

14th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

7 to 12 September 2026, Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

SC14 - Doc 02 Annotated Provisional SC14 Agenda

Secretariat

1) OPENING OF THE MEETING	Papers ¹
a. Meeting arrangements and opening <i>A representative of the Faroe Islands will welcome participants to Tórshavn. The Chairperson will formally open SC14 and the Secretariat will outline the meeting arrangements, including the meeting schedule, venue, and technical arrangements, procedures for participation and any other relevant logistical matters. Rapporteurs will be identified as necessary.</i> • Participants should: Note the meeting arrangements and raise any questions concerning meeting procedures or participation at this stage. • Expected outcome: Meeting formally opened; participants informed of meeting arrangements and procedures; rapporteurs appointed as necessary.	SC14-Doc01 SC14-Doc04_rev1
b. Adoption of the Agenda <i>The Scientific Committee will review the Provisional Agenda. Any supplementary items proposed after the relevant deadline will be considered in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. The Committee will also consider the proposed meeting schedule, noting that adjustments may be required during the meeting to accommodate the progress of discussions and preparation of the meeting report.</i> • Participants should: Review the Provisional Agenda and meeting schedule in advance and identify any matters requiring clarification or adjustment. • Expected outcome: Agenda adopted and meeting schedule endorsed, subject to adjustments during the meeting.	SC14-Doc01 SC14-Doc02 SC14-Doc04_rev1
c. Meeting documents <i>The Secretariat will provide an overview of the meeting documents and explain arrangements for accessing and managing documents during SC14. The Committee will consider any late submissions and determine whether they should be accepted for consideration.</i> <i>Participants are reminded that Working Papers and other documents may be developed or revised during the meeting. The final List of Documents will reflect the complete set of documents considered by SC14.</i>	SC14-Doc03

¹ Not all papers referenced in the Annotated Agenda will be presented. Presentations are decided at the discretion of the SC Chairperson and depend on available time.



• Participants should: Familiarise themselves with the meeting documents relevant to their Working Groups and agenda items before discussions commence. • Expected outcome: Meeting document list noted; any late submissions considered; arrangements for accessing and managing documents understood.	
2) ANNUAL REPORTS DISCUSSION	
Members and CNCPs are expected to have reviewed Annual Reports in advance of the meeting. Discussion should focus on substantive scientific matters, questions requiring clarification, information relevant to the Committee's assessments and advice, and matters that may affect Working Group activities. Where arrangements are made to compile questions and responses outside plenary, participants are encouraged to use these mechanisms so that plenary discussion can focus on outstanding or cross-cutting issues. • Participants should: Review Annual Reports in advance and identify questions or information relevant to the work of the Committee and its Working Groups. • Expected outcome: Outstanding questions clarified; relevant scientific information identified for consideration under subsequent agenda items; key issues recorded as appropriate.	SC14-Doc15 to SC14-Doc32
3) COMMISSION GUIDANCE AND INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES	
a. Secretariat's science-related activities The Secretariat will provide an overview of science-related activities undertaken since SC13, including support provided to the Committee, Working Groups and Task Teams, intersessional meetings and workshops, scientific projects and other relevant activities. The Committee will also note the record of SC intersessional web meetings. • Participants should: Consider whether any Secretariat activities require follow-up, further coordination or inclusion in the Committee's future work programme. • Expected outcome: Secretariat activities and intersessional meetings noted; relevant follow-up actions identified.	SC14-Doc07
b. Update on data held by the Secretariat The Secretariat will provide an overview of datasets currently held for scientific purposes and relevant developments since SC13. The Committee will consider whether the available datasets are sufficient to support its scientific work and identify gaps or priorities requiring further attention. • Participants should: Consider data availability and gaps relevant to their Working Groups and planned scientific activities. • Expected outcome: Current status of scientific datasets noted; priority data gaps or needs identified for further work.	SC14-Doc11



c. Review of the Scientific Support Fund <i>The Committee will review the operation and use of the Scientific Support Fund, including activities supported during the intersessional period and anticipated future needs.</i> • Participants should: Consider whether current arrangements effectively support participation and priority scientific work and identify any improvements or future funding needs. • Expected outcome: Use of the Scientific Support Fund reviewed; any recommendations regarding its future operation or priorities agreed.	SC14-Doc08
d. SC Multi-Annual Workplan <i>The Committee will review and update its Multi-Annual Workplan, including the activities identified by its Working Groups and Task Teams. Particular attention should be given to priorities, realistic timelines, dependencies between activities, anticipated outputs, resource requirements and Secretariat support.</i> <i>The updated workplan will provide the principal framework for the Committee's scientific activities during 2027–2029.</i> • Participants should: Review the proposed workplan in advance, particularly the activities relevant to their Working Groups, and be prepared to identify priorities, responsible leads, timing and resource requirements. • Expected outcome: 2027–2029 Multi-Annual Workplan agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report and consideration by the Commission.	SC14-Doc05
e. Observer Programme accreditation process and progress <i>The Committee will receive an update on implementation of the SPRFMO Observer Programme accreditation process and any scientific or technical matters requiring consideration.</i> • Participants should: Consider whether any issues arising from implementation require scientific guidance or further work. • Expected outcome: Progress noted and any required advice or next steps agreed.	
f. Review and update of data standards (CMM 02-2026) <i>The Committee will consider scientific and technical matters relevant to the Data Standards contained in CMM 02-2026 and determine whether any amendments or further work should be recommended to the Commission.</i> <i>Relevant recommendations arising from the Data Working Group should be taken into account.</i>	SC14-Doc14



• Participants should: Review existing data requirements and identify any provisions that require clarification, amendment or development to support the Committee's scientific work. • Expected outcome: Advice to the Commission on CMM 02-2026 agreed, as necessary.	
g. Cooperation with other Organisations The Committee will consider relevant submissions and activities from organisations cooperating with SPRFMO and opportunities for scientific collaboration. Observer papers relevant to specific fisheries or Working Groups may be considered under the corresponding substantive agenda item. • Participants should: Identify opportunities where collaboration could support the SC Multi-Annual Workplan, avoid duplication of scientific effort or provide access to relevant expertise, data or research. • Expected outcome: Relevant cooperation activities noted and recommendations concerning future scientific collaboration agreed as appropriate.	SC14-Doc07 SC14-Doc05 SC14-Obs01
4) COMMISSION WORKING GROUPS	
a. Working Group on 2nd Performance Review The Committee will consider the report of the Working Group on the Second Performance Review (PR2IWG), including progress on recommendations relevant to the Scientific Committee and any actions or advice requested from SC14. • Participants should: Review the recommendations assigned to or involving the Scientific Committee and be prepared to consider their status, priority, proposed actions and integration into the SC work programme. • Expected outcome: Progress on relevant Performance Review recommendations assessed; SC actions and advice to the PR2IWG and/or Commission agreed.	SC14-Doc13
b. Data Working Group The Committee will consider the report and recommendations of the Data Working Group, including work undertaken intersessionally and proposed future activities. The discussion should identify data-management priorities that support the scientific work of the Committee and ensure that relevant actions are appropriately reflected in the Multi-Annual Workplan. • Participants should: Review the Data Working Group report and consider data priorities and cross-cutting requirements relevant to the scientific work programme. • Expected outcome: Data Working Group recommendations considered; priorities and future work agreed and incorporated into the SC work programme as appropriate.	SC14-Doc14
5) JACK MACKEREL	
a. Review of inter-sessional activities	SC14-JM01 SC14-JM02



<i>The Jack Mackerel Working Group will review scientific activities undertaken since SC13, including the outcomes of the Jack Mackerel Benchmark Workshop (SCW16), the Jack Mackerel MSE Workshop (SCW17), Member research and other work relevant to the assessment and management of Trachurus murphyi.</i> <i>The Secretariat will provide updated catch information.</i> • Participants should: Review the reports of SCW16 and SCW17 and relevant scientific papers before the Working Group discussions • Expected outcome: Intersessional work reviewed; key findings and matters requiring SC14 consideration identified.	SC14-JM03 SC14-JM04
b. Assessment data review and evaluation <i>The Working Group will review the data and abundance indices available for the 2026 jack mackerel assessment, including relevant developments in CPUE standardisation, acoustic indices and other assessment inputs.</i> • Participants should: Be prepared to discuss the suitability, treatment and interpretation of assessment inputs and any implications for uncertainty in the assessment. • Expected outcome: Assessment inputs reviewed and agreed as appropriate; relevant uncertainties documented.	SC14-JM02 SC14-JM10 SC14-JM11 SC14-JM13
c. Jack mackerel assessment <i>The Committee will consider the updated jack mackerel stock assessment and associated diagnostics, sensitivities and estimates of stock status.</i> • Participants should: Review the assessment documentation and be prepared to consider the robustness of the assessment and its implications for scientific advice. • Expected outcome: 2026 jack mackerel assessment reviewed and stock status agreed for the purposes of providing advice to the Commission.	
d. Management Strategy Evaluation <i>The Committee will undertake a substantive review of progress on the Jack Mackerel Management Strategy Evaluation, drawing on the intersessional workshops, technical MSE work, independent review and responses to that review.</i> <i>SC14 will consider the performance of candidate management procedures, outstanding technical matters and the extent to which the MSE is sufficiently developed to support advice to the Commission.</i> <i>Given the volume and technical nature of the material, participants are strongly encouraged to review the MSE guide, questions and tasks, technical documentation and independent review before the meeting.</i>	SC14-JM03 to SC14-JM09 SC14-JM12



• Participants should: Familiarise themselves with the MSE framework, candidate management procedures, performance metrics, key uncertainties, independent review and outstanding tasks. • Expected outcome: MSE results and outstanding technical issues reviewed; areas of scientific agreement and remaining work clearly identified; advice concerning candidate management procedures and next steps developed for the Commission.	
e. Advice to the Commission on new MPs for jack mackerel <i>The Committee will consolidate its conclusions under the preceding items into scientific advice to the Commission, including stock status, assessment results, MSE and management procedure matters, and priorities for future research.</i> • Expected outcome: Comprehensive advice on jack mackerel agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	SC14-JM05_rev1 SC14-JM07
6) DEEPWATER	
a. Review of inter-sessional activities <i>The Deepwater Working Group will review relevant activities undertaken since SC13, including the outcomes of the pre-SC14 Exploratory Toothfish Fisheries Workshop and other research not addressed under subsequent agenda items.</i> • Expected outcome: Intersessional work reviewed and priorities identified.	SC14-Doc06
b. Deepwater assessments (Orange roughy, stock structure, ecological risk, data) <i>The Committee will review available research and assessments relevant to deepwater species, including orange roughy stock structure, ecological risk and associated data requirements.</i> • Expected outcome: Scientific findings reviewed and implications for assessment, management and future research identified.	SC14-DW15
c. Benthic bycatch ID and catchability <i>The Committee will consider work relating to the identification, recording and catchability of benthic bycatch and VME indicator taxa, including implications for interpreting encounter and distribution data.</i> • Expected outcome: Progress reviewed and recommendations for further scientific work or data collection agreed.	
d. Encounters with VMEs <i>The Committee will review information concerning encounters with Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems in the Convention Area and consider the scientific implications for existing spatial and encounter management measures.</i> • Expected outcome: VME encounter information reviewed and relevant advice developed.	SC14-DW16
e. CMM 03 request regarding encounters with VMEs	SC14-DW12



<i>The Committee will consider scientific work relevant to the requirements of CMM 03 concerning VME encounters, including development and validation of approaches for identifying VME indicator taxa distributions.</i> • Expected outcome: Scientific advice responsive to the relevant requirements of CMM 03 developed.	SC14-DW16 SC14-DW17
f. Bottom Fishery Impact Assessment <i>The Committee will review relevant Bottom Fishery Impact Assessments and associated scientific information in accordance with CMM 03.</i> • Expected outcome: BFIs reviewed and advice to the Commission formulated as appropriate.	
g. CMM 03 request regarding marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern <i>The Committee will review available information on interactions between bottom fishing and marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles and other species of concern.</i> • Expected outcome: Available information reviewed; data gaps identified; advice developed as appropriate.	SC14-Doc10 SC14-DW08
h. CMM 03 request regarding ongoing appropriateness <i>The Committee will consider whether the scientific basis and operation of the current bottom fishing measures remain appropriate in light of available information and recent scientific work.</i> • Expected outcome: Advice to the Commission concerning the ongoing appropriateness of relevant provisions of CMM 03.	
i. Advice to the Commission on Deepwater <i>The Committee will consolidate its conclusions and recommendations concerning deepwater fisheries, benthic impacts, VMEs and related scientific priorities.</i> • Expected outcome: Comprehensive Deepwater advice agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	
7) SQUID	
a. Review of inter-sessional activities <i>The Squid Working Group will review activities undertaken since SC13, including the outcomes of the Third Squid Workshop (SCW18), relevant Member research and the pre-SC14 preparatory session.</i> • Expected outcome: Summary of intersessional work and identification of priorities.	SC14-Doc06 SC14-SQ02



b. Assessment Simulation Task Team <i>The SC will review recent progress on testing of assessment models for squid using an operating model, with the aim of providing advice and recommendations on the implementation of the stock assessment.</i> • Participants should: Review the SCW18 report and relevant squid papers before the Working Group discussions. • Expected outcome: Intersessional work reviewed and key issues requiring SC14 consideration identified.	SC14-SQ02 SC14-SQ06
c. Assessment data review and evaluation <i>The Committee will review the fishery, biological and environmental data available for jumbo flying squid assessment, including the datasets held by the Secretariat.</i> • Participants should: Consider the completeness, comparability and suitability of available data and identify remaining data gaps or standardisation requirements. • Expected outcome: Assessment datasets reviewed; data limitations and priorities identified.	SC14-SQ03 to SC14-SQ05
d. Jumbo Flying Squid Assessment <i>The Committee will review available stock assessment analyses for <i>Dosidicus gigas</i>, including model assumptions, diagnostics, uncertainty and implications for stock status.</i> • Expected outcome: Assessment results reviewed and the scientific basis for advice to the Commission developed.	SC14-SQ06
e. Management Strategy Evaluation planning <i>The Committee will consider future development of a Management Strategy Evaluation framework for jumbo flying squid, including objectives, operating models, candidate management approaches, data requirements and sequencing of future work.</i> • Expected outcome: Proposed approach and priorities for future squid MSE work agreed and reflected in the Multi-Annual Workplan.	
f. Development of precautionary recommendations and review of relevant CMMs <i>Taking account of the available assessment information and uncertainty, the Committee will consider precautionary scientific recommendations for the management of jumbo flying squid and whether amendments to relevant conservation and management measures should be recommended.</i> • Expected outcome: Precautionary recommendations and any scientific advice concerning relevant CMMs developed for Commission consideration.	
g. Advice to the Commission on Squid <i>The Committee will consolidate its conclusions on squid assessment, data, future MSE development and management considerations.</i>	



• Expected outcome: Comprehensive advice on jumbo flying squid agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	
8) ECOSYSTEMS	
a. Review of inter-sessional activities The Ecosystems Working Group will review activities undertaken since SC13, including the outcomes of the Ecosystem Workshop (SCW19) and relevant research submitted by Members. • Expected outcome: Intersessional work reviewed and priorities for future ecosystem work identified.	SC14-Eco01 SC14-Doc06
b. Special Issue of the Habitat Monitoring Symposium The Committee will receive an update on development of the special issue arising from the Habitat Monitoring Symposium and the work of the editorial group. • Expected outcome: Progress noted and any required next steps identified.	
c. Report on the Workshop on Species Distribution Data Information Inventory The Committee will consider the outcomes of work to compile and evaluate information concerning species distribution data relevant to the Convention Area. • Expected outcome: Workshop findings and recommendations reviewed; relevant future actions identified.	SC14-Eco01
d. Report on Ecosystem status profile The Committee will consider progress towards development of an ecosystem status profile and its potential role in supporting ecosystem-based fisheries management within SPRFMO. • Expected outcome: Progress reviewed and guidance provided on further development and application.	SC14-Eco03
e. Advice to the Commission on Ecosystems The Committee will consolidate relevant ecosystem conclusions and recommendations, including priorities for future work. • Expected outcome: Ecosystems advice agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	
9) EXPLORATORY FISHERIES	
a. Exploratory fishery updates (AUS, COK, EU, KOR, NZL) Australia, the Cook Islands, the European Union, Korea and New Zealand will provide updates on their exploratory fisheries. The Committee will review fishing activity, scientific information collected under applicable Data Collection Plans and progress against the scientific objectives of each exploratory fishery.	SC14-DW01 SC14-DW09 SC14-DW10 SC14-DW13 SC14-DW14 SC14-DW18



• Participants should: Review the relevant annual exploratory fishery reports and consider whether Data Collection Plans remain appropriate. • Expected outcome: Progress of existing exploratory fisheries reviewed; Data Collection Plans updated as necessary; scientific advice developed for the Commission.	
b. New exploratory fishery proposals (AUS, COK, EU) The Committee will consider new exploratory fishery proposals submitted by Australia, the Cook Islands and the European Union, including their Fisheries Operation Plans and proposed scientific and data-collection arrangements. The Committee will assess the proposals in accordance with the applicable CMM requirements. • Participants should: Review the proposed Fisheries Operation Plans in advance, with particular attention to scientific objectives, proposed fishing activities, data collection, research design, potential impacts and consistency with existing scientific advice. • Expected outcome: Each proposal scientifically evaluated; advice to the Commission developed; Data Collection Plans developed or amended as appropriate.	SC14-DW02 to SC14-DW05_rev1, SC14-DW19
c. Transition to Established Fisheries The Committee will consider scientific issues associated with the possible transition of exploratory fisheries to established fisheries, with particular attention to the information and evidence required to determine when such a transition may be appropriate. The outcomes of the pre-SC14 Exploratory Toothfish Fisheries Workshop and relevant historical and scientific information will inform this discussion. • Participants should: Consider what scientific criteria, information requirements, assessment approaches and monitoring arrangements would be necessary to support a transition from exploratory to established fishery status. • Expected outcome: Scientific requirements and potential pathway for transition clarified; recommendations for future work and/or Commission consideration developed.	SC14-DW07
d. Advice to the Commission on Exploratory Fisheries The Committee will consider all relevant Fisheries Operation Plans, Data Collection Plans, fishery reports and other scientific information and consolidate its advice to the Commission. • Expected outcome: Comprehensive advice on exploratory fisheries agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	



10) CLIMATE CHANGE	
a. Review of inter-sessional activities <i>The Committee will review climate-change-related activities undertaken during the intersessional period and progress against relevant elements of the Multi-Annual Workplan.</i> • Participants should: Highlight relevant research or developments with implications for SPRFMO fisheries, ecosystems, assessments or management advice. • Expected outcome: Intersessional activities reviewed; priority areas for future work identified.	SC14-Doc06
b. Advice to the Commission on Climate Change <i>The Committee will consider the implications of available climate-related scientific information for its work and determine whether specific advice should be provided to the Commission.</i> • Expected outcome: Climate change advice and future work priorities agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report and Multi-Annual Workplan.	
11) RESEARCH IN THE SALAS Y GOMEZ AND NAZCA RIDGES AREA	
a. Review of inter-sessional activities <i>The Committee will review scientific work undertaken intersessionally concerning the Salas y Gómez and Nazca Ridges area, including progress in compiling and evaluating relevant scientific information and data.</i> • Expected outcome: Progress since SC13 reviewed and outstanding scientific information needs identified.	SC14-Doc06 SC14-SGN01
b. Updates of the SGN Task Team <i>The Committee will consider the work and recommendations of the Salas y Gómez and Nazca Task Team, including the outcomes of its pre-SC14 session.</i> • Participants should: Review the Task Team's evaluation and be prepared to consider the scientific evidence, remaining uncertainties and implications for advice to the Commission. • Expected outcome: Task Team findings reviewed and recommendations agreed as appropriate.	
c. Advice to the Commission on the Salas y Gomez and Nazca area <i>The Committee will consolidate the available scientific information and Task Team conclusions into advice to the Commission concerning the Salas y Gómez and Nazca Ridges area.</i> • Expected outcome: Scientific advice agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	
12) OTHER MATTERS	



a. Cross cutting issues (as necessary) <i>The Committee will consider scientific matters that affect more than one Working Group or that do not fall clearly under another agenda item.</i> <i>Where possible, cross-cutting matters should be identified during earlier Working Group discussions so that they can be considered coherently under this item.</i> • Expected outcome: Cross-cutting issues resolved or appropriate follow-up actions identified.	SC14-Doc12
b. Planned activities and funding <i>The Committee will identify proposed intersessional activities for 2026–2027 and beyond, including workshops, Task Team activities, scientific projects and other work requiring resources.</i> <i>Proposals should clearly identify the purpose and expected output of the activity, its relationship to the Multi-Annual Workplan, anticipated timing, responsible leads, funding requirements and the nature of any Secretariat support required.</i> • Participants should: Ensure that proposed activities have clearly defined objectives, deliverables, timelines and resource requirements. • Expected outcome: Priority intersessional activities agreed; associated funding and Secretariat support requirements identified; activities incorporated into the Multi-Annual Workplan and, where necessary, recommended to the Commission for funding.	SC14-Doc05 SC14-Doc08
c. Appointment of Officers <i>The Committee will appoint or confirm officers of the Scientific Committee, Working Groups and Task Teams where terms have concluded or positions are otherwise vacant.</i> • Expected outcome: Relevant appointments agreed and recorded in the SC14 report.	
d. Next meeting venue and timing <i>The Committee will consider arrangements for future Scientific Committee meetings. China has offered to host SC15 in 2027. The Committee may also consider indicative hosting arrangements for subsequent meetings.</i> • Participants should: Delegations interested in hosting future Scientific Committee meetings should be prepared to indicate their interest and, where possible, provide preliminary information concerning potential timing and location. • Expected outcome: Arrangements for SC15 confirmed as far as possible and prospective hosts for subsequent Scientific Committee meetings identified.	SC14-Doc09
e. Other business <i>The Committee will consider any other matters not addressed elsewhere on the agenda, including relevant Observer submissions that have not been considered under substantive agenda items.</i> • Expected outcome: Any remaining matters considered and necessary actions recorded.	SC14-Obs02 to SC14-Obs05



f. Advice to the Commission on cross-cutting issues <i>The Committee will consolidate any scientific advice arising from cross-cutting or other matters considered under this agenda item.</i> • Expected outcome: Relevant advice agreed for inclusion in the SC14 report.	
13) REPORT ADOPTION AND MEETING CLOSURE <i>The Committee will consider and adopt its meeting report, including the scientific advice and recommendations to be forwarded to the Commission, agreed workplans and other annexes.</i> <i>The Chairperson will confirm any outstanding actions and formally close the Fourteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee.</i> • Participants should: Review draft report sections as they become available during the meeting and identify substantive corrections promptly to facilitate efficient adoption. • Expected outcome: SC14 report adopted; recommendations and advice to the Commission confirmed; meeting formally closed.	