



WPM04 (22–23 October 2012)

Consolidated recommendations of the Fourth Session of the Working Party on Methods

Chair: Dr. Iago Mosqueira (EU)

Vice-Chair: Dr. Toshihide Kitakado (Japan)

Working Party	Date and place	No. of participants (previous meeting)	Meeting Participation Fund (previous meeting)	No. of documents (previous meeting)
				Total: 15 (-)
Methods	22–23 October, Mauritius	22 (18)	1(0)	Working papers: 4 (-) Information papers: 11 (-)

Numbers in brackets represent numbers for the previous working party meeting.

IOTC–2012–WPM04–R



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RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WPM04

WPM04.07 (para. 49): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the [SC](#) consider the consolidated set of recommendations arising from WPM04, provided at [Appendix V](#).

Consisting of **7** Recommendations addressed to the Scientific Committee.

Options:

- 1) Adopted as Recommendations of the SC.
- 2) Modify and adopt as Recommendations of the SC.
- 3) Reject and redirect to next session of WPM.



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Capacity building

WPM04.01 (para. 18): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the SC consider making a request to the Chair of the Commission, to include an **information session** during each Commission meeting, which would provide Commissioner's with annual updates and explanatory material to ensure they are kept abreast of the methods and processes being undertaken as part of the broader IOTC MSE process.

WPM04.02 (para. 19): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat coordinate the development and delivery of several **training workshops** focused on providing assistance to developing CPCs to better understand the MSE process, including how reference points and harvest control rules are likely to function in an IOTC context. The implications of IOTC Resolution 12/01 on the implementation of the precautionary approach and IOTC Recommendation 12/14 on interim target and limit reference points should be incorporated into the workshop. The SC should consider requesting that the Commission's budget incorporate appropriate funds for this purpose.



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Dedicated workshop on CPUE standardisation

WPM04.03 (para. 37): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the IOTC Secretariat work with relevant interested IOTC scientists and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the IOTC species working parties, to develop draft terms of reference (TORs) for a dedicated, informal **workshop on CPUE standardisation**, to be carried out before the next round of stock assessments in 2013. The draft TORs shall be provided to the SC for its consideration and potential endorsement. Where possible the workshop should include a range of invited experts, including those working on CPUE standardisation in other ocean/RFMOs. The TORs shall include an appropriate budget.



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Research recommendations and priorities

WPM04.04 (para. 43): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the SC consider the draft **workplan** for the development of the IOTC MSE process, provided at [Appendix IV](#).

WPM04.05 (para. 44): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the SC consider requesting that the Commission **allocate funds** in the 2013 and 2014 IOTC budgets, for an external expert on MSE to be hired for 30 days per year, to supplement the skill set available within IOTC CPCs.



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Date and place of the Fifth Session of the WPM

WPM04.06 (para. 45): The WPM **RECOMMENDED** that the SC note that while the MSE process was still in its early stages of development, there was no pressing need to hold a WPM meeting in 2013, as the work to be undertaken was of a highly technical nature and would require the involvement of a very limited number of experts in the field of development and implementation of population and fishery models for MSE. Thus, as suggested in the MSE workplan (Section 12), one or two **workshops** composed of experts should be held in 2013 to continue the development of the MSE process. Where possible, these should be held in conjunction with other IOTC meetings to minimise budgetary consequences.



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OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Review of relevant IOTC decisions

WPM04 (para. 22): The WPM **NOTED** with concern that the interim LRP contained in IOTC Recommendation 12/14 may not be precautionary (see IOTC Resolution 12/01), or consistent with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The fishing mortality rate which generates MSY should be regarded as a minimum standard for LRP. Thus, the WPM **AGREED** to analyse the robustness of TRPs and LRPs as outlined in the workplan (Appendix IV).



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Implicit and explicit objectives

The WPM **AGREED** that the role of managers and stakeholders is to identify management objectives, candidate TRP and LRP (e.g. those contained in Recommendation 12/14 on interim target and limit reference points), acceptable levels of risk of exceeding LRPs, options for HCRs, and the criteria against which their performance should be evaluated. The role of IOTC scientists is to evaluate candidate TRPs and LRPs and the performance of identified candidate HCRs. (para. 23)

The WPM **AGREED** that management objectives should explicitly state the goals for the fishery, and that some of these objectives are likely to conflict with one another (e.g. maximising total allowable catch (TAC) versus minimising the risk of low population levels). Where possible, the Commission should be made aware of any conflicting management objectives which they agree upon so that Commissioners set priorities among objectives throughout the MSE process. (para. 24)



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Kobe Working Group on MSE

Working by correspondence across all tRFMOs

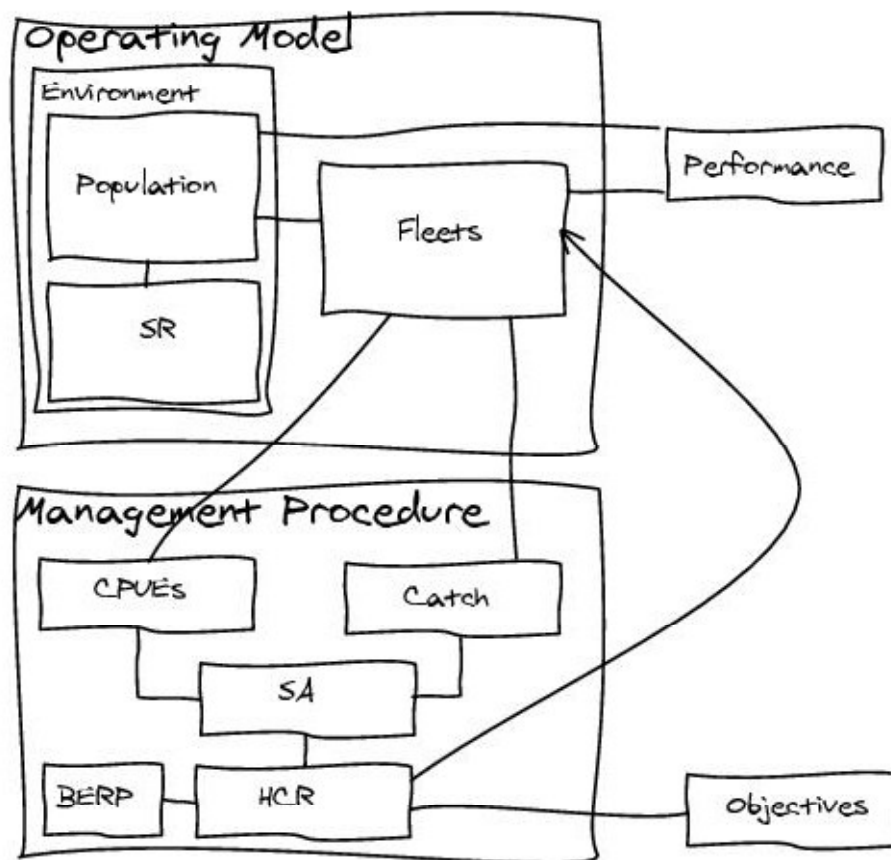
Tasked with

- Development of guidelines on model building, simulation and presentation
- Set of standard outputs and diagnostics
- Peer review and collaboration on software and implementation

WPM chair & vice-chair are members of group, inform WPM of developments

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WPM Workplan on MSE





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Tasks

- Assemblage of OMs for ALB and TROP
 - Population and Fleets models
 - TROP models linked by fleets only
- Setup of simulation infrastructure
 - Standard software framework
 - High Performance Computing facilities
- Development of training material on MSE
 - Co-ordinated with Secretariat
- MPs
 - Data collection, error and bias in data
 - Stock Assessment
 - Harvest Control Rules



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Outputs

- **Deliverables**
 - Initial ALB OM & robustness trials
 - Progress report on TROP OM
 - Runs of ALB MSE
 - ALB reference points
 - Progress report at SC
 - Demonstration of simulation framework
- **Inter-sessional Meetings**
 - APR 2013 @ JRC, Ispra, Italy
 - OCT 2013 @ WPTT



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Budget

- Work of consultant with expertise on IO tuna SA
 - 30 days work
 - 2 x 4 day meetings
 - Air fares
- Support for travel of participants to meetings
 - 2-3 participants funded by IOTC
- Access to HPC facilities
 - Cloud services for HPC, approx. 1000 USD/year