



ANNEX 15

*23rd Meeting of the
International Scientific Committee for Tuna
and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean
Kanazawa, Japan
July 12-17, 2023*

REPORT OF THE STATISTICS WORKING GROUP WORKSHOP

July 2023

Left Blank for Printing

Annex 15

REPORT OF THE STATISTICS WORKING GROUP

International Scientific Committee for Tunas and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean

1.0 Opening of Meeting

The Statistics Working Group (STATWG) meeting was held July 10, 2023 prior to the 23rd meeting of the ISC Plenary. The STATWG Chair, Felipe Carvalho opened the meeting and welcomed participants from Canada, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Republic of Korea and USA (Attachment 1). In support of the STATWG, Kirara Nishikawa continued to fulfill the roles of both the ISC Data Administrator (DA) and ISC Webmaster (WM).

A Protocol for Sharing Confidential Stock Assessment Data was reviewed at the meeting (Attachment 2).

2.0 Review of the STATWG Work

2.1 Status of the STATWG Work Plan

2.2 Report on ISC Website

The WM provided a report on the status of the ISC website as of July 2023. The WM noted following improvements to the ISC website:

- (1) Regular information updates. The website now incorporates regular updates to information on the ISC meeting schedule, news, and WG papers (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Regular updates to the ISC website as of July 2023.

- (2) Updated fishery statistics. The updated ISC fishery statistics include graphs of historical catches by country and gear along with an update of the ISC public domain data and the publication of ISC data inventory.

3.0 Review of ISC Members Statistics

3.1 Data Submission Condition

The DA reviewed 2023 data submissions for Category (CAT) Ic, Ie, II, and III, by member country and by gear. Data submissions are due by June 1 annually, followed by metadata updates and submissions on July 1 annually. As in previous years, China did not submit data to the ISC but its data can be obtained from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). All the Member countries with the exception of Mexico CAT III, submitted their data by June 30, 2023 (Tables 1, 2, and 3).

Table 1. Report card of 2023 ISC data submission by data category (CAT) and by country (CAN is Canada, CHN is China, JPN is Japan, KOR is Republic of Korea, MEX is Mexico, TWN is Chinese Taipei, USA is United States of America).

Member	CAT Ic	CAT Ie	CAT II	CAT III
CAN				
CHN				
JPN				
KOR				
MEX				
TWN				
USA				

	On Time
	Not Provided

ISC Gear Codes*

Code	Gear	Name	LX	Hook-and-line	Hooks and lines (not specified)
FPN	Set-net	Stationary uncovered pound nets	MIS	Other gears	Miscellaneous gear
GND	Gill-net	Driftnets	NK	Not specified	Gear not known or not specified
GN	Gill-net	Unspecified Gill-net	PS	Purse-seine	Supporting nets with purse lines (purse-seine)
HAR	Harpoon	Harpoons	RG	Sport	Recreational fishing gears
LH**	Handline	Handline gear	TX	Trawl	Trawl (not specified)
LLD	Longline	Drifting longlines			
LP**	Pole-and-line	Pole-and-line			
LTR	Troll	Trolling lines			

* FAO 1999. Definition and classification of fishing gear categories. FAO Fish. Tec. Pap. 222 Rev.1.

** IATTC code.

Table 2. Status of 2023 ISC data submission by data category, country and gear. During the STATWG review of this table, some discrepancies were identified. These discrepancies will be corrected by the end of ISC23 Plenary prior to publication of this report on the ISC website.

Submitted in 2023(by 2023/07/06)															
Country	Category	Gear													
		FPN	GN	GND	HAR	LH	LLD	LP	LTR	LX	MIS	NK	PS	RG	TX
CAN	1c								★						
	1e								★						
	2								★						
	3								★						
CHN	1c														
	1e														
	2														
	3														
JPN	1c	★		★			★	★	★		★	★	★		
	1e						★	★	★				★		
	2						★	★					★		
	3			★			★	★							
KOR	1c	★					★						★		★
	1e						★						★		
	2						★						★		
	3						★						★		
MEX	1c												★		
	1e												★		
	2												★		
	3												★		
TWN	1c	★	★		★		★				★		★		
	1e						★						★		
	2						★						★		
	3						★						★		
USA	1c			★	★	★	★		★	★	★		★	★	
	1e			★	★	★	★		★	★			★		
	2			★	★		★		★		★			★	
	3						★		★					★	

Table 3. Status of submission of 2019-2022 data, by data category, country and gear. During discussion of this table at the STATWG meeting, some discrepancies were identified for correction by the end of ISC23 Plenary and prior to publication of this report on the ISC website.

Year	Country	Category	Gear													
			FPN	GN	GND	HAR	LH	LLD	LP	LTR	LX	MIS	NK	PS	RG	TX
2020	CAN	1c									★					
2021	CAN	1c									★					
2022	CAN	1c									★					
2020	CHN	1c														
2021	CHN	1c														
2022	CHN	1c														
2020	JPN	1c	★		★				★	★	★		★	★	★	
2021	JPN	1c	★		★				★	★	★		★	★	★	
2022	JPN	1c	★		★				★	★	★		★	★	★	
2020	KOR	1c	★						★						★	★
2021	KOR	1c	★						★						★	★
2022	KOR	1c	★						★						★	★
2020	MEX	1c													★	
2021	MEX	1c													★	
2022	MEX	1c													★	
2020	TWN	1c	★	★			★		★				★		★	
2021	TWN	1c	★	★			★		★				★		★	
2022	TWN	1c	★	★			★		★				★		★	
2020	USA	1c				★	★	★	★		★	★	★		★	★
2021	USA	1c				★	★	★	★		★	★	★		★	★
2022	USA	1c				★	★	★	★		★	★	★		★	★

Table 3. Continued.

Year	Country	Category	Gear													
			FPN	GN	GND	HAR	LH	LLD	LP	LTR	LX	MIS	NK	PS	RG	TX
2020	CAN	3									★					
2021	CAN	3									★					
2022	CAN	3									★					
2020	CHN	3														
2021	CHN	3														
2022	CHN	3														
2020	JPN	3			★				★							
2021	JPN	3			★				★	★						
2022	JPN	3			★				★	★						
2020	KOR	3							★						★	
2021	KOR	3							★						★	
2022	KOR	3							★						★	
2020	MEX	3													★	
2021	MEX	3													★	
2022	MEX	3													★	
2020	TWN	3							★						★	
2021	TWN	3							★						★	
2022	TWN	3							★						★	
2020	USA	3							★		★					★
2021	USA	3							★		★					★
2022	USA	3							★		★					★

3.2 Metadata and Data Collection System

The DA reviewed metadata submission by member countries. Currently Canada, Chinese Taipei, Republic of Korea, Japan, and USA have submitted their metadata. The metadata are scheduled to be published on August 1, 2023.

3.3 Total Catch Tables

The STATWG members requested that the DA distribute this table to National Data Correspondents for confirmation and explanation of the discrepancies before the end of ISC23 Plenary meeting as authoritative catch figures will be included in the ISC23 Plenary report.

4.0 Review of Issues Relating to Species Working Groups

4.1 Archive of Stock Assessment Reports

The DA presented the status of submission of stock assessment files that are due to be submitted by November 1 each year (Figure 2). These data files include input data file, control file, forecast file, starter file of Stock Synthesis, and related various model runs completed for each species assessment.

	ALB WG	BILL WG			PBF WG	SHARK WG	
	ALB	SWO	MLS	BUM	PBF	BSH	SMA
2017							
2018							
2019							
2020						Sensitivity	
2021							Indicator
2022							
2023							
	Stock assessment was done, and stock assessment files will be submitted by November 2023.						
	Stock assessment was done, and stock assessment files were submitted.						

Figure 2. The data submission status of stock assessment files by the ISC species Working Groups from 2017 to 2023.

4.2 Protocol for Sharing Confidential Stock Assessment Data Including Non-Disclosure Agreement

The ISC Plenary has been discussing the formal process for sharing confidential stock assessment data used by the ISC to the requester during three consecutive plenary meetings since 2021. This includes a protocol for the request of data sharing and the response from the ISC, and non-disclosure agreement (NDA) between the ISC and requester. In 2022, the plenary discussed the entry for the data request process and the need for specific terms of NDA. The plenary tasked the STATWG to develop a protocol for fielding data requests and continue to work on drafting the NDA. To respond to this task, the STATWG developed both mechanisms to gather information from requesters and the metadata that would help requesters to identify what data are available (ISC 2022). The working paper (Nishikawa et al., 2023) documents the response for this request.

5.0 Future Work Plan and Recommendations

5.1 Function of STATWG and Future Work Plan

The STATWG members agreed there is an ongoing need for the STATWG with functions of (1) maintaining the ISC database and the quality of data submitted by members; (2) maintaining the proper function of ISC website; and (3) internal data sharing and developing protocols for answering external data requests. Although these functions were partially performed by the DA, the STATWG is responsible for overseeing these functions and providing a link to the ISC Plenary as well as recommending appropriate actions when needed, with collective efforts by all members and chairs of all species WGs.

The STATWG members developed the following work plan for 2023-2024:

1. The DA will continue to distribute the ISC data inventory for Category I, II, and III to ISC Data Correspondents for review by September 30, 2023. The DA will then distribute the ISC data inventory to Chairs of the species WG by October 15, and publish on the ISC website by October 31, 2023.
2. The DA will continue to archive stock assessment files from all 2021-2022 ISC assessments, which are required to be submitted by Chairs of species WG by November 1, 2023.
3. After the Data Correspondents have reviewed and updated their metadata prior to the ISC22 Plenary, this metadata will be published on the ISC researcher's website by August 31, 2023. For 2022-2023, the DA will continue to distribute the WG member's new metadata by March 30, 2024. The Data Correspondents will review and update their new metadata by July 1, 2024 prior to the ISC24 Plenary, and this new metadata will be published on the ISC researcher's website by August 31, 2024.
4. The DA and the Chair of the STATWG will annually review the responsibilities, duties and deliverables of the DA to ensure that they are accurate and practical, and revise them as necessary.
5. The STATWG Steering Group will hold an intersessional meeting or conference call/webinar January 2024 to conduct work to complete this work plan.

6.1 Recommendations to the Plenary

1. The STATWG recommends that Species WG chairs review the species pages and update information, if necessary, to improve the utility and information content.
2. It is recommended there is an ongoing need for the STATWG with functions of

- (1) Maintaining the ISC database and the quality of data submitted by members
- (2) Maintaining the proper function of ISC website
- (3) Supporting internal data sharing and external requests for sharing confidential ISC data.

7.0 Administrative Matters

The STATWG held an election for Chair. Jenny Suter of the United States of America was nominated to serve as Chair and was elected by the STATWG to serve a 3- year term.

Kirara Nishikawa of Japan was nominated to serve as vice-Chair and was elected by the STATWG to serve a 3- year term.

7.1 Update of Organization Chart

The organization chart of the STATWG (Attachment 3) was reviewed and updated.

The Chair also noted that the next STATWG meeting is planned to be held prior to ISC23 plenary for one day in July 2024, at a time and place to be determined.

Attachment 1 List of Participants

Canada

Sarah Hawkshaw

Fisheries and Ocean Canada
9860 W Saanich Rd, Sidney, BC, Canada, V8L
4B2

Sarah.hawkshaw@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Chinese-Taipei

Ren-Fen Wu

Overseas Fisheries Development Council
3F, No. 14, Wenzhou Street, Da'an District
Taipei 10618, Taiwan (R.O.C.)
fan@ofdc.org.tw

Japan

Shuya Nakatsuka

Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fishery
Resources Institute, FRA
2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama,
Kanagawa, 236-8648 Japan
nakatsuka_shuya49@fra.go.jp

Hiromu Fukuda

Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fishery
Resources Institute, FRA
2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama,
Kanagawa, 236-8648 Japan
Fukuda_hiromu57@fra.go.jp

Mikihiko Kai

Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fishery
Resources Institute, FRA
2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama,
Kanagawa, 236-8648 Japan
kai_mikihiko61@fra.go.jp

Hirotaka Ijima

Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fishery
Resources Institute, FRA
2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama,
Kanagawa, 236-8648 Japan
ijima_hirotaka69@fra.go.jp

Hiroki Yokoi

Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fishery
Resources Institute, FRA
2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama,
Kanagawa, 236-8648 Japan
yokoi_hiroki85@fra.go.jp

Kirara Nishikawa

Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fishery
Resources Institute, FRA
2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama,
Kanagawa, 236-8648 Japan
nishikawa_kirara68@fra.go.jp

Republic of Korea

Hee Won Park

National Institute of Fisheries Science
216 Gijanghaeanro, Gijang-Eup, Gijang-gun,
Busan 46083, Korea
heewon81@korea.kr

United States of America

Felipe Carvalho

NOAA NMFS PIFSC
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Bldg. #176 Honolulu,
Hawaii, 96818 USA
felipe.carvalho@noaa.gov

Jenny Suter

NOAA NMFS PIFSC
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Bldg. #176
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96818 USA
jenny.suter@noaa.gov

Russell Ito

NOAA NMFS PIFSC
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Bldg. #176
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96818 USA
Russell.Ito@noaa.gov

Emily Crigler

NOAA NMFS PIFSC
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Bldg. #176
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96818 USA
emily.crigler@noaa.gov

WCPFC

SungKwon Soh
WCPFC
P.O. Box 2356 Kolonia Pohnpei 96941
Federated States of Micronesia
sungkwon.soh@wcpfc.int

Office of the Chair

John Holmes, ISC Chair
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Pacific Biological Station
Nanaimo BC, V9T 6N7 Canada
john.holmes@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Shui-Kai (Eric) Chang, ISC Vice-Chair
Institute of Marine Affairs
70 Lienhai Road Kaosiung 80424, Taiwan
skchang@faculty.nsysu.edu.tw

Attachment 3
STATWG Organization Chart as of July 10, 2022

	MEMBER	CONTACT
Chair	Jenny Suter	jenny.suter@noaa.gov
Vice Chair/DA/WM	Kirara Nishikawa	nishikawa_kirara68@fra.go.jp
Canada	Sarah Hawkshaw	Sarah.Hawkshaw@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
China	Xiaojie Dai	xjdai@shou.edu.cn
Chinese Taipei	Weijen Wang	weijen@ofdc.org.tw
Korea	Hee Won Park	heewon81@korea.kr
Japan	Hiromu Fukuda	fukuda_hiromu57@fra.go.jp
Japan	Hiroki Yokoi	yokoi_hiroki85@fra.go.jp
Mexico	Michel Dreyfus	dreyfus@cicese.mx
USA	Yuhong Gu	yuhong.gu@noaa.gov
USA	Russell Ito	russell.ito@noaa.gov
WCPFC	Peter Williams/Tiffany Vidal Cunningham	peterw@spc.int / tiffanyc@spc.int
IATTC	Nickolas Vogel	nvogel@iattc.org