

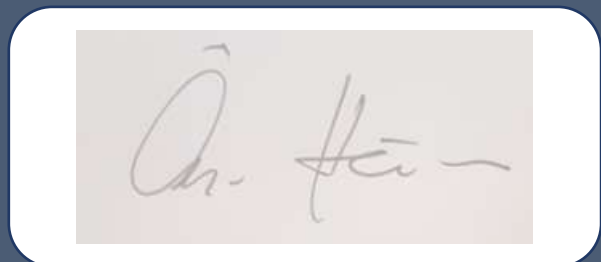


SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION

REPORT OF THE 16TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE - 2020

17 – 18 November 2020
Correspondence

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Mr. Åge HØINES
Chairperson of SEAFO Scientific Committee
Email: aage.hoines@hi.no

1. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson

The 16th Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Scientific Committee (SC) was conducted by correspondence from the 17th to 18th November 2020 with only the most important issues on the agenda. The Chairperson, Mr. Åge Høines opened the meeting officially on the 17th November at 09:00 (GMT+1) by email.

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Secretariate was appointed as rapporteur.

3. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements

SC adopted the agenda ([Appendix I](#)) with the following amendment:

- An additional agenda point was added for “Any other matters” (after agenda point 10) on request from Japan, Norway and South Africa.

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

4. Introduction of Delegates

Thirteen Scientific Committee members were registered for the 16th SEAFO SC meeting (see [Appendix II](#) for list of participants). No members from The Republic of Korea and the EU was registered.

5. Review 2020 work program

This agenda point was not discussed during the correspondence meeting. The Executive Secretary will send out reminder emails at the beginning of 2021 to remind the responsible members of the various tasks (after the list was updated) to be completed for the next SC meeting.

SC listed the following tasks for 2020 during the 2019 SC meeting:

- Continue work by the working group (Secretariat, Namibia and EU) to collect and collate all available orange roughy data and analyse CPUE.

- Collect samples of orange roughy in the Namibian EEZ, South African EEZ and SEAFO CA for genetic comparison at the University of Stellenbosch. Mr. Granville Louw to draft a guideline protocol for the collection and storage of genetics samples.
- Task team to prepare the survey plan for the 2020 EAF Nansen Survey and to give feedback from the 2019 & 2020 Nansen surveys (final and preliminary reports, respectively) at the next SC meeting.
- South Africa to continue with the orange roughy data (catch depths & length frequencies) analysis for catches recorded in the EEZ.
- 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.

6. Report by the ES presenting landing tables

The Executive Secretary presented landings data which was received by the Secretariat between 1 October 2019 and 31 September 2020.

All retained and discarded catches are presented in the landings tables ([DOC/SC/03/2020](#)). The landing tables was edited and corrected by the SC.

SC noted that the figures includes data for one vessel that fished in the CA during 2020 which is a vessel from the Patagonian toothfish longline fishery. By the end of September 2020 data was received of landings of 37 tonnes (13.5 %) of the 275 tonnes TAC set for Sub-Area D.

Another toothfish longline vessel's data were submitted at the end of October 2020 and is not included in this report and a deep-sea crab vessel intends to start fishing towards the end of November 2020. Landings for those two vessels will be included in the landing tables for 2021.

Updates have been made to the 2019 landing figures from a toothfish longline vessel that fished during October 2019 and was not included in the 2019 landings tables.

SC members request the ES to use a comma every three digits to display the landing figures and two digits after the last comma for bycatch weight in Kg.

Japan requested that Logsheet data should be used instead of Observer data and that the landings should be updated for previous years where Observer data was used.

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

The spatial distribution maps for fishing data received from 1 October 2019 to 31 September 2020, as well as the biological data tables, were provided by the Secretariat ([DOC/SC/04/2020](#)).

The SC reviewed the spatial and temporal maps provided by the Secretariat and corrections were made to the document.

8. 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 for fishing data received from 1 October 2019 to 31 September 2020 from the bottom longline fishery (see Tables 23-39 of [DOC/SC/03/2020](#) for data on VME catches).

The SC reviewed the spatial distribution maps provided by the Secretariat.

Glass sponges were added to the list of VME indicators and should be discussed at the next SC meeting for consideration.

9. Review the Stock Status Reports

During the 2019 SC meeting, tasks were assigned to various members to update the Stock Status reports intersessionally. No discussion was done during the correspondence meeting. The Executive Secretary will send reminder emails early in 2021 to the members responsible for the tasks below to be ready for the 2021 meeting.

See the tasks listed below:

- Patagonian toothfish: Make length-frequency graphs more legible, align x-axes for all graphs and include modal length on individual graphs to easily view size changes across years – assigned to Dr. Tsutomu Nishida. (DONE)
- ALL STOCKS STATUS REPORTS: Standardize maps across Stock Status Reports (preferably design an R-script for catch positions and hexagonal aggregations of catch totals per year) – assigned to Mr. Erich Maletzky.
- ALL STOCKS STATUS REPORTS: Standardize referencing across Stock Status Reports – assigned to Executive Secretary. (Referencing was sent to members. Will be sent during 2021 again as reminder)
- STOCKS STATUS REPORTS: Update & validate Alfonsino (BYS) Stock Status Reports catch maps and tables (3, 4 & 5) – assigned to Dr. Arved Staby. (DONE)
- STOCKS STATUS REPORTS: Standardize and update all tables in the Pelagic armourhead (EDR) Stock Status Reports – assigned to Mr. Granville Louw.

10. Review Total Allowable Catches and related Management conditions for Patagonian toothfish, Alfonsino, Pelagic armourhead, Orange roughy and Deep-sea Red Crab.

The SC was supposed to conduct the biennial review the TACs for the usual five species during this meeting. It was however agreed to keep the TAC and management conditions unchanged for the 2021 fishing season from the 2019-2020 period and to review it during the next physical meeting.

10.1 Orange roughy

Zero tonnes and a 4 tonnes bycatch allowance in Division B1, and 50 tonnes in the remainder of the SEAFO CA subject to exploratory fishing protocols.

10.2 Deep-sea red crab

171 tonnes in Division B1 and 200 tonnes in the remainder of the Convention Area.

10.3 Patagonian toothfish

275 tonnes for Sub-area D and zero tonnes for the remainder of the SEAFO CA.

10.4 Alfonsino

200 tonnes for the SEAFO CA of which a maximum of 132 tonnes may be taken in Division B1;

10.5 Southern boarfish/ Pelagic armourhead

135 tonnes for the SEAFO CA.

RECOMMENDATION: All TACs and Management conditions to stay the same for 2021 as for the previous two years (2019-2020).

11. Any Other Matters

Japan plans to conduct the exploratory fishing in 2021. "Notice of Intent according to (CM30-15)" will be circulated to the SC and the Commission via the Secretariat for intersessional evaluations.

The SC would like to express the necessity of having a representative from the EU on the SC, as it is important that matters pertaining to catch -, bycatch - and biological data can be addressed and discussed with a representative of a member country directly.

12. Adoption of the report

The 2020 Scientific Committee Report was adopted at 12:30 (GMT +1) on Wednesday, 18th November 2020.

13. Closure of the meeting

On Wednesday 18th November 2020, at 12:30 (GMT+1), the Chairperson declared the 16th SEAFO Scientific Committee meeting closed. The Chairperson expressed his satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants for their valuable contributions.

APPENDIX I – List of Documents, Agenda and Annotated Agenda of the 16th Scientific Committee Meeting

DOC/SC/00/2020

	The Secretariat Physical Address: 1 Strand Street, NatMirc, Swakopmund, Namibia Phone: + 264 (64) 406-885 • Fax: + 264 (64) 406-884 • Email: info@seafo.org • Website: www.seafo.org
	South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 16TH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETING (SC) – 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Åge Høines (Norway 2019 - 2021) **VENUE:** Correspondence
VICE-CHAIR: Mr. Granville Louw (SA 2019 - 2021) **DATE:** 17-20 November 2020

Document Ref. Number	Agenda Item	Document Title	Provider	Availability of Document
DOC/SC/00/2020	All	List of documents	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/01/2020	All	Provisional agenda of the 16 th Meeting of the Scientific Committee	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/02/2020	All	Provisional annotated agenda of the 16 th Meeting of the Scientific Committee	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/03/2020	6	Landing tables 2020	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/04/2020	7,8	Spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activities and biological data collected	Secretariat	Available before meeting

DOC/SC/01/2020

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<p>South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)</p>	

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 16TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC) - 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Åge Høines (Norway 2019 - 2021) **VENUE:** Correspondence Meetings
VICE-CHAIR: Mr. Granville Louw (SA 2019 - 2021) **DATE:** 17-20 November 2020

Item	Agenda Item	Working Document
1	Opening of the Meeting	
2	Appointment of Rapporteur	
3	Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements	DOC/SC/00/2020 DOC/SC/01/2020 DOC/SC/02/2020
4	Introduction of Delegations	
5	Review of the 2020 work program	
6	Report by the Executive Secretary presenting landing tables updated to September 2020	DOC/SC/03/2020
7	Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data	DOC/SC/04/2020
8	Review the spatial distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms	DOC/SC/04/2020
9	Review Stock Status Report	
10	Review Total Allowable Catches and related Management conditions for Patagonian toothfish, Alfonsino, Pelagic armourhead, Orange roughy and Deep-sea Red Crab	
11	Adoption of the report	
12	Closure of meeting	

DOC/SC/02/2020



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 16TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC) - 2020

CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Åge Høines (Norway 2019 - 2021)**VENUE:** Correspondence**VICE-CHAIR:** Mr. Granville Louw (SA 2019 - 2021)**DATE:** 17-20 November 2020

NOTE: Please note that actions that will take place or will be required during the correspondence meeting are in **RED**

(If the Chairperson is not available at any specified time, the Executive Secretary will stand in to keep the meeting going according to the scheduled times)

1. Opening of the meeting

The Chairperson will open the meeting by email on the 17th November at 8:00 (GMT+1).

2. Appointment of Rapporteur

The Executive Secretary will be the rapporteur.

3. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements

The list of documents, agenda and annotated agenda will be available to members **one month before the meeting** ([DOC/SC/00/2020](#), [DOC/SC/01/2020](#) & [DOC/SC/02/20](#)).

The agenda ([DOC/SC/01/2020](#)) will be shared on Google Docs on the 17th November at 8:00 (GMT +1) and comments will be taken until 9:00 (GMT +1). A no response will count as AGREED and the circulated agenda will be adopted.

Registered delegates (as nominated by the Heads of Delegations) will be informed of any practical arrangements for the meeting by the Executive Secretary on the 17th November 2020 by email between 8:00 and 9:00 GMT.

4. Introduction of Delegates

The Executive Secretary will announce the registered participants attending the meeting on the 17th November 2020 by email between 8:00 and 9:00 GMT.

5. Review 2020 work program

The Executive Secretary will send out reminder emails early during 2021 to remind the responsible members of the various tasks to be completed for the next physical SC meeting. No discussion will be done during the correspondence meeting.

SC listed the following tasks for 2020

- Continue work by the working group (Secretariat, Namibia and EU) to collect and collate all available orange roughy data and analyse CPUE.

DOC/SC/02/2020

- Collect samples of orange roughy in the Namibian EEZ, South African EEZ and SEAFO CA for genetic comparison at the University of Stellenbosch. Mr. Granville Louw to draft a guideline protocol for the collection and storage of genetics samples.
 - Task team to prepare the survey plan for the 2020 EAF Nansen Survey and to give feedback from the 2019 & 2020 Nansen surveys (final and preliminary reports, respectively) at the next SC meeting.
 - South Africa to continue with the orange roughy data (catch depths & length frequencies) analysis for catches recorded in the EEZ.
 - 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.
- 6. Report by the ES presenting landing tables updated to 31 September 2020**
The landings, incidental by-catches, and discard tables, updated to 31 September 2020 (DOC/SC/03/2020), will be available one month before the meeting. Note that updates have been made to the 2019 figures for a fishing trip that was conducted during October 2019.
The landing tables (DOC/SC/03/2020) will be shared Google Docs on 17th November between 8:00 and 9:00 (GMT +1) and comments will be taken until 2:00 (GMT +1) on 18th November.
- 7. Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data**
The catches and spatial distribution of non-benthic species as reported by the fishing vessels in 2019/2020 (DOC/SC/04/2020) will be available one month before the meeting If members have any comments or questions on this, they can email the Chairperson CC/ Executive Secretary during the period from 17-18 November.
- 8. Review the spatial distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms (corals, sponges, etc.)**
The spatial distribution of benthic organisms as reported by the fishing vessels in 2019/2020 (DOC/SC/04/2020) will be available one month before the meeting.
If members have any comments or questions on this, they can email the Chairperson CC/ Executive Secretary during the period from 17-18 November.
- 9. Review the Stock Status Reports**
During the 2019 SC meeting, tasks were assigned to various members to update the Stock Status reports intersessionally. No discussion will be done during the correspondence meeting. The ES will send reminder emails to the members responsible for the tasks below to be ready for the 2021 meeting.

See the tasks listed below:

- Patagonian toothfish: Make length-frequency graphs more legible, align x-axes for all graphs and include modal length on individual graphs to easily view size changes across years – assigned to Dr. Tsutomu Nishida. (DONE)
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- STOCKS STATUS REPORTS: Standardize and update all tables in the Pelagic armourhead (EDR) Stock Status Reports – assigned to Mr. Granville Louw.

DOC/SC/02/2020

10. Review Total Allowable Catches and related Management conditions for Patagonian toothfish, Alfonsino, Pelagic armourhead, Orange roughy and Deep-sea Red Crab.

It was agreed to keep the TAC and management conditions unchanged for the 2021 fishing season and to review it during the next physical meeting.

A recommendation on this will be made to the Commission.

11. Adoption of the report

Members will review and adopt the 2020 SC report.

The report will be shared on the 19th November at 8:00 (GMT+1) by using Google Docs and members can add suggested changes and/or comments until 02:00 (GMT+1) on 19th November. After the changes have been affected, the report will be shared again for adoption on the 19th November at 8:00 (GMT+1) until 9:00 (GMT+1) and forwarded to the Commission.

12. Closure of the meeting

The Chairperson will close and adjourn the meeting by email after the Meeting Report has been adopted.

APPENDIX II – List of Participants: 2020 Scientific Committee Meeting**CHAIRPERSON****Áge HØINES**

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