



## SOUTH EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANISATION

### REPORT OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE - 2018

**19 November to 23 November 2018**  
**Swakopmund**  
**NAMIBIA**

The Secretariat

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Dr. Paulus KAINGE

Chairperson of SEAFO Scientific Committee

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

The 14th Annual Meeting of the SEAFO Scientific Committee (SC) was convened between 19-23 November 2018 at the Strand Hotel, Swakopmund, Namibia. The Chairperson, Paulus Kainge, opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates. He emphasized that it would be a discussion of scientific issues only and that all delegates were expected to freely express their scientific views so that issues can be resolved, and the best possible advice forwarded to the Commission.

## **2. Appointment of Rapporteur**

Hannes Holtzhausen was appointed as rapporteur for the 14<sup>th</sup> SEAFO Scientific Committee meeting.

## **3. Adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements**

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

- Japan: Notice of intent for exploratory fishing in 2019 was added under any other matters ([Agenda item 18.2](#)) for discussion
- Executive Secretary (ES): Received a request from the FAO-ABNJ Project for data was added under [Agenda item 7.6](#).

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

## **4. Introduction and Admission of Observers**

Three observers, one from ACAP and two from CEFAS, attended the meeting and are listed under the “Observers” section of [Appendix II](#).

## **5. Introduction of Delegates**

A total of 9 Scientific Committee members attended the meeting (see [Appendix II](#) for list of participants). No members from Angola or the Republic of Korea attended.

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

A total of 18 working documents were submitted to the Scientific Committee for review and considered during the 2018 SC meeting ([Appendix I](#)).

Japan's latest notice of intent for 2019 exploratory fishing was added to the list of documents ([DOC/SC/18/2018](#)).

## 7. Review of the 2018 work program

7.1 Several work items (focused around Orange roughy) emanated from the 2017 SC meeting and these are outlined below:

- South Africa to collate and provide orange roughy commercial (bycatches) and survey data from within its EEZ to the SEAFO Secretariat for consideration.

The South African delegate explained that orange roughy is only caught as bycatch in the hake directed fishery ([Appendix III](#)). He provided 15 years of catch data of the hake fishery in which a total of only 168 tonnes of orange roughy were recorded. The delegate was requested to provide more information (distribution plots and length/weight relationships) on orange roughy in the South African EEZ at the 2019 SC meeting.

- Collation of additional scientific information from Namibian-Spanish surveys (2008-2010) and the 2015 FAO/EAF-Nansen seamount survey.

The ES presented distribution maps of orange roughy from all surveys and it was decided that the data could not be used for abundance estimation but just to indicate absence/presence. It was noted that catches from the Namibian-Spanish surveys are not included in the SEAFO landing tables.

- Intersessional collation of information on Namibian and SEAFO orange roughy CPUE

Namibia presented CPUE (catch/hour) trends and distribution graphs ([Appendix IV](#)) for the history of the fishery. The ES showed graphs on CPUE (catch/haul) in Namibia and in the in SEAFO CA (1998 – 2005) ([Appendix V](#)). The results indicated discrepancies and further analysis will be conducted intersessionally in 2019.

- Namibia and South Africa to provide biological samples for genetic studies on orange roughy.

Namibia presented a map to show where 20 samples per haul were collected in July ([Appendix VI](#)) this year. South Africa informed the meeting that they were unable to collect any samples this year due to mechanical problems with their research vessel. Namibia informed the SC that the University of Stellenbosch has been approached to assist with the analysis of the samples. The SC requested a budget of N\$150 000 to pay for the analysis of the samples. The FAO-ABNJ project might be able to contribute some funding as well. The Secretariat to facilitate the delivering of the samples to the University.

## 7.2 Intersessional collaboration on the Patagonian toothfish stock dynamics and CPUE standardisation.

Japan presented: Provisional results on GLM standardised CPUE for Patagonian toothfish ([Appendix VII](#)). Results show that there are large uncertainties ( $r^2 < 0.3$ ) in the standardisation methods currently in use, thus results cannot be applied for stock assessments, which is the same situation as in the past (2014, 2015 and 2016).

## 7.3 Development of proposal for an EAF-Nansen Program cruise in 2019.

The proposal was developed intersessionally by the sub-group in SC and forwarded to the EAF-Nansen programme who confirmed that the survey will go ahead.

## 7.4 Attempt to develop risk assessment approaches for new or re-emerging SEAFO fisheries.

The EU stated that this exercise was related to a similar study on elasmobranchs in the SIOFA area, which is not yet finalized. Preliminary analysis indicated that biological information has to be refined and doubts were raised on the geographical species distributions used.

## 7.5 Intersessional consideration for the development of ecosystem status reporting.

SC noted that this request is dependent on outputs from previous assignments (in particular to identify criteria for maximum acceptable ecosystem impacts of fisheries in relation to inter alia habitat impacts and incidental bycatch and risk assessment for potential target species where there is no current fishery), and thus this task will be deferred until results are produced from these preceding tasks. The SC will have this on the agenda for future meetings.

## 7.6 The FAO-ABNJ Deep Seas Project in collaboration with the NPFC organized a VME workshop from 12-15 March 2018

Japan and Norway were nominated to attend this workshop but they had to cancel. The ES showed some highlights from the workshop report ([DOC/SC/13/2018](#)).

## 7.7 FAO-ABNJ Deep Seas Project activities (e.g. follow up: orange roughy workshop and red crab desktop study)

CSIRO (Hobart-Tasmania) requested SEAFO to provide fishing effort data for a FAO-GEF-ABNJ Project "CSIRO Component on a Risk Assessment to Biodiversity from Deep Sea Fishing Gears". CSIRO has been contracted by FAO to provide a risk assessment for deep sea fishing gears on biodiversity. This will require adapting the Productivity-Susceptibility Analysis (PSA) methodology to work with new statistical models that CSIRO has developed ([Appendix VIII](#)).

The SC analysed the request and agreed that the delivery of data is a matter for the Commission to consider. Furthermore, some concerns were expressed by the SC regarding the potential benefits of this study for SEAFO, but also expressed doubts concerning the application of these methodologies. Improved data refining is required when specific biological information is not available and when using inaccurate geographical species distribution.

SC referred the data request to the Commission taking into account the above comments.

The ES is in contact with the ABNJ Project Coordinator and also attended the steering committee meeting in April this year in the UK. The ES presented the document on the project update ([DOC/SC/15/2018](#)) and explained the involvement of SEAFO. The ES also commented on the orange roughy and deep-sea red crab workshops which have both been put on hold as the project schedule is already fully committed.

7.8 Data provision to the SC and data validation (by stock coordinators) to be completed by mid-September 2018, given that the Secretariat receives data from CPs by end of August 2018. Stock Status Reports to be updated (post-data validation) intersessionally leading up to the 2018 SC meeting.

The ES explained that according to the decision made in 2017, the data must be submitted by the end of August, however some fisheries are still active so it is not really practical to submit at this time. The SC agreed that data received a month before the start of the meeting will be processed and analyzed.

7.9 Review of the 2016 SC “Procedures and Standards for SEAFO SC’s Consideration of Proposals for Exploratory Fishing” – in light of experiences gained during the 2017 SC meeting.

The SC discussed this matter and decided that the procedures are appropriate. However, it was emphasized that it might be necessary to improve evaluation criteria and documentation requirements concerning VME encounters in exploratory fisheries in the future. SC took note of this but did not take action as no new experience had been gained.

## **8. Report by the Executive Secretary presenting landing tables updated to September 2018**

The ES presented data and related information submitted by CPs, including additional information made available by SC members. All retained and discarded catches are presented in the landings tables ([DOC/SC/03/2018](#)).

SC noted that only two vessels fished in the CA this year, one in the deep-sea red crab pot fishery and the other in the Patagonian toothfish longline fishery. The deep-sea red crab fishery landed 96 % of the TAC (180 tonnes) in Division B1 and the Patagonian toothfish fishery landed 22 % (266 tonnes) of the TAC in sub-area D.

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

The spatial distribution maps for all fishing activities recorded during 2018, as well as the biological data tables, were provided and are included in the updated Stock Status Reports.

The SC reviewed the spatial and temporal maps as provided by the Secretariat and noted that fishing activities occurred in the traditional fishing grounds. The SC also noted an increase in the number of sets and fishing days compared to 2017 ([Appendix IX](#)).

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

The SC reviewed and updated all data on incidental catches of VME species and spatial distribution of the bottom longline fishery (see tables 23-38 of [DOC/SC/03/2018](#) for data on VME catches).

The SC reviewed the spatial distribution of catches and noted that few (20 out of 100 sets) had VME indicator species. The bycatch per set ranged from 0.02kg to 1.8kg with a mean bycatch of 0.295kg for these sets. The mean bycatch for all 100 sets was 0.06kg/set.

## **11. Review Stock Status Reports**

All Stock Status Reports were reviewed, updated and are presented as follows:

### **11.1 Patagonian toothfish - ([DOC/SC/04/2018](#))**

The SC noted that for the last 8 years catches were very low and not near the 200 tonnes TAC. The Japanese vessel was out of operation for 4 months of this year. It should be noted that the fishing effort associated with this vessel is of an opportunistic nature. The Commission should be made aware of these likely reasons for the low catches over the last few years.

The ES informed the SC that in 2016 an IUU vessel caught 101 tonnes in the SEAFO CA.

### 11.2 Orange roughy - ([DOC/SC/05/2018](#))

The conservation measure 32/16 on the moratorium of a direct fishery for orange roughy was discussed in detail. Historically, all catch is associated in Division B1. There is currently a zero tonnes allocation (moratorium) with a 4 tonnes bycatch allowance in Division B1, with 50 tonnes allowance in the remainder of the SEAFO CA. The SC recommends status quo in Division B1 and that a 50 tonnes TAC in the remainder of the SEAFO CA is subjected to exploratory fishing protocols.

The SC also deliberated on a possible research quota for Division B1 and set up a task team to develop research criteria that will guide the evaluation of potential applicants in 2021. A research quota could provide an incentive to operators to collect fishery data required to inform management advice.

### 11.3 Deep-sea red crab - ([DOC/SC/06/2018](#))

The SC approved of all changes made to the report.

### 11.4 Pelagic armourhead/Southern boarfish - ([DOC/SC/07/2018](#))

The SC approved of all changes made to the report.

### 11.5 Alfonsino - ([DOC/SC/08/2018](#))

The SC approved of all changes made to the report.

## 12. Review research activities in the SEAFO CA since October 2017 to date

No new research activities were conducted within the SEAFO CA during 2018.

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

### 13.1 History of the demersal seamount fishery in Tristan da Cunha ([DOC/SC/16/2018](#))

The observers from CEFAS presented a paper that summarize the history of the seamount fishery in Tristan da Cunha and outlined some of the fishery-specific actions that are being undertaken within the Blue Belt programme. CEFAS detailed a tagging programme that is underway for bluenose and would be grateful to the SC if any returns of these tags could be reported to CEFAS.

### 13.2 RRS James Clark Ross survey to Tristan da Cunha and St Helena ([DOC/SC/17/2018](#))

The observers from CEFAS presented a paper on a research survey that was conducted in March and April 2018 on board the RRS *James Clark Ross* covering the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) of Tristan da Cunha and St Helena. This survey was conducted to investigate the marine environments of these remote areas and address gaps in knowledge identified during discussions with local governments and stakeholders.

They also offered to collect acoustic data on the survey in March/April 2019 while in transit through the SEAFO CA. The principal scientific officers of the next survey have agreed to offer this data and note that data from the previous survey is also available.

The SC expressed its appreciation of the presentations and requested to be kept informed of any new developments or progress. The SC noted that CEFAS are interested in data sharing with SEAFO (FAO/EAF Nansen surveys conducted in the SEAFO CA) and appropriate data request procedures will be followed.

### 13.3 Orange roughy surveys in Namibian waters:

Namibia stated that the 2016 orange roughy survey report was previously presented to SC. Further updates on Namibian orange roughy surveys (2017 & 2018) will be provided in future SC meetings.

## 14. Further Research on SEAFO seamounts under the EAF-Nansen programme in 2019

Draft Sailing orders ([DOC/SC/09/2018](#))

The SC appreciated the positive response from the EAF-Nansen programme to this request and consider this opportunity to be of great importance in addressing knowledge gaps in the SEAFO CA. The two areas that will be surveyed are Discovery and West which are important for the Patagonian toothfish fishery and the conservation of VME's. The SC anticipates that the outcomes of the survey will be helpful to SEAFO in reviewing conservation measures relevant to these areas. The SC nominated the South African participant, Granville Louw, to be the co-cruise leader.

## 15. Report of the NAFO Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM).

The Chair represented SEAFO during this workshop and gave feedback on the discussions and the lessons learned for SEAFO from the NAFO experience ([DOC/SC/10/2018](#)).

The Chair, who attended the meeting on behalf of SEAFO, reported back and was supported by Japan who also attended. The Chair emphasized that the roadmap developed by NAFO on EAF assessment and advice could be of relevance to SEAFO. The roadmap comprises of five ecosystem levels. It was also emphasized that to implement this multi-species ecosystem approach to fisheries management in the SEAFO CA, more relevant data are required from either research surveys, commercial fishing, or exploratory fishing.

The SC took note of this development in NAFO and will consider the implementation of this management approach for future advice, commensurate with SEAFO requirements and subject to data availability.



## **16. Review Total Allowable Catches and related management conditions for Patagonian toothfish, Alfonsino, Pelagic armourhead, Orange roughy and Deep-sea red crab**

### **16.1 Orange roughy**

There is no fishery data available since 2005 for orange roughy within the SEAFO CA, as a result SC cannot conduct stock assessment of the orange roughy stock within the Convention Area. The conservation measure 32/16 on the moratorium of a direct fishery for orange roughy was discussed in detail. Historically, most catch has occurred in Division B1. There is currently zero tonnes allocation (moratorium) with a 4 tonnes bycatch allowance in Division B1, with 50 tonnes allowance in the remainder of the SEAFO CA. To provide an incentive to generate fishery data on which to base management decisions, the SC recommended a 50 tonnes TAC outside Division B1 subject to exploratory fishing protocols.

The SC recommends status quo inside Division B1 for the next two years. For 2021, the SC recommends that a TAC is set for pre-planned exploratory fishing inside Division B1. The plan shall be evaluated by the SC and accepted by the Commission prior to commencement of the fishery, and the objective of the fishery shall be to generate data for evaluating the status of the stock and the potential for future sustainable fishing. The SC shall in 2019 form an intersessional task team mandated to develop criteria for evaluation of the exploratory fishing plan. SC agreed that Namibia be given the responsibility to set up this task team and the group should work intersessionally before the next SC meeting. A harvest control rule shall be developed for orange roughy in the future as data becomes available.

### **16.2 Deep-sea red crab**

Significant crab fisheries have been conducted in B1 since 2005, and at the start of the CPUE series (2013) the fishery was well established. This is thus not a new fishery where a strong decline in the CPUE might be expected. The perception in 2017 of a stable fishery with no significant negative trend was based on a CPUE series for the years 2010-2017 (but with 2016 missing). For the shorter but more reliable series from 2013-2018, the slope is negative and the CPUE level in 2018 is only about 50% of that in 2013. This suggests a fast declining abundance, i.e. a result in stark contrast to the perception last year. In addition, significant changes in the sex composition is observed during the time-series, with a decline in the proportion of males, and this larger individuals. The decline in CPUE and the sex composition/size composition change are worrying signs and creates uncertainty that requires cautious action.

The HCR was designed during a period when the crab fishery was perceived as relatively stable or varying without trend. It was not designed to handle a situation of strong and steady decline in CPUE as suggested by the 2013-2018 CPUE series. Using the HCR and the "Rule 2" produces a TAC=41 tonnes. However, the TAC becomes 171 tonnes when applying the 5% restriction on changes between years. This TAC is thus 4.2 times the figure suggested by the HCR, which does not appear as a precautionary option.

Japan expressed the following statement:

*Based on the landing table (SEAFO, 2018), deep-sea red crab catch data by crab pot fisheries in SEAFO CA is available since 2001. According to the landing table, the high catch more than 300 tonnes was reported in 2005-2007 (307, 389, 818 tonnes respectively). Afterwards, catch have been decreased to less than 200 tonnes (partially due to the TAC limit). The standardized CPUE has been declining since 2011. This is most probably caused by high catch in 2005-2007. Hence the CPUE (2018) is about a half of CPUE (2013), which is not a good situation for the stock.*

*However, the HCR will improve this situation by the self-control system, i.e., when the slope is the negative, precautionary  $\lambda=2$  (instead of  $\lambda=1$ ) is applied to reduce TAC much lower (note:  $\lambda$ : TAC control coefficient of slope). But  $\pm 5\%$  (constraint of TAC change) limits the large reduction or increase of TAC. Thus, if HCR is used and when CPUE decrease continuously, TAC will be reduced continuously to prevent the further reduction of CPUE. Although it is the slow process, the stock will be continuously protected in the long term. The same situation is applied for the case when CPUE increase very largely, i.e., HCR will prevent large increase of TAC by the +5% constraint. Therefore, if HCR is applied, the stock will be protected in an optimum way in a long term. Thus, HCR should be continuously used. It is noted that NAFO and CCSBT use the same HCR for 5-10 years without any problems. In SEAFO, HCR was just adopted in 2016 and it is too early to change to other methods without evaluating HCR.*

### 16.3 Patagonian toothfish

Applying the HCR based on an average of the CPUE slopes on Meteor and Discovery a TAC estimate of 275 tonnes was derived. The SC recommends a TAC for Sub-Area D of 275 tonnes and a zero TAC for the remainder of the SEAFO CA for the next two years.

### 16.4 Alfonsino

The SC recommends a TAC of 200 tonnes (status quo) for the SEAFO CA, of which a maximum of 132 tonnes may be taken in Division B1 for the next two years.

### 16.5 Southern boarfish

The SC recognises that the uncertainties expressed in the past are still relevant and thus advises that the status quo (135 tonnes) be maintained. It should be emphasized that the state of the stock is unknown.

## 17. MOU ACAP/SEAFO

The Observer from ACAP presented background information on ACAP and the MOU which was drafted by the ACAP Secretariat and SEAFO for consideration by the SC ([DOC/SC/11/2018](#); [DOC/SC/12/2018](#)).

The SC took note of the draft MoU and consider that it could be a useful mechanism to progress matters related to seabird bycatch within the SEAFO CA. The SC also noted that the idea of a MoU was deferred by the SC to the Commission of 2015 and the commission requested that a draft MoU be presented at a future point. Consequently the SC recommends that the Commission considers the formalisation of a MoU with ACAP as set out in document ([DOC/SC/11/2018](#)).

## 18. Any Other Matters

18.1 The SC to reconsider a revision of protocols for opening of areas closed to all fisheries as discussed during the 2017 SC Meeting - ([DOC/SC/14/2018](#)).

In 2017 the SC discussed this request and drafted a 7-point protocol. However, SC did not explicitly recommend the protocol for consideration by the Commission at the time. The SC now recommends this protocol for the Commission to consider.

18.2 Japan: Notice of intent for exploratory fishing in 2019 ([DOC/SC/18/2018](#))

The SC refers to its comments in the 2017 SC report to the Commission. The proposal for 2019 is to continue the exploratory activity in the same geographical area. A concern was raised about the inclusion of the two most southern 1x1 degree grids in the proposed Discovery area which seem to be deeper than 2000m; Regulation 3 CM 30-15 (Annex 5) states that no exploratory fishing may take place in depths deeper than the 2000m depth isobath.

There is no additional information provided this year that would warrant a full new evaluation, hence the recommendation remains the same as in 2017. However, the SC noted the decision by the 2017 annual meeting of the Commission to close the two rectangles within the proposed exploratory fishing area from exploration. The SC (apart from Japan) recommends that a corresponding action is also adopted for the 2019 exploratory fishery.

It was noted that Japan is still not clear about the scientific reasons and justification why two small areas with 1-2% of threshold values of the corals should be closed, even using trot longline (least bottom contact gear).

**19. Collate advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2018 meeting****Agenda point 7.7**

Context: The team leader on Marine Biodiversity of CSIRO (Hobart-Tasmania) requested SEAFO to provide fishing effort data for a FAO-GEF-ABNJ Project “CSIRO Component on a Risk Assessment to Biodiversity from Deep Sea Fishing Gears”.

Advice: The SC referred the data request to the Commission for consideration ( [Appendix VIII](#)).

**Agenda point 16**

All TACs are recommended for the next two years (2019-2020).

**Agenda point 16.1**

Context: Orange Roughy.

Advice: The SC recommends a status quo (zero TAC and 4 tonnes bycatch) in Division B1 and a 50 tonnes TAC in the remainder of SEAFO CA subject to exploratory fishing protocols.

**Agenda point 16.2**

Context: Deep-sea red crab.

Advice: The SC recommends a TAC of 171 tonnes in Division B1 and status quo in the remainder of the SEAFO CA (200 tonnes).

**Agenda point 16.3**

Context: Patagonian toothfish.

Advice: The SC recommends a TAC for Sub-area D of 275 tonnes and a zero TAC for the remainder of the SEAFO CA.

**Agenda point 16.4**

Context: Alfonsino.

Advice: The SC recommends a status quo (TAC of 200 tonnes) for the SEAFO CA, of which a maximum of 132 tonnes may be taken in Division B1.

**Agenda point 16.5**

Context: Southern boarfish.

Advice: The SC recommends a status quo (TAC of 135 tonnes).

### **Agenda point 17**

Context: A draft MoU between ACAP Secretariat and SEAFO.

Advice: The SC recommends that the Commission considers the formalisation of a MoU with ACAP.

### **Agenda point 18.1**

Context: Consideration of protocols for opening of areas closed to all fisheries.

Advice: The SC recommends the protocols to the Commission for consideration.

### **Agenda point 18.2**

Context: Japan's Notice of intent for exploratory fishing in 2019.

Advice: The SC (excluding Japan) recommends no changes to the decision taken during the 2017 Commission meeting.

### **Agenda point 21**

Context: Budget for 2019

Advice: The SC requires N\$220 000 for genetic (genomics) analysis of orange roughy samples. N\$50 000 is available for the SC from the previous budget (orange roughy and deep-sea red crab workshops). Therefore the SC requests an additional N\$170 000 for 2019.

## **20. 2019 Work Program**

The SC discussed the work program for 2019 and outlined activities still pending for the remainder of 2018 as follows:

- 20.1 Establish an Orange roughy Task Team with Namibia (as a coordinator) to develop survey design protocols and criteria intersessionally. The Task Team will consist of four members from Namibia, EU, Norway and South Africa.
- 20.2 Establish a working group (Secretariat, Namibia and EU) that will collect and collate all available orange roughy data and analyse CPUE.
- 20.3 Collect genetic samples of orange roughy in the SEAFO CA and the South African EEZ as well as getting funding for analysis.
- 20.4 The South African delegate was requested to provide more information (distribution plots and length/weight relationships) on orange roughy in the South African EEZ at the 2019 SC meeting.

20.5 Establish a FAO-Nansen survey task team to prepare and present feedback from the 2019 Nansen survey at the next SC meeting.

## **21. Budget for 2019**

The SC requires N\$220 000 for genetic (genomics) analysis of orange roughy samples. N\$50 000 is available for the SC from the previous budget (orange roughy and deep-sea red crab workshops). Therefore the SC requests N\$170 000 for 2019.

## **22. Election of New Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019-2021**

According to the SC Rules of Procedure part III (10), Norway and South Africa were elected as chair and vice-chair respectively for the next term of 3 years (2019-2021).

## **23. Adoption of the report**

The 2018 Scientific Committee Report was adopted at 16:52 on Friday, 23 November 2018.

## **24. Date and place of the next meeting**

SC agreed that the date and the venue for the 2019 SC meeting be at the discretion of the Commission.

## **25. Closure of meeting**

On Friday 23 November 2018 at 16:55, the Chairperson declared the 14<sup>th</sup> SEAFO Scientific Committee meeting closed. The Chairperson expressed his satisfaction for the work accomplished and thanked all participants for their valuable contributions. The CPs expressed their heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the outgoing chair and also for his leadership, dedication and patience during the 7 years of his tenure.

## APPENDIX I: List of Documents, Agenda and Annotated Agenda of the 14<sup>th</sup> Scientific Committee Meeting - 2018



The Secretariat

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DOC/SC/00/2018

### South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

#### LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE 14TH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC) MEETING - 2018

**CHAIR:** Paul Kainge (NAMIBIA 2017-2018)

**Venue:** Strand Hotel, Swakopmund

**VICE-CHAIR:** Granville Louw (SOUTH AFRICA 2017-2018)

**Date:** 19-24 November 2018

Document Number	Agenda Item	Document Title	Provider	Availability of Document
DOC/SC/00/2018	All	List of documents	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/01/2018	All	Provisional agenda of the 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Scientific Committee	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/02/2018	All	Provisional Annotated Agenda of the 14 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Scientific Committee	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/03/2018	8/9/10	Landing tables 2018	Secretariat	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/04/2018	11	Stock Status Report Patagonian toothfish	Secretariat	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/05/2018	11	Stock Status Report Orange roughy	Secretariat	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/06/2018	11	Stock Status Deep-sea Red Crab	Secretariat	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/07/2018	11	Stock Status Report of Southern Boarfish/pelagic amouthead	Secretariat	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/08/2018	11	Stock Status Report of Alfonsino	Secretariat	Available during meeting
DOC/SC/09/2018	14	Draft Sailing orders of the 2019 EAF-Nansen Survey	Secretariate/EAF Nansen	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/10/2018	15	Report of the NAFO Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM)	Chair	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/11/2018	17	ACAP/SEAFO MOU	ACAP/Secretariate	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/12/2018	17	ACAP Background Document	ACAP	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/13/2018	7	Report on NPFC VME workshop March 2018	Secretariate	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/14/2018	18	Principles underlying evaluations of appropriateness of VME closures and possible protocols for revision of closures (APPENDIX XI from 2017 SC Report)	Japan	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/15/2018	7	ABNJ Deep Seas Project Update 2018	FAO/ABNJ Deep Seas Project	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/16/2018	13	History of the demersal seamount fishery in Tristan da Cunha	Cefas	Available before meeting
DOC/SC/17/2018	13	RRS James Clark Ross survey to Tristan da Cunha and St Helena	Cefas	Available before meeting

DOC/SC/01/2018



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

### PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC) - 2017

**CHAIR:** Paul Kainge (NAMIBIA 2017-2018)**Venue:** Strand Hotel, Swakopmund**VICE-CHAIR:** Granville Louw (SOUTH AFRICA 2017-2018)**Date:** 19-23 November 2018

	Agenda Item	Working Document
1	Opening of Meeting by Chairperson	
2	Appointment of Rapporteur	
3	Adoption of the Agenda and Meeting Arrangements	DOC/SC/01/2018 DOC/SC/02/2018
4	Introduction and Admission of Observers	
5	Introduction of Delegates	
6	Review of submitted SEAFO working documents and any related presentations, allocation to the agenda items	DOC/SC/00/2018
7	Review 2018 work program	DOC/SC/13/2018 DOC/SC/15/2018
8	Report by the Executive Secretary presenting landing table updated to September 2018	DOC/SC/03/2018
9	Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data	DOC/SC/03/2018
10	Review the spatial distribution of reported catches of benthic organisms	DOC/SC/03/2018
11	Review Stock Status Reports 12.1 Patagonian toothfish 12.2 Orange roughy 12.3 Deep-sea Red Crab 12.4 Southern boarfish/pelagic amourhead 12.5 Alfonsino	DOC/SC/04/2018 DOC/SC/05/2018 DOC/SC/06/2018 DOC/SC/07/2018 DOC/SC/08/2018
12	Review research activities in the SEAFO CA since October 2017 to date	
13	Examine, where appropriated, assessments and research done by neighboring States and other organizations	DOC/SC/16/2018 DOC/SC/17/2018
14	Further Research on SEAFO seamounts under the EAF-Nansen programme in 2019	DOC/SC/09/2018
15	Report of the NAFO Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM)	DOC/SC/10/2018
16	Review Total Allowable Catches and related Management Conditions for Patagonion Toothfish, Alfonsino, Amourhead, Orange roughy and Deep-sea Red Crab	
17	MOU ACAP/SEAFO	DOC/SC/11/2018 DOC/SC/12/2018
18	Any other matters	DOC/SC/14/2018
19	Collate Advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2018 meeting	
20	2019 Work Programme	

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21	Budget for 2019	
22	Election of New Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019-2020	
23	Date and place of the next meeting	
24	Adoption of the report	
25	Closure of the meeting	

DOC/SC/02/2018



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South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO)

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (SC) - 2018****CHAIR:** Mr P Kainge (NAMIBIA)**Venue:** Strand Hotel, Swakopmund**VICE-CHAIR:** Mr G Louw (SOUTH AFRICA)**Date:** 19-23 November 2018**1. Opening and welcome remarks by the Chairperson**

The Chairperson will open the meeting and welcome delegates.

**2. Appointment of Rapporteur**

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

**3. 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/01/2018](#) & [DOC/SC/02/2018](#)).**4. Introduction and Admission 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/00/2018](#)).**7. Review 2018 work program**

SC listed the following tasks for 2018:

7.1 A number of work items (focused around Orange roughy) emanated from the 2017 SC meeting and these are outlined below:

- South Africa to collate and provide orange roughy commercial (bycatches) and survey data from within its EEZ to the SEAFO Secretariat for consideration (Agenda Point 7.1).
- Collation of additional scientific information from Namibian-Spanish surveys (2008-2010) and the 2015 Dr. Fridtjof Nansen seamount survey (Agenda Point 7.1).

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- Intersessional collation of information on Namibian and SEAFO orange roughy CPUE (Section 7.1.1).
  - Namibia and South Africa to provide biological samples for genetic studies on orange roughy (Section 19.2)
- 7.2 Intersessional collaboration on the Patagonian toothfish stock dynamics and CPUE standardization (Agenda Point 7.2).
- 7.3 Development of proposal for an EAF-Nansen Program cruise in 2019 (Agenda Point 14).
- 7.4 Attempt to develop risk assessment approaches for new or re-emerging SEAFO fisheries (Agenda Point 17.3).
- 7.5 Intersessional consideration for the development of ecosystem status reporting (Agenda Point 17.4).
- 7.6 FAO-ABNJ Deep Seas Project in collaboration with NPFC. VME workshop participation: 12-15 March 2018 (Section 7.4.5). NPFC VME workshop report ([DOC/SC/13/2018](#)).
- 7.7 FAO-ABNJ Deep Seas Project activities (e.g. follow up: orange roughy workshop and red crab desktop study – Agenda Point 7.4) ([DOC/SC/15/2018](#)).
- 7.8 Data provision to SC and data validation (by stock co-ordinators) to be completed by mid-September 2018, given that the Secretariat receives data from CPs by end of August 2018. Stock Status Reports to be updated (post-data validation) intersessionally leading up to the 2018 SC meeting.
- 7.9 Review of the 2016 SC “Procedures and Standards for SEAFO SC’s Consideration of Proposals for Exploratory Fishing” – in light of experiences gained during the 2017 SC meeting.
- 8. Report by the Executive Secretary presenting landing tables updated to September 2018.**  
The Executive Secretary will present all landings, incidental by-catch and discard tables updated to September 2018 ([DOC/SC/03/2018](#)).
- 9. Review spatial and temporal distribution of fishing activity and biological data.**  
The meeting will review the catches and spatial distribution of non-benthic species as reported by the fishing vessels in 2018 and make recommendations if necessary ([DOC/SC/03/2018](#)).
- 10. 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 2018 and make recommendations if necessary ([DOC/SC/03/2018](#)).

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**11. Review Stock Status Reports**

The meeting will review the Stock Status Reports compiled in 2018 and updating the reports where necessary ([DOC/SC/04/2018](#); [DOC/SC/05/2018](#); [DOC/SC/06/2018](#); [DOC/SC/07/2018](#); [DOC/SC/08/2018](#)).

**12. Review research activities in the SEAFO CA since October 2017 to date**

The meeting will review research activities conducted between October 2017 and date of the SC meeting.

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

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

- History of the demersal seamount fishery in Tristan da Cunha ([DOC/SC/16/2018](#)).
- RRS James Clark Ross survey to Tristan da Cunha and St Helena ([DOC/SC/17/2018](#)).

**14. Further Research on SEAFO seamounts under the EAF-Nansen programme in 2019**

([DOC/SC/09/2018](#)). SC should discuss the draft sailing orders of the 2019 survey and participation in the survey.

**15. Report of the NAFO Joint Commission-Scientific Council Working Group on Ecosystem Approach Framework to Fisheries Management (WG-EAFFM).**

The Chair represented SEAFO during this workshop and will give feedback on the discussions and the lessons learned for SEAFO from the NAFO experience ([DOC/SC/10/2018](#)).

**16. Review Total Allowable Catches and related management conditions for Patagonian Toothfish, Alfonsino, Amourhead, Orange Roughy and Deep-sea Red.**

SC will recommend TAC's for Patagonian Toothfish, Alfonsino, Amourhead, Orange Roughy and Deep-sea Red Crab for 2019/2020.

**17. MOU ACAP/SEAFO**

An Observer from ACAP will present background information on ACAP and the MOU which was drafted by ACAP and the SEAFO Secretariate for consideration by the SC ([DOC/SC/11/2018](#); [DOC/SC/12/2018](#)).

**18. Any other matters:**

- 18.1 The Commission to reconsider a revision of protocols for opening of areas closed to all fisheries as discussed during the 2017 SC Meeting - ([DOC/SC/14/2018](#)) - Japan.

**19. Collate advice and recommendations to the Commission on issues emanating from the 2018 meeting**

SC will collate all recommendations emanating to the Commission for adoption.

**20. 2019 work program**

SC to compile a work plan for 2019.

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**21. Budget for 2019.**

SC will compile a budget for 2019.

**22. Election of New Chair and Vice-Chair for 2019-2020**

SC will appoint the new Chair and Vice-Chair for the next 2-year period.

**23. Adoption of the report.**

The meeting will review and adopt the 2018 SC report.

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

The meeting will agree on a date and venue for the 2019 SC meeting to be approved by the Commission.

**25. Closure of the meeting.**

The Chairperson will close and adjourn the meeting.

## APPENDIX II – List of Participants 2018 Scientific Committee Meeting

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