

13 March 2019

## IOTC CIRCULAR

2019–11

Dear Madam / Sir

### NOTIFICATION OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> JOINT TUNA RFMO FAD WORKING GROUP MEETING

In 2017 the first meeting of the joint Tuna-RFMO FAD Working Group was held in Madrid, Spain. The Kobe process Steering Committee had previously identified the benefits of coordinating the work of t-RFMOs on FAD related issues, and the need to hold a Joint t-RFMOs FADs working group meeting. The high level of participation at the first meeting reflected the considerable interest that stakeholders have in this topic.

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) has been designated to organize and convene a second meeting of the Joint Tuna RFMOs FAD Working Group, and this will take place in San Diego, California, USA from 8 to 10 May 2019.

I would like to draw your attention to the attached letter from the IATTC Director that includes information on the meeting format, logistics, and a provisional meeting agenda.

#### ***Assistance to participate in the meeting***

Two representatives (a scientist and a manager) from developing State RFMO Members that have relevant FAD tuna fisheries are eligible to receive financial support, from the funds provided by the European Union, to attend the meeting.

#### ***For further information and all matters and arrangements related to this event***

Please contact IATTC [mgalvan@iattc.org](mailto:mgalvan@iattc.org)

Yours sincerely



Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Secretary

#### **Attachments:**

- Letter from the IATTC Director

#### Distribution

**IOTC Contracting Parties:** Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom (OT), Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Liberia, Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

This message has been transmitted by email only

# COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

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4 March 2019  
Ref.: 0075-700

Mr. Christopher O'Brien  
Executive Director  
Indian Ocean Tuna Commission  
Le Chantier Mall (2nd floor)  
PO Box 1011  
Victoria Mahé  
Seychelles

Dear colleague:

I am writing to you as a follow-up to the letter that the IATTC chairman and I sent on 11 December 2018 in relation to the convening of the Joint Tuna RFMOs FAD Working Group, which is programmed to take place in San Diego, California, USA, under the chairmanship of Dr. Josu Santiago.

I would appreciate if you could inform your membership that the Group will meet from 8 to 10 May and remind them that two representatives (a scientist and a manager) from each Developing Member (of one or several tuna RFMOs) with relevant FAD tuna fisheries shall receive the financial support to attend the meeting using funds provided by the European Union.

For the purpose of making the necessary arrangements, the interested members should contact Ms Monica Galvan a [mgalvan@iattc.org](mailto:mgalvan@iattc.org).

As requested by the Chair of the Group, the following information should also be circulated among your membership.

- Format of the meeting: Excepting the session during which the conclusions and recommendations will be discussed and adopted, the meeting will be held in an informal format in order to make the discussion on technical and scientific issues more open and productive.
- Appointed coordinators will lead the different discussion topics of the agenda. Each coordinator or a designated expert will make a “keynote” presentation in addition to providing in advance a summary document highlighting the major issues with a view at preparing and stimulating the discussion. This document should include a list of references covering all t-RFMOs. A list of “focus questions” will also be developed prior to the meeting and in consultations with the identified participants in the working group to facilitate the discussion.
- In relation to documents and presentations, participants are welcome to submit all documents that they would consider relevant. The chair and the leaders of the discussion topics, in consultation with the identified participants in the working group, will determine which documents are to be presented orally and which precise time slot should be allocated for its presentation.

Guidelines for the authors of documents will be prepared and provided by 15 March at the latest, as well as an online platform for them to submit abstracts. Deadlines for the submission of these documents will be 31 March for titles and abstracts and 30 April for the full documents.

Finally, it would be most appreciated that the attached provisional agenda be also circulated.

With my many thanks for your collaboration.

Yours sincerely,



Guillermo Compeán  
Director

# **Joint Tuna RFMOs FAD Working Group Second Meeting**

## **Provisional Agenda**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Review of the progress of the key areas for action for the joint t-RFMO FAD WG identified during the 1st Joint t-RFMO FAD Working Group Meeting
4. Review of the current management measures on FADs
5. Definitions of terms related to FAD fishing, notably those related to science and management of FADs
6. Minimum standards and formats to optimize and harmonize the collection of data on FADs and definition of systems to accurately quantify numbers of FADs and active buoys.
7. Marking and tracking of FADs
8. FAD fishery indicators
9. Progress regarding scientific information on FADs and ongoing research in the different tRFMOs
10. Impacts of FADs in tuna fisheries and recent developments in their mitigation.
11. Current and Future initiatives for FAD fishery sustainability.
12. Areas of future cross RFMO collaboration on FADs
13. Other matters
14. Recommendations
15. Adoption of the report and closure