

Effectiveness of Seabird Mitigation Measures Technical Group
4 – 6 November 2014
Tokyo, Japan
Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of meeting
 - 1.1. Welcome
 - 1.2. Meeting Arrangements
2. Purpose of meeting
 - 2.1. Terms of Reference

Outline the Terms of Reference to ensure a common understanding of their implications and to enable a focused meeting.
 - 2.2. Adoption of Agenda
 - 2.3. Meeting outputs and rapporteurs

Agree the type and format of outputs from the meeting. Assign rapporteurs for producing the report of the meeting and specific agreed outputs. There will be two outputs from the meeting: a short report of the meeting which will simply be a record of the meeting occurring; and, revisions to the draft scoping paper.
3. Scoping paper

Share general comments on scoping paper (detailed comments on sections 4-8 of the scoping paper will be covered in Agenda items 4-8).
4. Identify and evaluate methods available to review the content and coverage of tuna RFMO seabird conservation and management measures

Taking into consideration immediate versus longer term approaches, feasibility, practicality, timeliness and effectiveness. Note that this section of the agenda will have key questions identified in the draft scoping paper, and the discussion at the meeting is expected to focus on those questions.

 - 4.1. Identify and evaluate methods to assess whether the current tuna RFMO seabird conservation and management measures reflect best practice (bycatch mitigation requirements and their technical specifications)
 - 4.2. Methods to measure and assess the appropriate application (spatially, temporal, vessel type) of tuna RFMO seabird conservation and management measures
5. Identify and evaluate methods available to review the data collected and reported by tuna RFMO longline fleets

Taking into consideration immediate versus longer term approaches, feasibility, practicality, timeliness and effectiveness. Note that this section of the agenda will have key questions identified in the draft scoping paper, and the discussion at the meeting is expected to focus on those questions.

 - 5.1. Identify and evaluate methods to review extent of bycatch data collection systems and processes and assess their utility with respect to measuring and monitoring the effectiveness of seabird conservation and management measures
 - 5.2. Identify and evaluate methods to review extent of bycatch data reporting

5.3. Identify and evaluate methods to review availability and accuracy of fishing effort data

Fishing effort data may be required to estimate total seabird bycatch or undertake risk assessment (Agenda item 7). Discuss feasible and practical methods to assess availability of effort data.

6. Identify and evaluate methods to measure and monitor the degree of implementation of seabird conservation and management measures by SBT longline vessels/fleets

Taking into consideration immediate versus longer term approaches, feasibility, practicality, timeliness and effectiveness. Note that this section of the agenda will have key questions identified in the draft scoping paper, and the discussion at the meeting is expected to focus on those questions.

7. Identify and evaluate methods to measure and monitor the level and impact of seabird bycatch by SBT longline fisheries

Taking into consideration immediate versus longer term approaches, feasibility, practicality, timeliness and effectiveness. Note that this section of the agenda will have key questions identified in the draft scoping paper, and the discussion at the meeting is expected to focus on those questions. Although the focus of this workshop will be SBT fisheries impact, it is necessary to consider tuna RFMO impact more broadly to assess the level of impact on seabirds that is attributable to SBT effort.

7.1. Seabird bycatch levels and rates

The discussion here will focus on the advantages and disadvantages of each approach, and what covariates are needed to use these metrics in an effective measuring and monitoring programme rather than a discussion about whether these data are needed.

7.2. Total seabird bycatch per year and region

Discussion will need to be held on the level of regional stratification required (e.g. by tuna RFMO Convention Areas etc.)

7.3. Risk assessment

8. Development and testing of methods

Note that this section of the agenda will have key questions identified in the draft scoping paper and the discussion at the meeting is expected to focus on those questions.

8.1. Identify and plan ways of conducting retrospective analyses of existing data on seabird bycatch mitigation to test developed methods of monitoring effectiveness

Available data sets, means of analysis.

9. Ways of extending monitoring across other tuna RFMOs and bodies with responsibility for seabird bycatch mitigation in longline fisheries

10. Conclusions and recommendations

10.1. Recommendations from this meeting

Recommendations will be focused on immediate and longer-term approaches for monitoring effectiveness, with clear consideration of the feasibility, practicality, timeliness and effectiveness of proposed approaches.

10.2. Outputs to submit to ERSWG 11

Formats, timetable, leads, next steps, in particular the work-plan leading up to ERSWG 11 and beyond.

11. Other business

12. Conclusion

12.1. Adoption of meeting report

The principle outcomes of the meeting as they relate to finalising the scoping paper will be agreed and the short report of the meeting will be adopted before closing the meeting. The scoping paper will then be finalised intersessionally for submission to the March 2015 meeting of the ERSWG.

12.2. Close of meeting