



**Provisional Annotated Agenda of the 10th Scientific Committee meeting**

**Venue: Safari Motel, Windhoek, Namibia Date: 29 September – 10 October 2014**

**1. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson**

The Chairperson: Mr P. Kainge will open the meeting and welcome delegates.

**2. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements**

The Meeting will review and adopt the agenda. Delegates will be informed of any practical arrangements for the meeting by the Executive Secretary (DOC/SC/01/2014).

**3. Appointment of Rapporteur**

The chairperson will ensure the appointment of rapporteurs who would take the minutes for the Scientific Committee Report.

**4. Introduction of observers**

The Chairperson will announce observers present.

**5. Introduction of delegates**

The Chairperson will allow participants to introduce themselves.

**6. Review of submitted SEAFO working documents and any related presentations, allocation to the agenda items**

The meeting will review research/working documents and presentations submitted (DOC/SC/00/2014).

**7. Presentation by Consultant on the peer review of stock assessment methods used by SC**

The Consultant will present the outcome of his review and make recommendations the as per TOR. As per recommendations of the SC to the Commission, and subsequent approval by the Commission at its 10<sup>th</sup> annual meeting during December 2013, the TOR of the Consultant are:

i. Review and present to the SC alternative assessment methodologies for data-limited stocks, especially those adopted internationally for deep-water, demersal and semi-pelagic species inhabiting seamounts.

ii. Provide hands-on training during the SC meeting in September-October 2014.

iii. In view of previous assessment experiences in SEAFO and the data available, and in consultation with the SC, provide recommendations on alternative methods for individual stocks to be assessed by the SC.

iv. Assist the SC in its selection of methods to be used as standard methodology for future assessments.

v. Compile a summarized report (or working document) on reviewed assessment methods.

**8. Report by the Executive Secretary presenting all landings, incidental by-catch and discard tables updated to July 2014**

The Executive Secretary will present all landings, incidental by-catch and discard tables updated to July 2014.

**9. Review results of the Japanese 2014 exploratory fishing survey**

The results of the 2014 Japanese exploratory fishing survey will be presented and discuss.

**10. Review landings, spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data on non-benthic by-catch species.**

The meeting will review the spatial distribution of benthic organisms as reported by the fishing vessel in 2014 and make recommendations if necessary.

**11. Review the spatial distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms (corals, sponges etc.)**

The meeting will review the spatial distribution of benthic organisms as reported by the fishing vessel in 2014 and make recommendations if necessary.

**12. Review Stock Status Reports**

The meeting will review the Stock Status Reports compiled in 2013 and updating the reports where necessary.

**13. Review research activities in the SEAFO CA**

The Executive Secretary has made contact with Prof Anthony Koppers Associate Professor in Marine Geology, CEOAS, Oregon State University who was the chief scientist on the Walvis Ridge Survey in March 2012. This expedition dredged 40 seamounts along the southwest portion of the Walvis Ridge. The Walvis Ridge begins on the African continent and extends to near the mid-Atlantic Ridge. The southwest half of the Walvis Ridge appears to bifurcate into two distinct physical and geochemical trends, the Tristan (northern) and Gough (southern) tracks. The data we collect will assist in improving Absolute Plate Motion models for the African continent, and knowledge of the geochemical evolution of plumes and the regional tectonic setting of the surrounding area. No concrete results have been achieved but the indication is that Prof Koppers are willing to cooperate with SEAFO. Details regarding cooperation still have to be discussed.

**14. Examine, where appropriate, assessments and research done by neighbouring organisations**

The meeting will examine assessments done by CCAMLR and if applicable and available assessments from the South Africa, Namibia and Angola.

**15. Review Total Allowable Catches and related management conditions for Alfonsino, Orange Roughy and Armourhead.**

The SC will make recommends on the TAC for Alfonsino, Orangy Roughy and Armourhead for 2015/2016

**16. Review of progress re development of an ID guide for fish, crustaceans, incidental by-catch species**

The Chair will inform SC on progress made with the ID guide.

**17. Discussion on the upcoming Nansen scientific survey in January/Feb 2015.**

SC will discuss and compile a survey plan for the upcoming Nansen survey.

**18. Discuss the (1) Report of the South-Eastern Atlantic regional workshop to facilitate the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and (2) the Report of the FAO Regional Workshop on Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) in the SE Atlantic Ocean and the implications thereof for SEAFO.**

SC will review the two documents and discuss the way forward and draft some recommendations to the Commission.

**19. SC responsibility towards the executing of the SEAFO part of the FAO ABNJ programme**

The Executive Secretary will present a work plan with activities for 2015. The activities will be discussed as well as expected outcomes.

**20. Compile recommendations to Commission on the depth distribution of species caught during mid-water trawling, and whilst targeting southern boarfish/pelagic armourhead and/or alfonsino. The Scientific Committee should propose a regime (by-catch scheme, move-on-rules etc.) to manage the TACs of southern boarfish/pelagic armourhead and alfonsino.**

The SC should propose a harvesting regime to manage the armourhead and alfonsino stocks as independent fisheries.

**21. Compile a report on results from bottle tests emanating from cf. Conservation Measure 25/12 - Reducing Incidental By-catch of Seabirds in the SEAFO Convention Area Review proposal for a new Conservation Measure on vulnerable marine ecosystems in the SEAFO Convention Area.**

SC should compile a report based on the bottle test results emanating from cf. Conservation Measure 25/12

**22. The Scientific Committee should establish a protocol and guidelines for fisheries research.**

SC should compile a protocol for fisheries research in the Convention Area. Attention should be given when fishing vessels (i.e commercial trawls on board, amount of catch on board, etc) are used as research vessels.

**23. The Scientific Committee should report on the need for fishing gear regulations (mesh size regulations).**

SC should compile a report on fishing gear used in the Convention Area and the need to regulate fishing gear.

**24. The Scientific Committee should develop standardized conversion factors for all SEAFO target species.**

SC should compile a working document on conversion factors.

**25. Advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2014 meeting.**

SC will discuss and list all recommendations to the Commission for adoption.

**26. Review 2014 work program and agree on the 2015 work programme.**

SC should compile a work plan for next year indicating the activities and costing to be undertaken by SC

**27. Any other matters.**

The meeting will discuss additional points as raised during the adoption of the agenda.

**28. Budget 2015.**

SC will compile a budget for 2015

**29. Adoption of the report.**

The meeting will review and adopt the 2014 SC report.

**30. Date and place of the next meeting.**

The meeting will agree on a date and venue for the 2015 SC meeting.

**31. Closure of the meeting.**

The Chairperson will adjourn the meeting