| **WPDCS19 Rec. no.** |  | **SC26** | **Response / follow-up by the SC26** | **S28** | **Commission response / suggestions for consideration at WPDCS19** |
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| **WPDCS19.01 (para. 38)** | ***Data reporting (to the IOTC Secretariat)***  The WPDCS **RECALLED** the **RECOMMENDATION** made at SC25 that “the Commission ENDORSE the mandatory reporting of fishing craft statistics and that this change is included in the next revision of Res. 15/02”, further **RECALLING** that the Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee’s 2022 list of recommendations as its own.  Therefore, the WPDCS **REITERATED** the importance of this issue and **NOTED** that it has not yet been addressed and therefore should be brought to the attention of the Commission again in 2024. | **SC26.20**  **(para. 138)** | **Updates**: The SC **ACKNOWLEDGED** the request to clarify the issues with data reporting requirements identified with Res. 12/02 and 19/07, as well as the request to change the status of reporting of fishing craft statistics from voluntary to mandatory in Res. 15/02 and **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission takes these requests in due consideration at the next revision of all concerned resolutions. | **S28**  **(para. 33)** | **Update:** The Commission **NOTED** that in 2023, the SC endorsed new data reporting forms to enhance clarity and to facilitate the reporting of mandatory fishery statistics as per Resolutions 15/01 and 15/02. The Commission **NOTED** two regional workshops have been organized in 2024 to train CPCs in using the new forms. The Commission **NOTED** that adaptation to the new reporting forms may require time and **AGREED** that implementation should start in 2025 |
| **WPDCS19.02 (para. 101)** | ***Data reporting (to the IOTC Secretariat)***  Following the discussions and endorsements on data-reporting aspects discussed so far, the WPDCS **RECOMMENDED** that the Scientific Committee: a) endorse the proposed updates to the IOTC data submission processes, and namely:  • the introduction of Form 3-DA / 3-DA-multiple for the reporting of detailed activities on drifting FOBs  • the introduction of Form 3-AA / 3-AA-mutiple for the reporting of detailed activities on AFADs  • the decommissioning of the old, recommended forms 3-AR, 3-FA, 3-SU, and 1-RC-YFT  • that the ad interim data reporting workflow and the accompanying electronic tools and formats (interactive validators, ad interim forms, etc.) become mandatory for the submission of statistical fisheries data to the IOTC starting with the 2024 reporting cycle (deadline of 30 June 2024)  • that the study on the matrix approach for the characterisation of IOTC fisheries is further extended to cover all IOTC coastal nations and their fisheries, and that outputs of the study are presented to the next session of the meeting  • that ROS data be exclusively submitted through the consolidated ROS Excel data reporting forms or as .ros files, for those CPCs using the ROS electronic data collection tools  and b) further clarify the issues identified within Res. 12/02 and 19/07 that have an impact on the collection, reporting, and dissemination of IOTC datasets. | **SC26.23**  **(para. 137)** | **Updates**: The SC **ENDORSED** the proposed updates to the IOTC data submission processes, and more specifically:  a. the introduction of Form 3-DA and 3-AA  b. the decommissioning of Form 3-AR, 3-FA, 3-SU, and 1-RC-YFT  c. the entry into force of the ad-interim data reporting workflow and supporting tools starting with the 2024 data reporting cycle (i.e., by the deadline of 30 June 2024)  d. that the trial of the FAO matrix approach for the characterisation of IOTC fisheries are extended to cover all Indian Ocean fisheries  e. that ROS data be reported to the IOTC exclusively through the consolidated ROS Excel data reporting forms or as .ros files produced by the ROS electronic data collection tools. | **S28**  **(para. 28)** | **Update:** The Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee’s 2023 list of recommendations as its own. |
| **WPDCS19.03 (para. 220)** | ***Overview of data processing procedures and proposed revisions of historical data (to the Secretariat)***  The WPDCS **NOTED** the improvements made in the quality of the estimated data (e.g., reduction in volatility for some species such as bullet tuna and blue shark) and **ACKNOWLEDGED** that the updates of official catches better reflect the status of the catches in Indonesian fisheries as they provide an accurate separation of artisanal and industrial fisheries according to IOTC definitions.  Nevertheless, the WPDCS **NOTED** that there are still issues in some of the species-specific reconstructed historical time-series of catches (2010-2021) that require further analysis: i) large inter-annual fluctuations, ii) discrepancies in scaling, and iii) potential errors in the input data used for some years (e.g., 2018).  The WPDCS **ENCOURAGED** Indonesia to identify the root causes explaining the identified issues and seek support from the Secretariat to further progress on their resolution.  The WPDCS **RECOMMENDED** that the SC provide general guidance on addressing the following points:  • issues of continuity with the historical time series of catch (pre-2010) which might affect the stock assessments and would require some inter-calibration;  • current differences between revised official national catch statistics and scientific best estimates used for supporting the IOTC science process and decision-making. | **SC26.23 (para. 142)** | **Update**: The SC **ACKNOWLEDGED** the progresses accomplished by Indonesia in re-estimating their historical catch series from 2010 to 2021, and while **ENDORSING** the proposed general methodology, **NOTED** that there still are issues in some of the species-specific reconstructed historical time series such as: significant fluctuations in the revised catch statistics for several species, inconsistent patterns for specific years (e.g., 2018) and issues in continuity and magnitude with the historical catches pre-2010 (Fig. d). | **S28**  **(para. 28)** | **Update:** The Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee’s 2023 list of recommendations as its own. |
| **WPDCS19.04 (para. 243)** | ***Global fisheries information systems and data management best practices***  **ACKNOWLEDGING** the potential benefits of a climate-ocean web portal for the SC and its Working Parties, the WPDCS **RECOMMENDED** a scoping study into how ocean-climate information (as shown through the initiative of the Seychelles Digital Ocean Atlas as well as the various indicators presented in paper IOTC–2018–WPDCS14–36) could be developed and made available by the IOTC and how this information would be presented to the SC and its working parties. The scoping study should also consider the resources needed to develop online ocean-climate indicators for the IOTC area of competence. | **SC26.25 (para. 140)** | **Update:** The SC **NOTED** the status of the digital ocean atlas developed for Seychelles, which provides detailed ocean-climate information, **CONSIDERED** the resources necessary to develop online indicators for the whole Indian Ocean, and **ENDORSED** the implementation of a scoping study to further develop all presented indicators, possibly though an online atlas, and devise the most effective ways to present these to the SC and its Working Parties. | **S28**  **(para. 28)** | **Update:** The Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee’s 2023 list of recommendations as its own. |
| **WPDCS19.05 (para. 284)** | ***Electronic Monitoring Systems in support of the IOTC ROS***  The WPDCS **RECOMMENDED** that an intersessional working group is organised (by correspondence or through online meetings) to convey interested WPDCS and WGEMS participants and review:  • the scientific need for each ROS data field proposed by the 2018 ROS expert WS;  • ROS data fields collection and reporting status (e.g., mandatory/optional, etc.);  • potential specific EMS fields to be added to ROS mandatory requirements; and  • summarise the capabilities, and advantages and drawbacks to collect ROS data fields across gears by different alternative methods (e.g., EMS, human onboard observers, self-reporting, port sampling) and a combination of those.  and further **REQUESTED** that this group report to the next sessions of the WGEMS and WPDCS. | **SC26 (para. 146)** | **Update**: **ACKNOWLEDGING** that Res. 23/08 requires the revision of the ROS data fields, the SC **ENDORSED** the request of setting up an intersessional working group (either by correspondence, or remotely) convening interested WPDCS and WGEMS participants to discuss and review:  a) The scientific need for each ROS data field (as proposed by the ROS expert workshop of 2018)  b) The status (mandatory / mandatory when feasible / optional) of each ROS data field  c) The possibility of adding EMS-specific elements to the list of ROS mandatory data fields  d) The inclusion of proper mechanisms / classifications, within the ROS data fields, to better capture details on fins naturally attached to sharks  e) The summary of capabilities, advantages, and drawbacks of collecting ROS data fields through alternative methods such as EMS, human onboard observers, port-sampling, self-reporting, etc. (as well as a combination of these).  and **REQUESTED** that this group reports to the next session of the WGEMS and WPDCS |  | **Update:** None |
| **WPDCS19.06 (para. 308)** | ***WPDCS program of work***  The WPDCS **RECOMMENDED** that the Scientific Committee consider and endorse the WPDCS Program of Work (2024–2028), as provided at Appendix V. | **SC26 (para. 182)** | **Update**: The SC **NOTED** the proposed Program of Work and priorities for the SC and each of the working parties and **AGREED** to a consolidated Program of Work as outlined in Appendix 35a-g and in accordance with the IOTC Strategic Science Plan 2020-2024. The Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons of each working party will ensure that the efforts of their respective working parties are focused on the core areas contained within the appendix, taking into account any new research priorities identified by the Commission at its next Session |  | **Update:** None |
| **WPDCS19.07 (para. 316)** | ***Review of the draft, and adoption of the report of the 19th Session of the WPDCS***  The WPDCS **RECOMMENDED** that the Scientific Committee consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from WPDCS19, provided at Appendix VI | **SC26.38 (para. 196)** | **Update**: The SC **RECOMMENDED** that the Commission consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from SC26, provided at Appendix 38. | **S28**  **(para. 28)** | **Update:** The Commission **ENDORSED** the Scientific Committee’s 2023 list of recommendations as its own. |