1 Antarctic Humpback Whale Catalogue (AHWC)
 - 21.2.2.2 Arabian Sea Whale Network's Flukebook
 - 21.2.3 Southern Hemisphere Antarctic and pygmy blue whales: Catalogues and databases
 - 21.2.3.1 Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue (SHBWC)
 - 21.2.3.2 Antarctic Blue Whale Catalogue (ABWC)
 - 21.2.4 Southern Hemisphere fin whale photo catalogues
 - 21.3 Progress with existing IWC databases (PH)
 - 21.3.1 IWC databases
 - 21.3.2 National Progress Report database
 - 21.4 Potential future IWC databases
 - 21.4.1 Global database for disentanglement activities
 - 21.4.2 Global bycatch database
 - 21.4.3 Development of simple technical guidelines for new proposals
- 22. IWC MULTINATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND NATIONAL RESEARCH CRUISES THAT REQUIRE IWC ENDORSEMENT
 - 22.1 IWC-POWER
 - 22.2 Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP)
 - 22.3 National cruises that require IWC oversight
- 23. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT BIENNUM
 - 23.1 Status of funded research, workshop proposals, data processing and computing needs
 - 23.1.1 Funded proposals for the current biennium 2019-20
 - 23.1.2 Funded proposals in previous years still ongoing
 - 23.1.3 Report on funds reallocations and contingencies for the Research Fund, Voluntary Fund for Small Cetaceans and SORP Voluntary Fund
- 24. COMMITTEE PRIORITIES AND INITIAL AGENDA FOR 2020
- 25. WORKING METHODS OF THE COMMITTEE
 - 25.1 Updates on Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee and working methods
 - 25.2 Biennial reporting and related matters
 - 25.3 Succession plan for key Scientific Committee experts
 - 25.4 Update on Data Availability requests

25.5 Any other matters

26. PUBLICATIONS

27. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

28. ADOPTION OF REPORT

Topic	Intersessional 2018/19	Scientific Committee Workplan 2019-2020 2019 Annual Meeting (SC/68a)	Intersessional 2019/20	2020 Annual meeting
Revised Management Procedure				
<i>General assessments</i>				
Item 5.1: Conduct work to evaluate the energetics-based model and hence the relationship between MSYR1+ and MSYRmat	(a) Continue to assess whether it is possible to represent the trajectories from the IBEM using the emulator model (IG); (b) Compare the yield curves from the IBEM with those from the emulator model (IG); and (c) Develop guidelines for how to use an emulator model as the basis for a multi-stock, multi-area population dynamics model and how such a model could be conditioned given available data (IG).	Continue to work to evaluate the energetics-based model and hence the relationship between MSYR1+ and MSYRmat	Conduct follow-up analyses	Continue to work to evaluate the energetics-based model and hence the relationship between MSYR1+ and MSYRmat
Item 5.2: Implications of ISTs, for consideration of status	(a) Modify the control programs used for <i>Implementation Simulation Trials</i> to report the three measures of status (Allison) (b) Draft updates to the Guidelines for <i>Implementations</i> and <i>Implementation Reviews</i> to reflect decisions on evaluation status of stocks (Punt and Donovan)	Review the results of the projections Review the draft guidelines		
Item 5.3: levels of information needed to show improved management performance		Review progress implementing the suggested changes to the specifications of the model in SC/67b/RMP03 and any results.		
<i>Implementation Reviews</i>				
Item 6.1: Western North Pacific Bryde's whales	Finalise the projections and the application of the criteria for evaluating which RMP variants are acceptable, borderline, and unacceptable	Complete the <i>Implementation Review</i>		
Item 6.2: Western North Pacific minke whales	(a) conduct the First Intersessional Workshop; (b) code the resulting trials and condition the trials	Conduct the work required for the First Annual Meeting	Conduct the Second Intersessional Workshop	Conduct the work required for the Second Annual Meeting
Scientific aspects of the Aboriginal Whaling Scheme (former AWMP)				
(1) Annual review of catch/strike limits		Carry out		Carry out
(2) <i>Implementation Review</i>		Gray whales based upon rangewide review Consider development of an <i>SLA</i> for the hunt of common minke whales off East Greenland based on operational models developed for the West Greenland hunt		West Greenland humpback whales
(3) <i>SLAs</i>				Adopt <i>SLA</i> if it is decided one is necessary
(5) Interim relief allowance testing	Run trials for gray whale hunts	Review results	Run trials for West Greenland common minke whales and fin whales	Review results
(6) Carryover (US/Denmark request)	Run trials for remaining Greenland hunts (West Greenland common minke whales, bowhead whales and fin whales)	Review results		
In-depth Assessment (IA)				
In-depth Assessment of Indo-Pacific Antarctic minke whales	Complete review of paper submitted for publication	-	-	-
Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific sei whales	Re-establish the ISG (IG) to further data preparation and development of the assessment model	Review progress of intersessional work and continue the assessment	Finalise preparation of assessment	Review progress of intersessional work and finalise the assessment

Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific humpback whales	Re-establish the ISG (IG) to further data preparation, development of the assessment model and hold a Workshop	Review progress of intersessional work and continue the assessment	Finalise /continue preparation of assessment	Review progress of intersessional work and continue/finalise the assessment
Southern Hemisphere Whale Stocks (SH)				
<i>Antarctic blue whales</i>				
Catalogue matching	Catalogue matching of photo-IDs (IG)	Report	Catalogue matching (opportunistically collected photos)	Report
Abundance estimation	Mark recapture modelling work to update SC/67b/SH08 IG	Report		
Photo-ID outreach material	Create photo-ID information booklets for distribution via IAATO operators	Report		
<i>SH non-Antarctic blue whales</i>				
Population assessment	Improve catch separation model, explore alternative catch allocation models (IG)	Report	Population assessment. Analyse minimum and extrapolated recovery status of all populations for which abundance is available	Report
Catalogue matching	Catalogue matching of photo-IDs within southeast and central east Pacific (IG)	Report	Catalogue matching (opportunistic photos from citizen scientists and collaborators) if funds are available	Report
Blue whale song library	Finish implementation of blue whale song library (IG)	Report		
Australian abundance estimate	Analyse Perth Canyon abundance using mark recapture data (IG)	Report		
Fin whale acoustic structure	Review fin whale call patterns across Southern Hemisphere, investigate call variation (IG)	Report	Complete review of fin whale call patterns (IG)	Report
Discovery marks	Review available Discovery mark data on fin whales (Pastene and Jackson)	Report		
Catch maps	Update fin whale catch model to include Soviet catch data (de la Mare)	Report		
<i>SH humpback whale</i>				
Survey feasibility	Reanalyse pilot study to assess feasibility of future West Australia surveys (Kelly)	Receive report		
Northern Hemisphere Whale Stocks (NH)				
North Pacific blue whales	Data collection and review with focus on catches and stock structure	Review especially stock structure	Develop proposal for stock structure	Agree stock structure hypotheses
North Atlantic sei whales	Review distribution, strandings, sightings and stock structure	Review new information for assessment	Develop proposal for stock structure	Agree stock structure hypotheses
North Atlantic right whales		Review status and mortality data		Review status and mortality data
North Pacific right whales		Review new information for assessment		Review new information for assessment
North Atlantic humpback whales		Consider information for new assessment		Develop plans for new assessment
Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whale		Review new information on mortality		Review new information on mortality
All other stocks		Review new information		
Southern right whales	Examine southern right whale demographic parameters across multiple calving grounds using a common modelling framework	Review progress		Complete comparison
Southern right whales	Plan right whale catch series workshop	Progress update	Organise catch series workshop	Workshop report
Scientific aspects of Conservation Management Plans (CMP)				
Southeast Pacific right whales	.	Review progress with scientific aspects of the CMP		Review progress with scientific aspects of the CMP
Southwestern Atlantic right whales		Review progress with scientific aspects of		Review progress with scientific aspects of

Gray whales	Hold workshop on scientific aspects of CMP and use of modelling framework.	the CMP Review results and provide advice on scientific aspects of CMP	Stakeholder workshop	the CMP Review scientific aspects of results of stakeholder workshop
Franciscana		Pre-assessment for in-depth review		Continue pre-assessment and develop plan for in-depth assessment
Humpback whales in Northern Indian Ocean	Intersessional email group (IG) on abundance estimates	Review new information and progress towards CMP		Review new information and progress towards CMP
Mediterranean fin whales	Develop outline draft	Review draft and progress towards CMP		Review progress towards CMP
South American river dolphins		Review new information and progress towards CMP		Review new information and progress towards CMP
Stock Definition and DNA techniques (SD&DNA)				
3.1 DNA quality guidelines	Intersessional group (IG) to review recent revisions to the DNA quality guidelines that pertain to data produced using NGS approaches.	Report and finalise updated guidelines		
4.4.2 Recommendations to avoid sample depletion	Intersessional email group to provide recommendations on genomic approaches to maximize the utility of tissue samples that are in danger of becoming depleted in the future.	Report and provide advice		
4.5 North Pacific minke whale stock structure	Perform genetic analyses detailed in Appendix 5; report results at intersessional workshop on the North Pacific minke whale IR.	Review results and provide advice		
5.1 Simulations	Intersessional email group to review software packages and evaluate utility to the Committee.	Report	Continue as needed	Report (if needed)
5.3 Terminology	Intersessional email group to continue discussions of the use of stock structure-related terms within the Committee.	Report	Continue as needed	Report (if needed)
ASI				
Review of Abundance Estimates	Review estimates identified at SC67B (New Zealand Blue Whales, Arabian Sea humpback whales) – IG	Review intersessional progress and estimates available at SC68A	Review estimates identified at SC68A	Review intersessional progress and estimates available at SC68A
Upload the estimates accepted at the annual meeting to the IWC website and continue to update the IWC Abundance Table	Update the table with estimates accepted at SC67B (IG)		Update the table with estimates accepted at SC67B	
Review and provide advice on plans for future surveys		Receive, review and provide feedback to research plans to conduct abundance estimates		Receive, review and provide feedback to research plans to conduct abundance estimates
Pre-meeting to consider: (a) validation of non-standard software and methods, (b) estimates of abundance computed from population models and (c) Status of populations	Meeting Preparation	Review of progress		
Amend the RMP Guidelines to consider abundance estimates computed with model-based methods.	Identify a candidate to update the RMP Guidelines (IG)	Review an updated document of the Guidelines		
Develop simulation software to evaluate methods for abundance estimates		Review Progress		
Human-induced mortality (HIM)				

IWC/67/FA23
F&A Agenda item 8.2.3
BSC Agenda item 5.2

Bycatch Mitigation Initiative		Review aspects relevant to Committee and respond to requests for advice		Review aspects relevant to Committee and respond to requests for advice
Rates and risks		Review new estimates of entanglement rates, risks and mortality		Review new estimates of entanglement rates, risks and mortality
Mitigation		Review new information on mitigation		
Inferences from strandings	Consider new information and issues that need to be addressed at SC68a	Review new information		
Rapid risk assessment		Consideration of 'rapid risk assessment' tools and outputs		
Electronic monitoring		Consideration of remote electronic monitoring and vessel tracking		
Mitigation measures tables		Develop table of mitigation measures for small cetaceans and update table for large whales from 2017 if needed.		
Global disentanglement database	Discussion at GWERN workshop	Review Progress	Advance database development if considered feasible	Review Progress
Collaboration with FAO	Secretariat attend COFI meeting	Review FAO outputs on bycatch	Continue collaboration	Continue to review
Encouraging innovative research on mitigation	BMI through existing networks, at conferences, workshops and with students – all members of Committee with relevant expertise	Review progress		
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Rates and risks		Review estimates of rates of ship strikes, risk of ship strikes and mortality		Review estimates of rates of ship strikes, risk of ship strikes and mortality
Mitigation		Review new information on mitigation		
Advice on routing measures related to ship strike risk	Provide advice as required (IG)	Review advice	Provide advice as required (IG)	Review advice
Follow up on previous contacts offering IWC assistance regarding high risk areas	Secretariat to contact Sri Lankan and Greek authorities	Review progress on identified high risk areas in IWC Ship Strike Strategic Plan		
Continued co-operation with IMO	Secretariat to maintain dialogue with IMO Secretariat. Attend relevant IMO meetings. Continue ongoing data entry into Ship Strike Database and validation of records	Review cooperation		
Ship strike database	Secretariat to develop MOU with Marine Traffic for provision of data	Review progress against specific deliverables and time line	Continue ongoing data entry into Ship Strike Database and validation of records	Review progress against specific deliverables and time line
Provision of AIS data	Hold workshop to evaluate how the data and process used to identify IMMAs can assist the IWC to identify areas of high risk for ship strikes.	Consider best way to handle requests for data through the MOU		
Use of IMMAs to identify high risk areas for ship strikes		Review workshop report		
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Environmental Concerns (E)				
Pollution 2020 (including oil spills)		If new information		Primary topic (including oil spills and mercury), summary report to Commission
Cetacean diseases of concern (incl. HAB toxins)		Primary topic		Primary topic
Strandings		If new information		Primary topic
Noise				Noise focus session
Marine litter		Pre-meeting on litter and plastics focus session		If new information
Cumulative impacts		If new information		If new information
Emerging issues		If new information		If new information
SOCER		Receive report		Receive report
Climate change		Over-arching topic		Over-arching topic
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Ecosystem Modelling (EM)				
(1) Ecosystem modelling in the Antarctic	Continue further analyses.	Review results of further analyses	Continue further analyses.	Review results of further analyses

Ocean				
(2) Application of species distribution models (SDMs)	Intersessional group activity (IG)	Review progress		
(3) Effect of long-term environmental variability on whale populations	Continue further analyses. Intersessional group activity (IG)	Review results of further analyses. Review progress	Continue further analyses	Review results of further analyses
(4) Further investigation of individual-based energetic models	Continue further analyses	Review results of further analyses	Continue further analyses	Review results of further analyses
(5) Modelling of competition among whales	Continue further analyses	Review results of further analyses	Continue further analyses	Review results of further analyses
(6) Update of any exercises on krill distribution and abundance	Conduct NEWREP-A krill survey and an international cooperative krill survey. Conduct simulation analyses to resolve issues on survey design.	Review results of survey and analyses.	Conduct NEWREP-A krill survey. Conduct analysis of data taken by the international survey.	Review results of survey and analyses.
(7) Cetaceans & Ecosystem Functioning: a gap analysis workshop or pre-meeting	Review relevant scientific studies before the workshop in addition to preparation of workshop (IG).	Review outcomes of workshop and develop clear work plans with priorities.	Continue analyses	Review results of analyses.
Small Cetaceans (SM)				
Franciscana CMP	ICG (IG) to co-ordinate outcomes of CMP across sub-committees	Report	ICG (IG) to synthesis actions from 2019 SC report and develop a work plan	Report
Wildmeat	ICG (IG) to plan and conduct African Workshop.	Report	ICG (IG) group to summarise workshop series and develop future work plan.	Report
Small Cetacean Task Team	Intersessional Workshop on South Asian river dolphins.	Report	Act on recommendations from 2018/19 River dolphin workshop.	Report
Sotalia	SG (IG) to plan and conduct workshop #1 (at SOLOMAC)	Report	SG (IG) to plan and conduct workshop #2	Report
Whale Watching (WW)				
Assessing impacts	-	Papers to be presented	-	Papers to be presented
Third MAWI workshop	Workshop planning	Receive update on planning	Workshop (IG)	Report
Update IWC whale watching guidelines and principles	Revise guidelines and principles	Review	Continue if needed	Receive update
Indian Ocean review	ICG (IG)	Papers to be presented	-	-
East Africa review	Work to prepare review	Paper to be presented	-	-
Intersessional correspondence groups	See IG	Receive reports	See IG	Receive reports
Joint meeting with Conservation Committee Standing Working Group on Whale Watching (SWG) to discuss incorporation of social science in joint work streams	Meeting planning	Receive update	Meeting planning	Joint meeting with SWG
IWC Whale Watching Handbook	-	Receive updates	-	Receive updates
Appendices for IWC Guidelines for Photo-identification	Continue compilation	Appendices ready for review	Continue compilation	Appendices ready for review
Upload all available New Zealand blue whale identification photographs to SHBWC (also pertains to Annex H item 7.1.1)	Cross-reference between separate area catalogue holdings before uploading to SHBWC avoid duplication; intersessional correspondence group (IG)	Included in SHBWC report	-	-
Development of how-to photo-ID materials for naturalists and citizen scientists (also pertains to Annex H item 7.1.1.2)	Prepare hard copy and PPT photo-ID guides	Guide completed and available (pending funding)		
4) Search for missing SOWER photographs, especially fin whale photos from 2006/2007	Search Secretariat archives and contact SOWER researchers for personal copies of photos	Report		

SORP				
Analyses	Continued analysis of data/samples from previous IWC-SORP voyages/fieldwork	Report	Continued analysis of data/samples from previous IWC-SORP voyages/fieldwork	Report
Voyages	Argentine coastguard 'Tango' voyage along Western Antarctic Pensinsula (early 2019)	Cruise report		
	<i>Almirante Maximiano</i> voyage along Western Antarctic Pensinsula (early 2019)	Cruise report		
	Australian-led <i>RV Investigator</i> voyage to Ross Sea (early 2019)	Cruise report		
	New Zealand-led <i>RV Tangaroa</i> voyage to Ross Sea (early 2019)	Cruise report		
Ships of opportunity	German-led <i>RV Polarstern</i> voyage to Scotia Sea (early 2019)	Cruise report		
	Baleen whale and krill research voyages along Western Antarctic Peninsula	Reports	Baleen whale and krill research voyages along Western Antarctic Peninsula	Reports
Acoustics	Continued use of ships of opportunity to conduct cetacean research	Reports	Continued use of ships of opportunity to conduct cetacean research	Reports
	Retrieval and redeployment of passive acoustic recorders	Report	Retrieval and redeployment of passive acoustic recorders	Report
	Completion of annotated library of acoustic detections	Report		
IWC-POWER				
IWC-POWER Cruise	Conduct 2018 survey and planning meeting for the 2019 Cruise (Bering Sea)	Review cruise report, report from the planning meeting and new abundance estimates from IWC-POWER cruises.	Conduct 2019 survey and planning meeting for the 2020 Cruise	Review cruise report, report from the planning meeting and new abundance estimates from IWC-POWER cruises.

IWC/67/FA23

F&A Agenda item 8.2.3

BSC Agenda item 5.2