

07 January 2021

## IOTC CIRCULAR 2021-01

Dear Madam / Sir

### CALENDAR OF IOTC MEETINGS IN 2021

The IOTC will hold the following major meetings in 2021. Further information, including agendas and other documents, will be made available by the IOTC Secretariat via email, Circulars and the IOTC website ([Click here](#)).

In adopting this calendar, the Commission noted the possibility that most meetings in 2021 will not be in-person events due to the COVID-19 pandemic; hence, at this stage all meetings are expected to be by videoconference. You will be advised if this situation changes.

#### Calendar of 2021 meetings

Meeting	Date	Credentials?
Working Party on Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)	15-17 February	
MSE Task Force	1-5 March	
<b>Special Session (SS4)</b>	8-12 March	Yes
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting	22-25 March	Yes
Working Party on Ecosystems & Bycatch – data preparation (WPEB-DP)	12-14 April	
Working Party on Tropical Tunas – data preparation (WPTT-DP)	10-14 May	
Compliance Committee (CoC)	30 May – 1 June	Yes
Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF)	2 June	Yes
Report adoption: CoC (am) / SCAF (pm)	3 June	Yes
Technical Committee on Management Procedures (TCMP)	4-5 June	Yes
<b>Commission (S25)</b>	7-11 June	Yes
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting	21-24 June	Yes
Working Party on Neritic Tunas (WPNT)	5-9 July	
Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch (WPEB)	6-10 September	
Working Party on Billfish (WPB)	13-16 September	
Ad hoc Working Group on FADs (WGFAD)	4-6 October	
Working Party on Methods (WPM)	18-20 October	
Working Party on Tropical Tunas (WPTT)	21-26 October	
Working Party on Temperate Tunas – data preparation (WPTmT-DP)	8-10 November	
Technical Committee on Allocation Criteria (TCAC) 3 <sup>rd</sup> meeting	1-5 November	Yes
Working Party on Data Collection and Statistics (WPDCS)	1-3 December	
Scientific Committee (SC)	6-10 December	Yes

#### Distribution

**IOTC Contracting Parties:** Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom, Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Liberia, Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

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**Meeting Participation fund (for developing IOTC Contracting Parties Members only)**

Videoconference meetings are not supported by the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF). If in-person meetings begin to be held, information of the MPF will be disseminated.

**Credentials**

In accordance with Rule III of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), official credentials are required in order to participate in some meetings (refer to the calendar). For your convenience, a draft letter of credentials (from Appendix I of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, 2014) is available [here](#).

Only credentialed individuals will receive the Zoom link to join the meeting.

**Contracting Parties & Cooperating Non-contracting Parties (CPCs)**

Each CPC is requested to provide a letter of credentials signed by the appropriate Authority indicating who will receive the Zoom link. The credentials should also include the email address and contact phone number for each recipient. Credentials are requested no later than 15 days before each meeting to [iotc-secretariat@fao.org](mailto:iotc-secretariat@fao.org).

**Observers**

IOTC Observers are also requested to submit a similar Letter of Credentials indicating who will receive the Zoom link. The credentials should also include the email address and contact phone number for each recipient. Credentials are requested no later than 15 days before each meeting to [iotc-secretariat@fao.org](mailto:iotc-secretariat@fao.org)

**Registration for working party meetings**

Registration for working party meetings (via the meeting webpage) is essential to allow the IOTC Secretariat enough time to make the necessary arrangements to provide videoconference links. Please register for the meetings on the IOTC website no later than 15 days before a working party meeting. Note, registration (on the meeting webpage) for meetings requiring credentials is not required.

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Secretary

**Attachments:**

- None