Annex K

Intersessional E-mail Groups

This list contains the intersessional groups identified at SC68B. It has been divided into the following group types:

- (1) Steering Groups (SG): these are groups that have been set up to ensure that particular meetings, workshops or identified pieces of work are completed by SC/68B. They have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the Committee within the context of their terms of reference (e.g. meeting budget spends, participants, agreements on parameters for analyses). Numbers are limited and members agreed at the meeting although the Convenor may request additional members or respond to late requests to be members. The expected outcomes will be either a workshop/meeting report or an analytical paper.
- (2) Intersessional Correspondence Groups (ICG): these are groups that have been set up to ensure progress on particular topics within the intersessional period. Membership is more flexible and open. It is expected that a written report on progress will be submitted to the Committee at SC68B.
- (3) Advisory Groups (AG): these are occasional groups established by the Committee to provide scientific and technical issues on specific issues if requested by a Contracting Government.

SC Agenda Item Sub-Committee	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
Item 8.1. IA	SG-1	North Pacific humpback whales	Further the preparations for the North Pacific humpback whale Comprehensive Assessment, including organize an intersessional meeting.	Clapham (Convenor), Baker, Calambokidis, Cheeseman, Donovan, Katsumata, Kitakado, Ivashchenko, Matsuoka, Mizroch, Palka, Punt, Urbán, Wade, Weinrich, Yoshida, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>nphumpack@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 8.1.2 IA	SG -2	North Pacific sei whales	Continue progress on developing the North Pacific sei whale Comprehensive Assessment.	Cooke (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, Kitakado, Matsuoka, Mizroch, Palka, Punt, Walløe, Yoshida. E-mail: <i>npsei@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 8.1.3 IA	SG-3	WNP common minke whales	Further the preparations for the western North Pacific common minke whales In-depth Assessment, including organize an intersessional meeting.	Donovan, (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, de Moor, Hakamada, Kishiro, Kitakado, Palka, Punt, Tiedeman, Walløe, Wilberg. E-mail: wnpminke@groups.iwc.int
Item 8.1.4 IA	ICG-4	NA humpback whales	Identify and evaluate data available for a potential future assessment of North Atlantic humpback whales.	Robbins (Convenor), J. Allen, Allison, Cholewiak, Clapham, Donovan, Jones, Lang, Mallette, Mattila, Øien, Palka, Palsbøll, Punt, Rosenbaum, Tiedemann, Weinrich, Wilberg, Witting. E-mail: <i>nahmpback@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 8.2.4 NH	ICG-5	NP blue whales	Locate and/or analyse data on abundance, catches and stock structure to prepare for a future assessment.	Branch (Convenor), Allison, Brownell, Clapham, Ivashchenko, Matsuoka, Mizroch, Monnahan, Olson, Palacios, Širović, Sremba. E-mail: <i>npbwa@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 8.2.5 NH	ICG-6	NA sei whales	Continue to identify and evaluate data on distribution, abundance, stock structure and catches, with a particular focus on the western North Atlantic.	Cholewiak (Convenor), Allison, Breiwick, Brownell, Mallette, Mizroch, Palka, Robbins, Víkingsson, Weinrich. E-mail: <i>nasei@groups.iwc.int</i>

SC AGENDA ITEM SUB-COMMITTEE	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
ltem 15.1 E	SG-7	Pollution	Planning activities and work priorities for Pollution 2025 (SC68C).	Holm (Convenor), Cholewiak, Domit, Donovan, Fernandez, Kershaw, Plön, Rowles, Simmonds, Staniland, S. Smith, Stimmelmayr, Stockin, Schwacke, Tulloch. E-mail: <i>pollution@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 15.2 E	SG-8	Diseases of concern	Planning focus session for 2021 (SC68C).	Stimmelmayr (Convenor), Fernández, M. Grigg, Gulland, G. Hernandez, Kershaw, Mazzariol, Rowles, Sacristan, Sierra Pulpillo, S. Smith. E-mail: diseasesofconcern@groups.iwc.int
ltem 15.4 E	ICG-9	Noise	Advance underwater noise topics of interest, including collaboration with the Conservation Committee and consideration of IMO MEPC outcomes on noise.	Cholewiak, Leaper (Convenors), Burkhardt, Cerchio, Genov, Lundquist, Reyes, Ritter, Rosenbaum, Simmonds, Širović, Smith, Sutaria, Torres, Webster, Williams. E-mail: <i>noiseicg@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 15.5.1 E	ICG-10	Marine debris	Follow up on the recommendations from the WS and monitor the issue.	Simmonds (Convenor), Baulch, Donovan, Eisfeld, Fossi, Genov, Holm, Long, Marcondes, Mattila, Nunny, Pierantonio, Rowles, S. Smith, Sutaria, Svoboda, Tulloch, Williams. E-mail: marinedebris@groups.iwc.int
ltem 15.5.2 E	SG-11	Climate change	Planning workshop on climate change 2020/21.	Simmonds (Convenor), Donovan, Frey, Holm, Kitakado, Leaper, Nunny, Palka, Stachowitsch, Staniland, S. Smith, Trujillo, Webster. E-mail: <i>climatechange@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 15.2 EM	ICG-12	Best practices for multi-species distribution modelling (MSDM)	(1) to finalize the guidelines for single species distribution models (SDMs); (2) to conduct a literature review of multi-species distribution models (MSDMs); and (3) to develop possible simulation platforms to evaluate these models.	Kitakado (Convenor), Biuw, Burkhardt, Friedlaender, Genov, Herr, Kelly, McKinlay, Miller, Murase, New, Palacios, Palka. E-mail: <i>msdm@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 15.3 EM	ICG-13	Development of individual-based energetics models (IBEMs)	(1) to further develop individual- based energetics models (IBEMs), inter alia for progressing the emulator model to use in RMP trial specifications; (2) to discuss new strategies for model development that utilize new data; and (3) to infer functional responses using an IBEM for rorqual foraging dives.	Friedlaender (Convenor), Biuw, Cooke, de la Mare, Donovan, Kitakado, Palacios, Palka. E-mail: <i>ibems@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 15.4.1 EM	ICG-14	Effect of long-term environmental variability on whale populations	Compile a literature review on the subject of how environmental variability may affect whale populations.	Cooke (Convenor), Butterworth, de la Mare, Friedlaender, Kitakado, Palacios, Tulloch. E-mail: <i>eltevwp@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 15.1.1	SG-15	Cetacean and ecosystem functioning: a gap analysis workshop	Prepare a Workshop under a Steering Group.	Ritter (Convenor), Biuw, Butterworth, Cavanagh, Donovan, Frisch, Ferris, Galletti, Haug, Kitakado, McKinlay, Punt, Roman, Smith, Suydam. E-mail: <i>cefgapanawksp@groups.iwc.int</i>

SC Agenda Item Sub-Committee	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
ltem 17.1.2 WW	SG-16	Modelling and Assessment of Whale Watching Impacts (MAWI) Steering Group	Planning for the questionnaire and potential workshop.	New (Convenor), Baldwin, Cook, Cosentino, Currie, Forestell, Frey, Jiménez-Assmus, Leaper, Minton, Noren, Parsons, Reyes, Robbins, Rose, C. Smith, S. Smith, Vermeulen, Weinrich. E-mail: <i>modassmawi@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 17.1 WW	ICG-17	Human-induced behavioural changes of concern	Continue to monitor the relevant literature; seek to produce a new review of information for the Committee across the whole range of interactions; review the appropriate terminology; and continue to consider the relevance of this topic to the work of the sub-committee, including how this topic might best be studied in future.	Simmonds (Convenor), Cosentino, Currie, Fonseca, Forestell, Minton, Parsons, Vail, Wells. E-mail: <i>hibcc@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 17.1 WW	AG-18	Communication with the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Advisory Group	Help provide advice to IORA when appropriate; facilitate communication between IORA and the sub-committee; and consider ways to promote appropriate training workshops.	Smith, S. (Convenor), Baldwin, Iñíguez, New, Parsons, Simmonds, C. Smith, Weinrich. E-mail: <i>commiora@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 18 WW	ICG-19	Timor-Leste whale watching	Address the outcomes of the scheduled meeting in 2021 between the Government of Timor-Leste and Committee members and to draft comments on the Timor-Leste draft guidelines for whale watching.	New and Porter (co-Convenors), Noren, Parsons, Rose, Ritter. E-mail: <i>timorlesteww@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 18.3.2 WW	ICG-20	River dolphin interactions	Monitor, assess and report on commercial interactions, including watching, provisioning and swimming, with river dolphins, in the Amazon and elsewhere.	Trujillo (Convenor), Luna, Marmontel, Parsons, Porter, Rojas-Bracho. E-mail: <i>riverdolphnint@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 11 ASI	SG -21	Abundance Steering Group	 (1) Coordinate the intersessional review of abundance estimates by the ASI SWG. (2) Appoint expert small group to conduct review of abundance estimates required for next year's meeting. 	Zerbini (Convenor), Allison, Donovan, Givens, Jackson, Kitakado, Palka, Robbins, Staniland, Suydam, Walløe. E-mail: <i>reviewofae@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 11.1.4 ASI	SG-22	Franciscana abundance review group	 (1) Coordinate the intersessional review of franciscana abundance estimates. (2) Produce a report of the review for presentation next year. 	Zerbini (Convenor), Andriolo, Cañadas, Cremer, Crespo, Danilewicz, Domit, Doniol-Valcroze, Donovan, Ferguson, Fortuna, Herr, Miller, Sucunza, Palka. E-mail: <i>franciscanaarg@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 11.3 ASI	SG-23	Amendment of RMP Guidelines	Develop a set of specific instructions for the amendment of the RMP guidelines to consider model-based abundance estimates.	Fortuna (Convenor), Butterworth, Cooke, Donovan, Herr, Kelly, Kitakado, Miller, Palka, Punt, Staniland, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>rmpguidelines@groups.iwc.int</i>

SC AGENDA ITEM SUB-COMMITTEE	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
ltem 11.4 ASI	SG-24	Advice on Status of Stocks	Use the existing guidelines for the provision of advice to the Commission on status of stocks to develop a draft report for review by the Committee at SC68C for the species/regions identified.	Donovan (Convenor), Allison, Branch, Brownell, Butterworth, Cooke, Givens, Jackson, Palka, Porter, Punt, Staniland, Suydam, Trujillo, Walløe, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>status@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 11.6 ASI	ICG-25	NP minke abundance	 Review the applicability of the accepted g(0) estimate to other cruises. Try to develop robust estimates for use in the in-depth assessments and/or to provide management advice and/or to provide broader estimates for the public. 	Kitakado (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, Donovan, Hakamada, Kelly, Matsuoka, Miyashita, Palka, Punt. E-mail: <i>npminkeabun@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 9.1 SM/CMP	ICG-26	Franciscana CMP	Co-ordinate presentation of CMP projects across sub-committees.	Iñíguez (Convenor), Brito-Junior Santos, Cremer, Crespo, Cunha, Di Tullio, Domit, Macondes, Ott, Pasadore, Secchi, Siciliano, Torres-Florez, Trujillo, Zerbini. E-mail: franciscana@groups.iwc.int
Item 16 SM	ICG-27	Poorly documented takes of small cetaceans	Develop a draft 'toolbox' of investigative techniques to assist in documenting more clearly takes of small cetaceans; and organise a workshop comprising a multi- disciplinary group of biologists, social scientists, managers and NGOs with a global scope. Increase formal liaison with other MEA.	Porter (Convenor), Baker, Brownell, Collins, Cosentino, Donovan, Fortuna, Frey, Ingram, Jiménez, Parsons, R. Reeves, Simmonds, Trujillo. E-mail: <i>pdtsc@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 16 SM	AG-28	Small Cetacean Task Team	Assist the Scientific Committee in providing timely and effective advice on situations where a population of cetaceans is or suspected to be in danger of a significant decline that may eventually lead to its extinction; the ultimate aim being to ensure that extinction does not occur.	Simmonds (Convenor), Genov, Porter, R. Reeves, Rojas-Bracho, Staniland, Thomas, Tarzia, Trujillo. E-mail: <i>smallcetaceantaskteam@</i> <i>groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 16 SM	ICG-29	Sotalia guianensis	Continue to compile relevant information on <i>Sotalia guianensis</i> to provide an action plan and recommendations to the Scientific Committee.	Domit (Convenor), Caballero, Porter, Torres-Florez, Trujillo, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>sotaliaworkshop@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 16 SM	ICG-30	Africa-Focused Sousa Task Team	To identify and study, as a matter of urgency, high priority areas and populations of Sousa in Africa and start working towards developing a comprehensive framework of conservation actions.	No Convenor identified Andrianarivelo, Atkins, Ayissi, Bamy, Berggren, Bilal, Bjorne, Braulik, Cerchio, Cockroft, Collins, Debrah, Dossou- Bodjrenou, Dulau, Fogwan Nguedia, Hodgins, Keith-Diagne, Kema, Leeney, Minton, Mwangombe, Ndong, Perez, Plön, Porter, Segniagbeto, Sohou, Spilsbury, Takoukam, Tarzia, Tchibozo, Trujillo, Van Waerebeek, Vermeulen, Weir. E-mail: Sousa_tt@groups.iwc.int

SC Agenda Item Sub-Committee	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
ltem 16 SM	ICG-31	Asian River Dolphin Task Team	To assess emerging issues from across the range of the genus Platanista with a view to providing timely advice to the Task Team Steering Group.	Kelkar, Sutaria (co-Convenors), Alom, Arshad, Braulik, Paudel, Thakuri, Tarzia. E-mail: <i>Asianriverdoltt@groups.iwn.int</i>
ltem 16 SM/CMP	ICG-32	South American River Dolphins	Examine the scientific aspects of the proposed CMP for South American river dolphins.	Brownell. E-mail: <i>sarivdol@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 16 SM	ICG-33	SM Review of Recommend- ations	Develop a strategy to review the past recommendations of the SM Sub- Committee so that they are current relevant and prioritised and conform to the new SC recommendation format.	Porter (Convenor), Di Tullio, Jiménez, Scheidat, Simmonds, Suydam, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>smrevrec@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 16 SM	ICG-34	Lahille's Dolphin Task Team	 (1) Coordinate regional efforts; (2) work cooperatively with fishing communities and fisheries authorities to reduce bycatch; and; (3) explore possible synergies with the Franciscana CMP. 	Fruet (Convenor), Tarzia. E-mail: <i>lahilles@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 10.2 SD&DNA	ICG-35	DNA quality	Review recent revisions in sections of the DNA quality guidelines that pertain to data produced using NGS approaches.	Tiedemann (Convenor), Archer, Baird, Baker, Bickham, Carroll, DeWoody, Hoelzel, Goto, Jackson, Lang, Palsbøll, Pampoulie, Solvang, Taguchi, Waples. E-mail: <i>dnaquality@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 10.3 SD&DNA	ICG-36	Sample depletion	Discuss and provide recommendation on genomic approaches to maximise the utility of tissue samples, particularly those in danger of depletion.	Lang (Convenor), Archer, Baker, Bickham, Buss, Carroll, Hoelzel, Goto, Jackson, Morin, Palsbøll, Robertson, Sremba, Taguchi, Tiedemann, Torres-Florez. E-mail: <i>sampledepletion@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 10 SD&DNA	ICG-37	Gray whale population structure	To clarify the terminology used to describe the gray whale stock structure hypotheses; and to re-evaluate the plausibility of the hypotheses, including consideration of adding new variants if needed, to inform the Range-wide Review of the Status and Population Structure of gray whales.	Lang (Convenor), Bickham, Donovan, Hoelzel, Goto, Pampoulie, Punt, Scordino, Tiedemann, Weller. E-mail: graypopstruct@groups.iwc.int
ltem 10 SD&DNA/SM	ICG-38	Franciscana population structure	Summarize the data available from other (i.e., non-genetic) lines of evidence that could be used to infer population structure; evaluate the level of support for each of the proposed subdivisions based on this combined data and provide advice on future work (additional analyses, sample collection efforts) to address remaining questions.	Lang and Ott (Co-Convenors), Andriolo, Cipriano, Cunha, Farro, Gariboldi, Hoelzel, Mendez, Pampoulie, Oliveira, Passadore, Secchi, Tiedemann, Torres- Florez, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>franciscanapopstruct@groups.</i> <i>iwc.int</i>
Item 10 SD&DNA/SM	ICG-39	Sotalia guianensis population structure	Review genetic and other evidence relating to population structure in <i>Sotalia guianensis</i> ; provide advice on the proposed management unit delineations.	Lang and Caballero (Co-Convenors), Archer, Baker, Briceño, Cipriano, Cunha, Domit, Fruet, Natoli, Tiedemann, Torres-Florez, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>sotaliapopstruct@groups.iwc.int</i>

SC Agenda Item Sub-Committee	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
ltem 6.2 SD&DNA	ICG-40	Terminology	Revisit the definitions that were previously put forward for stock- related terms at IWC 2014, particularly those related to large whale assessments, and revise them where necessary.	Tiedemann (Convenor), Baird, Bickham, Carroll, Cipriano, Hoelzel, Lang, Scordino. E-mail: <i>terminology@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 8.2.1.6 SH	ICG-41	SH mark recapture	Advise on construction and analysis of southeast Pacific, southeast Indian Ocean and southwest Pacific mark recapture datasets, including timespan, regions to include, and modelling framework.	Jackson (lead), Barlow, Butterworth, Cooke, Double, Findaly, Galletti, Gill, Jenner, Möller, Olson, Salgado-Kent, Torres-Florez, Weinrich, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>shmarkre@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 8.2.2.1 SH	ICG-42	Antarctic blue whale song	Low- and mid-latitude analysis of Antarctic blue whale song to establish any differences between wintering grounds.	Buchan (lead), Barlow, Branch, Cerchio, McCauley, Miller, Samaran, Shabangu, Širović, Stafford, Torres. E-mail: antbluesong@groups.iwc.int
Item 8.2.3.4 SH	ICG-43	Southern right whale calls	Assess what southern right whale call data exists offshore and at high latitudes (including both IMOS and SOHN data), and consider an appropriate analysis framework for using these data to assess southern right whale offshore distribution.	Širović (lead), Burkhardt, Calderan, Carroll, Charlton, Findlay, Friedlaender, Leaper, McCauley, Miller, Reyes Reyes, Vermeulen, Ward, Webster. E-mail: <i>srightcalls@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 8.2.3.5 SH	ICG-44	Southern right whale modelling	Progress towards development of a common population modelling framework for Southern right whale calving grounds, to assess common: (1) population dynamics patterns; and (2) environmental drivers.	Charlton (Convenor), Agrelo, Brandão, Butterworth, Carroll, Cooke, Double, Groch, Leaper, Rayment, Ross-Gillespie, Rowntree, Seyboth, Sironi, van den Berg, Vermeulen, Watson. E-mail: <i>sright@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 8.2.3.5 SH	ICG-45	Southern right whale condition	Develop a global, standardized southern right whale body condition and visual health assessment protocol for IWC endorsement.	Christiansen, Vermeulen (co- Convenors), Charlton, Findlay, Leslie, Minton, Moore. E-mail: srightcond@groups.iwc.int
Item 8.2.3.5 SH	ICG-46	Southern right whale catch data	Assess if there is any unpublished regional catch data for southern right whales held in Best, Bannister and Dawbin archives in South Africa and Australia respectively. Compile new SRW catch series and update regional catch estimates.	Jackson (Convenor), Allison, Carroll, Charlton, Double, Findlay, Kemper, Paton, Vermeulen, Zerbini. E-mail: <i>srightdata@groups.iwc.int</i>
Item 12 HIM	ICG-47	BMIS review	To assist Tarzia and the Expert Panel in addressing the requested review by BMIS including: (i) review of each mitigation technique description relevant to cetaceans; (ii) advice on prioritising cetacean mitigation techniques according to gear type; and (iii) review of descriptions of cetacean interactions by fishing gears/methods employed in pelagic tuna and billfish fisheries.	Tarzia (Convenor), Baird, Dolman, Heinemann, Hines, Rojas-Bracho, Slooten, Sutaria. E-mail: <i>bmisrev@groups.iwc.int</i>

SC Agenda Item Sub-Committee	Түре	GROUP (SHORT NAME)	TERMS OF REFERENCE	Members
ltem 12 HIM	ICG-48	Review of methodology to assess RFMO bycatch	Provide advice to Elliot on methodology to assess involvement of tuna RFMOs in addressing cetacean bycatch.	Elliot, Tarzia. E-mail: revmethrfmobycatch@groups. iwc.int
ltem 13 HIM	ICG-49	Ship Strikes Data Review Group	To continue to assist the Ship Strike Co-ordinators in reviewing cases submitted to the IWC global database and to provide advice on how to reduce the backlog of cases.	Leaper (Convenor), Brownell, Cañadas, Donovan, Double, Herr, Holm, Mattila, Panigada, Ritter, Rowles, Weinrich. E-mail: <i>ssdatareview@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 13 HIM	ICG-50	Ships Routeing Group	Consider how best to respond to requests for advice on routeing measures.	Leaper (Convenor), Bjørge, Donovan, George, Mattila, Panigada, Rojas- Bracho, Webster. E-mail: <i>shipsrouteing@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 13 HIM	ICG-51	Database publications and public summary	Consider options for dissemination/ publication of summary data from the ship strikes database.	Ritter (Convenor), Leaper, Panigada, Staniland, Wilson. E-mail: <i>dbpubs@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 13 HIM	ICG-52	Review of WWF shipping report	Provide critical review of the report, technical input and assessment of whether it would be useful outreach material for IWC.	Minton (Convenor), Collins, Hines, Leaper, Scheidat, Willson, Weinrich. E-mail: <i>revwwf@groups.iwc.int</i>
ltem 21.1 ASI	SG-53	IWC POWER- SOWER	To provide advice on the 2020/21 IWC-POWER cruises (including holding the Planning Meetings), on data analyses, storage and on requests for data/sample use of IWC- POWER/SOWER cruises.	Matsuoka (Convenor), Bravington, Brownell, Clapham, Donovan, Kato, Kelly, H-W. Kim, Kitakado, Miyashita, Murase, Palka, Pastene, Staniland, Wade, Zerbini, Zharikov. E-mail: <i>iwcpowersower@groups.iwc.int</i>