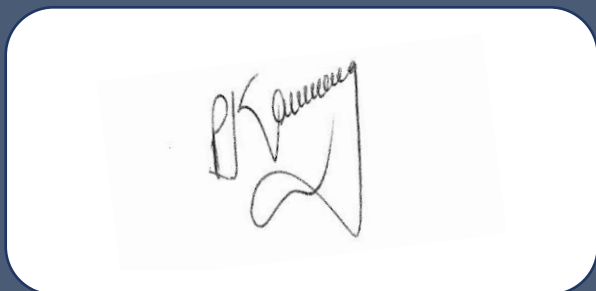




SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION

REPORT OF THE 18TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE - 2022

22-25 November 2022
Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund
NAMIBIA



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1. Opening of meeting by the Chairperson

The 18th Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Scientific Committee (SC) was convened from 22 to 25 November 2022 at the Hansa Hotel in Swakopmund, Namibia.

The interim chairperson, Dr. Paulus Kainge from Namibia, was nominated by the meeting to stand in for the Chairperson, Mr. Granville Louw from South Africa who could not attend the meeting. The vice-chairperson from Angola could also not attend the meeting.

Dr. Kainge opened the meeting and emphasized that it would be a discussion of scientific issues and that all delegates were expected to express their scientific views so that issues are resolved, and the best possible advice forwarded to the Commission.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

Mr. Erich Maletzky was appointed as rapporteur for the 18th SEAFO Scientific Committee meeting.

3. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements

SC adopted the agenda ([DOC/SC/01/2022](#)) ([Appendix I](#)) with the following addition:

- Agenda Point 15 – JAPAN: Announcement of Exploratory Fishing for 2023

Members were informed of the practical arrangements for the meeting by the Executive Secretary.

4. Introduction and Admission of Observers

Three observers joined the meeting to provide feedback on the Dr Fridtjof Nansen surveys of 2022 in the SEAFO Convention Area – contact details listed under the “Observers” section of [Appendix II](#).

- Dr. Bjørn Erik Axelsen, Chief Scientist, Program Director Norwegian Sea to provide feedback on Leg 4.1 of the 2022 survey in the SEAFO Convention Area.
- Mr. Moses Kalola, Senior Fisheries Biologist, Ministry of Fisheries & Marine Resources, NAMIBIA, Co-Cruise Leader on Leg 4.1 of the 2022 survey in the SEAFO Convention Area.
- Dr Nikolaos Nikolioudakis from the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), (EAF - Nansen Program Research Coordinator) to determine the needs from the SC for future surveys.

Two observers joined the meeting via Zoom video conferencing for their interventions, while Mr. Kalola joined the meeting in person.

5. Introduction of Delegations

The Heads of Delegations introduced their delegations. A total of 7 Scientific Committee members attended the 18th SEAFO SC meeting (see [Appendix II](#) for list of participants). No members from Angola, South Africa and the Republic of Korea attended the meeting.

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

Twenty documents were submitted to the Scientific Committee for review and were considered during the 18th SEAFO SC meeting ([DOC/SC/00/2022](#)) ([Appendix I](#)).

7. Review of the 2022 work program.

The work program for 2022 was discussed and covered the following areas of work:

7.1 Establish an Orange roughy Task Team with Namibia (as a coordinator) to develop survey design protocols and criteria intersessionally. Then to reconsider to agree to revive this exercise which started in 2019 and a Task Team consisting of four members from Namibia, EU, Angola and South Africa should work on ([DOC/SC/03/2021](#)) to present at the 2022 SC meeting.

The task team members agreed early in 2022 not to continue with this activity until the results from the Orange roughy biomass survey, which was conducted by the RV Dr Fridtjof Nansen during 2022 (Leg 4.1), are available.

7.2 Collect samples of Orange roughy in the Namibian EEZ, South African EEZ and SEAFO CA for genetic comparison at the University of Pretoria (UP).

Namibia collected samples (muscle tissue) and otoliths during the 2018 Orange roughy biomass survey from four different grounds. Samples (fin clippings) were collected during the Dr Fridtjof Nansen research survey in the SEAFO CA during July 2022 (Leg 4.1) ([DOC/SC/16/2022](#)). South Africa collected samples during November 2022 which was sent to the UP. The Namibian and SEAFO samples will be sent to the UP as soon as the necessary documentation for importing of samples have been completed. The UP will do DNA extraction and if that is successful, the DNA will be sent to Germany for DNA sequencing. The Secretariat is the custodian of the samples and will arrange for the analysis to be done. The cost of the analysis is estimated to be around N\$ 300,000.00. A budget allocation of N\$ 220,000.00 was reserved in the SEAFO budget since 2019. However, an additional amount of N\$ 80,000.00 will be needed to fully cover all expenses related to this work.

7.3 The EU, South Africa and Namibia will review a suitable guideline protocol for the collection and storage of genetics samples.

The proposed guidelines were presented to the SC meeting ([DOC/SC/16/2022](#)), and SC adopted the proposed guidelines.

7.4 South Africa to continue with the Orange roughy data (catch depths & length frequencies) analysis for catches recorded in the EEZ for reporting at the 2022 SC meeting.

This item was deferred to the 2023 SC meeting.

7.5 Annual total columns to be added to all the landing tables by the Executive Secretary.

The columns were added by the ES as requested.

7.6 Explore tagging protocols for toothfish to understand the population connectivity better. Assigned to Mr. Roberto Sarralde (EU).

A document ([DOC/SC/15/2022](#)) was presented to the SC and SC agreed for SEAFO to follow the CCAMLR Tagging Protocol, in light of the 2017 MoU between the two organisations. This will ensure comparability of results between the SEAFO CA and CCAMLR as well as gathering the required stock connectivity data for the two regions (and other regions that encompass the lifecycle of Patagonian toothfish). SC acknowledges and appreciates the cooperation from the industry in executing the tagging programme. *SC recommends the adoption of the CCAMLR Tagging Protocol for implementation in the SEAFO CA, with a minimum of one toothfish per tonne of green weight fish caught to be tagged.*

7.7 Finalize the work on the standardised SEAFO SC Catch maps for presentation and adoption at the 2022 SC Meeting (Mr. Erich Maletzky, Namibia).

SC had a look at the preliminary standardized maps and emphasized the importance of SEAFO to have such maps for Stock Status Reports. SC plans to have a virtual workshop intersessionally for training of SC members in the use of the R script for creating the maps once the scripts have been finalized. SC noted that the standardized maps will be used from the 2023 SC meeting onward.

7.8 Draft guidelines for using scientific data (video footage & survey counts) in the determination of threshold limits of VME encounters in relation to guidelines in other RFMOs and scientific bodies – assigned to ES.

The ES presented an update on this matter ([DOC/SC/17/2022](#)) covering approaches used in different RFMOs. The three approaches reviewed were:

1. Kernel Density (KDE) Analyses of trawl survey counts supplemented with habitat suitability modelling (based on in-situ data);
2. modelling of densities based on the estimation of percent cover from still images; and
3. a VME Index using a VME Weighting Algorithm (based on the FAO VME Criteria) combined with trawl survey abundance data (used in context with the VME Encounter Thresholds). SC noted that, given the data collected during the 2015 SEAFO Seamount Survey, opportunities exist to apply the 3rd approach (and potentially also the 2nd approach) to the existing video data. SC, however, noted that caution needs to be taken when using Kernel Density Estimation (KDE) on data sets with small sample sizes – since the smoothing properties of KDE could result in overestimation of observations.

SC further noted that drafting of guidelines, at this moment in time, will be very crude (considering further investigation of the three approaches is required to adequately define the specifications for application in the SEAFO CA). Additionally, SC noted a study related to VME thresholds is in preparation and SC anticipates results from this study to be useful towards drafting the guidelines. For this reason, the output from this task was deferred to 2023.

8. Report by the Executive Secretary presenting landing tables updated to August 2022.

The Executive Secretary presented data and related information submitted by CPs during 2021 and 2022. Landings data from the Spanish vessel that fished during April 2021 has been validated and added to the landing tables.

All retained and discarded catches were presented in the landings tables ([DOC/SC/05/2022](#)).

The ES noted that only two vessels fished in the CA during 2022. By the end of April 2022, the Spanish vessel landed 32 tonnes of Patagonian toothfish from Division D1. A Japanese vessel fished from 21 September to 21 October 2022 and landed around 104 tonnes of Patagonian toothfish from Division D0. Catch figures from the last vessel will be included in the landing tables of 2023.

9. Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data.

The spatial distribution maps for all fishing activities recorded from September 2021 to the end of August 2022, as well as the biological data tables, were presented to SC by the Executive Secretary ([DOC/SC/06/2022](#)).

The SC reviewed the spatial and temporal maps as provided and noted that fishing activities occurred in the traditional fishing grounds.

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

The SC reviewed the updated data on incidental catches of VME species from the bottom longline fishery (see Tables 23-38 of [DOC/SC/05/2022](#) for data on VME catches). The SC reviewed both the quantities and spatial distribution of catches ([DOC/SC/06/2022](#)), and SC noted that no encounter (according to Article 8 of CM30-15) has been recorded to date.

11. Review Stock Status Reports

11.1 Patagonian toothfish - ([DOC/SC/07/2022](#))

The SC reviewed and approved all changes made to the report during the 2022 SC meeting.

11.2 Orange roughy - ([DOC/SC/08/2022](#))

The SC reviewed and approved all changes made to the report during the 2022 SC meeting.

11.3 Deep-sea red crab - ([DOC/SC/09/2022](#))

The SC reviewed and approved all changes made to the report during the 2022 SC meeting.

11.4 Pelagic armourhead / Southern boarfish - ([DOC/SC/10/2022](#))

The SC reviewed and approved all changes made to the report during the 2022 SC meeting.

11.5 Alfonsino - ([DOC/SC/11/2022](#))

The SC reviewed and approved all changes made to the report during the 2022 SC meeting.

12. Review research activities in the SEAFO CA since October 2021 to date

Two Research surveys were conducted in the SEAFO CA during 2022, both by the EAF Nansen program using the RV Dr Fridtjof Nansen.

- Survey1: Leg 3. Bottom habitat mapping survey in the SEAFO Convention Area

The Survey took place from 07 May to 07 June 2022 in the SEAFO Sub-Area A. The objective of the cruise was to further develop the databases and collections to benefit regional science and enhance the global understanding of the Southeast Atlantic ecosystem. More precisely the survey analysed the occurrence and abundance of benthopelagic fish and sessile epibenthos, including indicators of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME), in selected “existing fishing areas” and areas closed to fishing within the SEAFO Convention Area. It was also envisaged to further map VME taxa and fisheries resources, including mesopelagics, seabirds, and mammals, as well as sample biological and chemical oceanographic data, microplastics and litter.

SC reviewed the draft survey report ([DOC/SC/03/2022](#)) and noted that conclusions on the survey results will only be available after January 2023 when the final survey report will be released.

- Survey 2: Leg 4.1 Fisheries resources in the SEAFO Convention area.

The survey took place from 17 June 2022 to 12 July 2022. The main goal was to assess the abundance of Orange roughy on the Walvis Ridge (Divisions B1 and C1), and to collect genetic samples for studies on the stock identity. At the same time, catch rates of the abundance of alfonosinos were estimated.

The cruise leader, Dr. Bjørn Erik Axelsen, provided feedback to the SC on the survey via Zoom video link. He noted that no Orange roughy aggregations were detected during the survey. Nevertheless, the survey managed to collect samples for genetic studies on Orange roughy, and recorded catches on other SEAFO species (Alfonosino, Deep-sea red crab), and collected oceanographic data. SC will study the final report, when available, to plan for future Orange roughy surveys. In the meantime, the SC will obtain more information on the location and timing of spawning aggregations for Orange roughy in the SEAFO CA based on historical data.

Dr. Nikolaos Nikolioudakis consulted the SC on the SEAFO CA survey needs pertaining to the sampling and equipment capabilities for a new Video Assisted Multi-Sampler (VAMS) the EAF-Nansen Programme wants to acquire. SC gave inputs on the survey needs such as the use of bottom trawl gears and acoustics to estimate abundance for key SEAFO species to provide the required management advice; and potentially the use of rock dredges to study impacts on VMEs.

13. Examine, where appropriate, assessments and research done by neighbouring States and other organisations

No research done by neighbouring states and other organisations were presented at the meeting.

14. Data Requests and Research Proposals

FAO plans to convene an inception workshop for the analysis of shark catch data from RV Dr. Fridtjof Nansen surveys in southern Africa. The workshop is scheduled for 16-19 January 2023 in Cape Town, South Africa. FAO requested participation from scientists from national management, academic and civil society institutions and regional bodies to:

1. access data
2. finalise a range of proposed uses
3. complete analyses and commence writing up

It is anticipated that analyses for each proposed knowledge product will be completed during the workshop and outputs finalised during course of 2023.

The Scientific Committee of SEAFO was invited to nominate a scientist with competence in analysing catch data using the program R, to represent SEAFO's interests and to participate in the planned workshop. Mr. Erich Maletzky was nominated to represent SEAFO.

15. Any Other matters

15.1. Report on the Japanese exploratory fishing by FV Shinsei-maru No. 3 (2019) and FV Shinsei-maru No. 8 (2020).

Japan presented a report ([DOC/SC/12/2022](#)) on exploratory fishing during 2019 and 2020. SC noted that Japan has completed two exploratory fishing years on the Discovery Seamount adjacent to existing fishing areas in Division D0. Japan plans to submit a proposal to change these new fishing grounds to existing fishing grounds in the future.

15.2. New FAO/ASFIS codes on four Chaceon species in the SEAFO CA. Japan presented a report on the new FAO/ASFIS codes ([DOC/SC/13/2022](#)).

SC reviewed the updated FAO ASFIS Codes proposed for four species of deep sea crabs that occur in the SEAFO CA. SC recommends to change the ASFIS Code for *Chaceon erythrae* from "CGE" (SEAFO SYSTEM Annex 1) and "GER" (stock status report, logbooks, observer manual and forms) to "YHI". SC further recommends to change the scientific name for Deep-sea red crab from *Chaceon maritae* to *Chaceon erythrae* (SEAFO SYSTEM Annex 1).

15.3. Review of the scientific name of Pelagic armourhead.

The ES presented a document on this matter ([DOC/SC/14/2022](#)). SC took note and recommends the change in the scientific name to be changed accordingly in all relevant SEAFO documents.

15.4. The proposed amendment to Article 8(b) and (d) of the “SEAFO SYSTEM” on the level of lost and /or abandoned gear by gear type was discussed by the SC for recommendations to the CC.

SC discussed the lost and abandoned fishing gear issue and noted that lost gear has three main impacts: ecosystem degradation, marine litter, and safety. SC therefore defines a “major part” of the gear loss, for longline and pot fisheries, as more than 25% of the total length of that line and any part of the trawl gear.

15.5. FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project information update.

The Executive Secretary presented a report on the activities of the FAO Deep-sea Fisheries project to the SC ([DOC/SC/20/2022](#)). SC took note of the continuation of this project and strongly supports participation as it will be beneficial for SEAFO – especially in the aspect of data-poor stock assessment.

15.6. Announcement of exploratory fishing in 2023 by Japan.

Japan announced its intention to conduct exploratory fishing during 2023 in Division D0. A Notice of Intent for exploratory fishing will be submitted in due course.

16. Collate advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2022 meetingAgenda point 7.2

Context: Analyses of Orange roughy genetic samples

Advice: SC recommended to SCAF to allocate an additional amount of N\$ 80,000.00 to fully cover all expenses related to this work.

Agenda point 7.6

Context: Tagging protocols for toothfish

Advice: SC recommends the adoption of the CCAMLR Tagging Protocol for implementation in the SEAFO CA, with a minimum of one toothfish per tonne of green weight fish caught to be tagged. The Observer Forms and Captain’s Logbooks should be updated to include the tagging & recapture sheets in the excel form.

Agenda Point 15.2

Context: New FAO/ASFIS codes on Chaceon species in SEAFO CA

Advice: SC recommends changing the ASFIS Code for *Chaceon erythrae* from “CGE” (SEAFO SYSTEM Annex 1) and “GER” (stock status report, logbooks, observer manual and forms) to “YHI”. SC further recommends changing the scientific name for Deep-sea red crab from *Chaceon maritae* to *Chaceon erythrae* (SEAFO SYSTEM Annex 1).

Agenda Point 15.3

Context: Review of scientific name of Pelagic armourhead

Advice: SC recommends the change in the scientific name in all relevant SEAFO documents.

Agenda point 15.4

Context: Proposed amendment to Article 8 (b) and (d) of the SEAFO System

Advice: SC recommended to the CC to define the term “major part of the gear loss”, for longline and pot fisheries, as more than 25% of the total length of that line and any part of the trawl gear.

Agenda point 15.5

Context: FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project information update

Advice: SC advises that this project is beneficial to SEAFO (especially in the aspect of data-poor stock assessment) and therefore participation should continue.

Agenda point 20

Context: Future Scientific Committee meetings

Advice: SC recommends that physical meetings for SC coincide with TAC review years and that virtual meetings be conducted for non-TAC review years.

SC recommends that physical meetings for SC coincide with stock assessment years and that virtual meetings be conducted for non-TAC review years.

17. 2023 Work Program

The SC compiled the work program for 2023 which includes activities pending from previous years. The 2023 SC Work Plan is as follows:

- 17.1. Finalization of Orange roughy genetic analysis (sending of samples to UP etc.).
- 17.2. South Africa to continue with the Orange roughy data (catch depths & length frequencies) analysis for catches recorded in the EEZ for reporting at the 2023 SC meeting.
- 17.3. Updating of the Observer and Captain's logbook forms to capture tag and recapture information for Patagonian toothfish (ES).
- 17.4. Finalization of standardised SEAFO SC maps and intersessional workshop (ES).
- 17.5. Continue the investigation on the different approaches for quantifying abundance of VMEs from video and image data for drafting guidelines for the SEAFO CA.
- 17.6. Update the relevant SEAFO documents (and database) to incorporate the new FAO/ASFIS codes on four Chaceon species, as well as the scientific name for Pelagic armourhead (by February 2023) (ES).
- 17.7. Obtain more information on the location and timing of spawning aggregations for Orange roughy in the SEAFO CA based on historical data (ES & Mr. Endjambi).
- 17.8. Standardize the CPUE series for key SEAFO commercial fish species for use in stock assessment (Mrs. Maletzky, Kathena, Sarralde, *et. al.*).

18. Budget for 2023

An additional amount of N\$ 80,000.00 is required to complete the genetic analysis in 2023. This is in addition to the N\$ 220,000.00 which have been allocated in 2019 for this purpose.

19. Adoption of the report

The 2022 Scientific Committee Report was adopted at 14:35 on Friday, 25 November 2022.

20. Date and place of the next meeting

The 2023 SC meeting shall conduct a review of the TACs and provide advice for 2024-2025. Five days will be required for this exercise prior to the Commission meeting (preferably 20-24 November 2023).

SC recommends that physical meetings for SC coincide with stock assessment years and that virtual meetings be conducted for non-TAC review years.

21. Closure of meeting

On Friday 25 November 2022 at 15:00, the Chairperson declared the 18th SEAFO Scientific Committee meeting closed. The Chairperson expressed his satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants and the Secretariat for their valuable contributions. The Contracting Parties also expressed their satisfaction with the way the meeting was organised and conducted and thanked the Secretariat.

SC encourages all Contracting Parties to be committed and participate in future SC meetings as this greatly improves the work of SC and the Commission.

APPENDIX I – List of Documents, Agenda and Annotated Agenda of the 18th Scientific Committee Meeting

DOC/SC/00/2022_Rev2 (8 Nov 2022)



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 18TH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETING (SC) – 2022

ACTING CHAIRPERSON: Paul KAINGE (NAMIBIA)
VICE-CHAIR: (ANGOLA)?

VENUE: Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund
DATE: 22-25 November 2022

Document Ref. Number	Agenda Item	Document Title	Provider	Availability of Document
DOC/SC/00/2022	All	List of documents	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/01/2022	All	Provisional agenda of the 18 th Meeting of the Scientific Committee	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/02/2022	All	Provisional annotated agenda of the 18 th Meeting of the Scientific Committee	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/03/2022		Dr Fridtjof Nansen Survey May 2022 – DRAFT Cruise Report	EAF Nansen Project	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/04/2022	12	Dr Fridtjof Nansen Survey June 2022 – DRAFT Cruise Report	EAF Nansen Project	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/05/2022	8/9/10	Landing tables 2022	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/06/2022	9/10	Report on spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/07/2022	11	Stock Status Report – Patagonian toothfish	SC Members 2022	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/08/2022	11	Stock Status Report – Orange roughy	SC Members 2022	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/09/2022	11	Stock Status Report – Deep-sea crab	SC Members 2022	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/10/2022	11	Stock Status Report – Pelagic armourhead/Southern boarfish	SC Members 2022	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/11/2022	11	Stock Status Report – Alfonsino	SC Members 2022	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/12/2022	15	Report of the Japanese exploratory fishing by FV Shinsei-maru No. 3 (2019) and No. 8 (2020)	Japan	Available before meeting

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DOC/SC/13/2022	15	New FAO/ASFIS codes on 4 Chaceon species in the SEAFO CA	Japan	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/14/2022	15	Scientific name of Pelagic armourhead - Review	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/15/2022	7	Explore tagging protocols for toothfish to understand the population connectivity better	EU	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/16/2022	7	Guideline protocol for the collection and storage of genetics samples	EU, South Africa and Namibia	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/17/2022	7	Guidelines on VME quantification from videos	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/18/2022	15	"SEAFO System of Observation, Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement" 2019	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/19/2022	14	Request for SEAFO representation in EAF Nansen workshop	FAO consultant	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/20/2022	15	Information Document – FAO DSF project update	FAO consultant	Available before meeting

DOC/SC/01/2022_Rev2 (8 Nov 2022)

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	South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 18TH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC
COMMITTEE (SC) - 2022**

ACTING CHAIRPERSON: Paul KAINGE (NAMIBIA)
VICE-CHAIR: (ANGOLA) ?

VENUE: Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund
DATE: 22 - 25 November 2022

Item	Agenda Item	Working Document
1	Opening of meeting by Chairperson	
2	Appointment of Rapporteur	
3	Adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements	DOC/SC/01/2022 DOC/SC/02/2022
4	Introduction & Admission of Observers	
5	Introduction of Delegations	
6	Review of submitted SEAFO working documents and any related presentations, allocations to the agenda items	DOC/SC/00/2022
7	Review of the 2022 Work Program	DOC/SC/15/2022 DOC/SC/16/2022 DOC/SC/17/2022
8	Report by the Executive Secretary presenting landing tables updated to the end of August 2022	DOC/SC/05/2022 DOC/SC/06/2022
9	Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data	DOC/SC/06/2022
10	Review the spatial distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms	DOC/SC/06/2022
11	Review Stock Status Report 11.1 Patagonian toothfish 11.2 Orange roughy 11.3 Deep-sea crab 11.4 Pelagic armourhead / Southern boarfish 11.5 Alfonsino	DOC/SC/07/2022 DOC/SC/08/2022 DOC/SC/09/2022 DOC/SC/10/2022 DOC/SC/11/2022
12	Review research activities in the SEAFO CA since October 2021 • Dr Fridtjof Nansen Surveys 2022	DOC/SC/03/2022 DOC/SC/04/2022
13	Examine, where appropriate, assessments and research done by neighboring States and other organizations	

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14	Data Request & Research Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for SEAFO representation in EAF Nansen Workshop 	DOC/SC/19/2022
15	Any other matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report of the Japanese exploratory fishing by FV Shinsei-maru No. 3 (2019) and No. 8 (2020) New FAO/ASFIS codes on 4 Chaceon species in the SEAFO CA Scientific name of Pelagic armourhead – Review The proposed amendment to Article 8 (b) and (d) on the level of lost and/or abandoned gear by gear type – feedback to CC FAO Deep Sea Fisheries Project update - Information 	DOC/SC/12/2022 DOC/SC/13/2022 DOC/SC/14/2022 DOC/SC/18/2022 DOC/SC/20/2022
16	Collate advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2022 meeting	
17	2023 Work Program	
18	Budget for 2023	
19	Adoption of the report	
20	Date and place of the next meeting	
21	Closure of meeting	

DOC/SC/02/2022_Rev2 (8 Nov 2022)

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PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 18TH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC) - 2022

ACTING CHAIRPERSON: Paul KAINGE (NAMIBIA)
VICE-CHAIR: (ANGOLA)?

VENUE: Hansa Hotel, Swakopmund
DATE: 22 – 25 November 2022

1. **Opening of meeting by the Chairperson**
The Chairperson will open the meeting and welcome delegates.
2. **Appointment of Rapporteur**
The Chairperson will ensure the appointment of the rapporteur who will report the Scientific Committee meeting.
3. **Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements**
Members will review and adopt the agenda. Delegates will be informed of any practical arrangements for the meeting by the Executive Secretary ([DOC/SC/01/2022](#) & [DOC/SC/02/2022](#)).
4. **Introduction and admission of Observers**
The Chairperson will announce observers present.
5. **Introduction of Delegations**
The Chairperson will allow participants to introduce themselves.
6. **Review of submitted SEAFO working documents and any related presentations, allocation to the agenda items**
Members will review research/working documents and presentations submitted ([DOC/SC/00/2021](#)).
7. **Review of the 2022 Work Program**
SC listed the following tasks for 2022:
 - 7.1 Establish an Orange roughy Task Team with Namibia (as a coordinator) to develop survey design protocols and criteria intersessionally. SC agree to revive this exercise which started in 2019 and a Task Team consisting of four members from Namibia, EU, Angola and South Africa should work on [DOC/SC/03/2021](#) to present at the 2022 SC meeting.
 - 7.2 Collect samples of Orange roughy in the Namibian EEZ, South African EEZ and SEAFO CA for genetic comparison at the University of Stellenbosch.

DOC/SC/02/2022_Rev2 (8 Nov 2022)

- 7.3 The EU, South Africa and Namibia will review a suitable guideline protocol for the collection and storage of genetics samples. Namibia will liaise with the University of Stellenbosch to follow up on the process of collecting and submitting samples for analysis and to get an updated quotation for the analysis. The collection of genetic samples of the Namibian EEZ, South African EEZ and the SEAFO CA will continue. ([DOC/SC/16/2022](#)).
- 7.4 South Africa to continue with the Orange roughy data (catch depths & length frequencies) analysis for catches recorded in the EEZ for reporting at the 2022 SC meeting.
- 7.5 Annual total columns to be added to all the landing tables by the Executive Secretary.
- 7.6 Explore tagging protocols for toothfish in order to understand the population connectivity better. Assigned to Mr. Roberto Sarraalde (EU). ([DOC/SC/15/2022](#)).
- 7.7 Finalize the work on the standardised SEAFO SC Catch maps for presentation and adoption at the 2022 SC Meeting (Mr. Erich Maletzky, Namibia).
- 7.8 Draft guidelines for using scientific data (video footage & survey counts) in the determination of threshold limits of VME encounters in relation to guidelines in other RFMOs and scientific bodies – assigned to ES. ([DOC/SC/17/2022](#)).
- 8. Report by the ES presenting landing tables updated with data received until 31 August 2022**
The Executive Secretary will present all landings, incidental by-catches and discard tables ([DOC/SC/05/2022](#) & [DOC/SC/06/2022](#)).
- 9. Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data**
Members will review the catches and spatial distribution of non-benthic species as reported by the fishing vessels from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and make recommendations if necessary ([DOC/SC/06/2022](#)).
- 10. Review the spatial distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms (corals, sponges, etc.)**
Members will review the spatial distribution of benthic organisms as reported by the fishing vessels 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and make recommendations if necessary ([DOC/SC/06/2022](#)).
- 11. Review the Stock Status Report**
Members will review the 2022 compiled Stock Status Reports and update where necessary ([DOC/SC/07/2022](#); [DOC/SC/08/2022](#); [DOC/SC/09/2022](#); [DOC/SC/10/2022](#); [DOC/SC/11/2022](#)).
- 12. Review research activities in the SEAFO CA since October 2021**
Members will review research activities conducted between October 2021 and the date of SC meeting. SC will discuss and review information regarding the EAF-Nansen surveys done in 2022 ([DOC/SC/03/2022](#) & [DOC/SC/04/2022](#)).
- 13. Examine, where appropriate, assessments and research done by neighbouring States and other organisations**
Members will examine any applicable assessments and research presented.
- 14. Data Requests and Research Proposals**
Members will evaluate any data requests and research proposals presented. A request for a scientist or scientists from the SC to participate in analysing shark data from the Nansen surveys in the BCLME region will be discussed ([DOC/SC/19/2022](#)).

DOC/SC/02/2022_Rev2 (8 Nov 2022)

15. Any other matters

Any other matters

- Report of the Japanese exploratory fishing by FV Shinsei-maru No. 3 (2019) and No. 8 (2020) ([DOC/SC/12/2022](#))
- New FAO/ASFIS codes on 4 Chaceon species in the SEAFO CA ([DOC/SC/13/2022](#))
- Scientific name of Pelagic armourhead – Review ([DOC/SC/14/2022](#))
- The proposed amendment to Article 8 (b) and (d) on the level of lost and/or abandoned gear by gear type (A task from the Commission in 2019 which got lost due to virtual meetings) ([DOC/SC/18/2022](#)). In 2019 the Commission adopted the proposal from the CC to direct to the SC to examine the proposed amendment to Article 8(b) and (d) on the level of lost and o/or abandoned gear by gear type, which would eventually cause significant adverse effect on marine living resources in the CA, so that the CC could determine relevant amendments of the SEAFO SYSTEM.
“a vessel that has lost or abandoned **a major part** of the gear ...
- FAO Deep-sea Fisheries Project Information update. Report from the FAO will be presented by the ES.

16. Collate advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2022 meeting

SC will collate all the recommendations emanating from the Commission meeting for adoption.

17. 2023 Work Plan

SC to compile a work plan for 2023.

18. Budget for 2023

SC will compile a budget for 2023.

(There is a provision of N\$ 220 000 in the budget which was allocated for genetic analysis).

19. Adoption of the Report

Members will review and adopt the 2022 SC report.

20. Date and place of next meeting

Members will agree on a date and venue for the 2022 SC meeting to be approved by the Commission.

21. Closure of the meeting

The Chairperson will close and adjourn the meeting.

APPENDIX II – List of Participants: 2022 Scientific Committee Meeting**CHAIRPERSON****Paulus KAINGE**

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