



SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION

REPORT OF THE 17TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

26 November 2020

Swakopmund

NAMIBIA

The Secretariat

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Mr. Venâncio Soares **GOMES (ANGOLA)**

Chairperson of SEAFO Commission

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1. Opening of the meeting

The 17th Annual Commission Meeting took place through videoconference on 26th November 2020.

The Chairperson, Mr. Venâncio Soares Gomes, opened the meeting and welcomed delegates to the meeting. He thanked the Secretariat for organizing the meeting. He announced that Angola's term of two years as Chair has come to an end after this meeting. Delegations expressed their appreciation for the work of the Chair during these years.

The Chair requested that the agenda item, election of the chair and vice-chair be moved forward, as he had overlapping obligations. After the elections of these positions the chair was excused, and the vice-chair resumed the meeting.

After the opening of the meeting and the election of the Chair and the Vice-Chair, the participation of the Chair was excused due to an overlapping obligation. The Vice-Chair (EU, Mr Orlando Fachada) was invited to conduct the rest of the meeting.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Meeting Arrangements

The Commission reduced and adopted the agenda ([DOC/COM/01/2020](#)) to the following points:

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chairperson
2. Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements
3. Election of New Chair and Vice-Chair for 2021-2022
4. Appointment of Rapporteur
5. Report of the 2020 Scientific Committee meeting – TAC recommendations
6. Report of the 2020 Standing Committee on Administration and Finance meeting - Budget and Parties Contribution for 2021
7. Any Other Matters
8. Venue and date of next meeting
9. Adoption of the Commission Report
10. Closure of the meeting

3. Election of new Chair & Vice Chair

The term of the current Chair and Vice-Chairperson came to an end and in terms of the rotational rule, EU and Japan will take over the Chair and Vice-Chairperson positions respectively for the period from 2021 - 2022.

The EU proposed Mr. Luis Molledo, DG Fisheries and Maritime Affairs to take the position as Chair. Japan proposed Mr. Hideki Moronuki, Director for Fisheries Negotiations in the Resources Management Department of the Fisheries Agency of Japan as Vice-Chair.

Delegations applauded the EU for taking over the chairing of the Commission and supported the appointment of the proposed Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Delegations also congratulated Mr. Luis Molledo and Mr. Hideki Moronuki with their new positions.

4. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Secretariat was appointed as the rapporteur for the meeting.

5. Report of the 2019 Scientific Committee (SC) Meeting

- 5.1. The SC meeting was conducted by correspondence.
- 5.2. The Chair of the Scientific Committee, Åge Høines (Norway), presented the 2020 SC report to the Commission ([DOC/COM/03/2020](#)) with emphasis on the TAC allocations for 2021.
- 5.3. Rollover of TACs were discussed by the Contracting Parties during the months before the meeting when it became clear that a physical meeting to conduct stock assessment would not be possible. An explanatory letter was distributed to the Commission by the Chair of the SC to explain the reasoning behind the rollover. With no to low risks of overfishing of the stocks by keeping the TAC's the same.
- 5.4. Thirteen Scientific Committee members from 5 Contracting Parties attended the Scientific Committee meeting. The Commission noted that three CP's (Angola, EU and The Republic of Korea) did not attend the meeting and recalled the importance of attending SC meetings. The EU presented their excuses and announced that they intend to attend the upcoming SC meeting in 2021. Angola explained that their scientists have been occupied by stock assessment work in Angola and were unable to attend the SEAFO SC meeting. They hope that the situation will improve in future.
- 5.5. TAC's for 2021
The SC recommended a one-year extension of all TACs and management measures for 2021. The TACs will be reviewed by the SC in 2021.

ACTION: The Commission approved the SC recommendation on TAC's for 2021

6. Report of the 2020 Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) Meeting

The Chair of SCAF, Ms. Graça D'Almeida (NAMIBIA) presented the 2020 SCAF Report ([DOC/COM/05/2020](#)) to the Commission. The meeting was held via correspondence and all delegations participated except the Republic of Korea.

6.1 Approval of the 2019 Draft Annual Financial Statement (AFS).

The SCAF Chair mentioned that no matters of concern were brought to the attention of the Contracting Parties by the auditors. The SCAF therefore recommended that the Commission approves the Audited Annual Financial Statements.

ACTION: The Commission adopted the recommendation.

6.2 Approval of the 2021 Budget and 2022 forecast Budget

The Chairperson of SCAF presented the proposed budget for 2021 to the Commission for approval.

Members with arrears were encouraged to pay their outstanding contributions as soon as possible to avoid any risks associated with the lack of funds available.

ACTION: The Commission approved the 2021 budget of N\$ 3,957,541.52

6.3 Approval of the 2021 Contributions of Parties

Contributions by parties were calculated based on the formula adopted in 2009 and the SCAF proposed the Contributions for 2021 to be approved by the Commission.

As a possible way to reduce costs, notably when Norway will no longer be part of SEAFO from 2022 onwards, some Contracting Parties expressed the importance of the re-evaluation of having biennial physical meetings and other ways to keep the organization financially viable. The Commission agreed to discuss this matter again at the annual meeting in 2021.

ACTION: The Commission approved the contributions of Parties for 2021

7. Any Other Matters

7.1. The Commission noted without questions the Compliance Committee report ([DOC/COM/04/2020](#)). The Chair reminded that the main point adopted by the Compliance Committee concerned the appointment of the new Chair and Vice-Chair.

7.2. Japan expressed its plan to conduct an exploratory fishing in 2021 as it had done in 2020. A Notice of intent will be submitted to the Secretariat for circulation to Contracting Parties for the intersessional review.

8. Venue and Date of next meetings

- Proposed dates for the 2020 Scientific Committee meeting are 15-19 November 2021.
- Proposed dates for the 2020 Annual Commission meeting (including SCAF and CC) are 22-25 November 2021.

The venue for the 2021 Scientific and Annual Commission meetings is to be decided during 2021 via correspondence.

Namibia requested the Commission to consider moving the meetings to early December from the last week of November when Namibia often has national elections.

9. Adoption of the 2020 Commission report

The Commission adopted the report via correspondence at 13:00 (GMT+2) on the 27th November 2020.

10. Closure of the Meeting

The Chairperson closed the meeting after the adoption of the report.

He commended the Contracting Parties for their efficient and effective conduct during the meeting. He thanked the Secretariat for the preparations. He also thanked delegates for their positive inputs.

APPENDIX I: List of Documents, Agenda and Annotated Agenda of the 2020 Commission Meeting

DOC/COM/00/2020



LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 17TH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION (COM) - 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Venâncio Soares Gomes (Angola 2017-2020) **VENUE:** Correspondence
VICE-CHAIR: Mr. Ignacio Granell (EU 2017-2020) **DATE:** 23-26 November 2020

Document Number	Agenda Item	Document Title	Provider	Availability of Document
DOC/COM/00/2020	3	List of documents	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/01/2020	3	Provisional Agenda for the 17 th Meeting of the Commission	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/02/2020	3	Provisional Annotated Agenda for the 17 th Meeting of the Commission	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/03/2020	6	Scientific Committee Meeting Report for 2020	SC	Available at the meeting
DOC/COM/04/2020	7	Compliance Committee Meeting Report for 2020	CC	Available at the meeting
DOC/COM/05/2020	8	Standing Committee on Admin & Finance Meeting Report of 2020	SCAF	Available at the meeting
DOC/COM/06/2020	11	Report on Meetings attended by Executive Secretary	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/COM/07/2020	14	Commission Meeting Report for 2020	COM	Available at the meeting

DOC/COM/01/2020



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 17TH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION (COM) – 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Venâncio Soares Gomes (Angola 2017-2020)

VENUE: Strand Hotel, Swakopmund

VICE-CHAIR: Mr. Ignacio Granell (EU 2017-2020)

DATE: 23-26 November 2020

Item	Agenda Item	Working Document
1	Opening of meeting by Chairperson	
2	Appointment of rapporteur	
3	Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements	DOC/COM/00/2020 DOC/COM/01/2020 DOC/COM/02/2020
4	Introduction & Admission of Observers	
5	Introduction of Delegates	
6	Report of the 2020 Scientific Committee meeting	DOC/COM/03/2020
7	Report of the 2020 Compliance Committee meeting	DOC/COM/04/2020
8	Report of the 2020 Standing Committee on Administration & Finance meeting	DOC/COM/05/2020
9	Election of new Chair & Vice Chair	
10	Venue & date of next meeting	
11	Report on meetings attended by Secretariat	DOC/COM/06/2020
12	Reports of SEAFO's representatives at other intergovernmental organization meetings	
13	Nomination of Parties representing SEAFO at intergovernmental organizations	
14	Adoption of the 2020 Commission Report	DOC/COM/07/2020
15	Closure of meeting	

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