

[FINAL June 2020]

INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION
Environmental Stakeholder Committee
Terms of Reference

1. The International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Stakeholder Committee is established pursuant to Article VII of the Bylaws of ISSF, and shall act as an advisory body to the ISSF Board of Directors on matters of tuna fisheries conservation, bycatch reduction and mitigation and ecosystem impacts of tuna fishing
2. The members of the Environmental Stakeholder Committee shall elect their own Chair. The Environmental Stakeholder Committee Chair shall have suitable qualifications and at least ten years of experience working in the field of tuna fisheries conservation, bycatch reduction and mitigation and ecosystem impacts of tuna fishing (collectively, the “Tuna Sustainability Field”). The Chair will serve as a member of the ISSF Board of Directors, pursuant to Article II of the Bylaws of ISSF.
3. In addition to the Chair, the Environmental Stakeholder Committee shall include at least eight, but not more than twelve, members (such that the total will not exceed thirteen members), all of whom shall be working in the Tuna Sustainability Field. These members shall be appointed by the ISSF Board and serve at its pleasure.
4. Of the maximum of thirteen members:
 - a) At least 5, but not more than 8, members will represent organizations that have specialized knowledge in the areas of implementing or supporting fishery improvement projects, market outreach and/or sourcing advice and advocacy and outreach to RFMOs;
 - b) At least 2, but not more than 3, members will represent organizations that have specialized knowledge in reducing and mitigating the bycatch of species caught in association with tuna fisheries and addressing ecosystem impacts of tuna fishing; and
 - c) At least 1, but not more than 2, will have relevant expertise in fisheries sustainability and will provide input and advice on particular topics in their individual capacity.
5. Members in paragraph 4(a) and (b), when performing their responsibilities as members of the Committee, these members will represent their organization and be able to make decisions on behalf of that organization regarding advice to the Board. Those members who represent global organizations will promote geographic diversity through the choice of their representative.

6. Members of the Environmental Stakeholder Committee will serve two-year terms, subject to renewal for subsequent two-year terms as determined by the Chair and the ISSF Board of Directors. A policy of rotating a portion of the Committee members on a consistent basis will be applied. Measurement of the term of each member will commence on the date of his or her appointment.

7. The Chair shall be responsible for convening at least two sessions of the Committee annually. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair after consultation with the Committee. Members of the Committee may participate in and hold a meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other. If the ESC Chair is unable to attend a meeting of the Environmental Stakeholder Committee in person, he or she shall appoint one of the Committee members who is not affiliated with ISSF as Vice Chair who shall serve as the Chair for that particular meeting only.

8. The Chair may, in consultation with Committee members, invite experts to meetings of the Committee for purposes of providing information and/or advice regarding special issues related to the objectives of the ISSF and the deliberations of the Committee.

9. The Chair may, in consultation with Committee members, establish special subcommittees and/or working groups to carry out certain tasks to facilitate achievement of the objectives of the ISSF.

10. As the Committee is an advisory body, no formal voting procedure shall be established. The Committee shall seek to operate on a consensus basis. Each member shall have the opportunity to express his or her opinions. If a consensus cannot be reached, the dissenting member(s) may attach exceptions to the advice of the Committee.

11. The Committee shall:

a) Provide advice in the Tuna Sustainability Field;

b) Provide advice on potential ISSF conservation measures needed to achieve scientific advice of the RFMO scientists, including measures on compliance and monitoring, control and surveillance, combating IUU fishing activities and seafood sustainability generally;

c) Develop strategies and approaches to drive accelerated progress in and the effectiveness of NGO harmonization initiatives, and collaborate on joint funding requests for projects that advance shared priorities;

d) Prepare reports of its meetings and provide its recommendations to the meetings of the ISSF Board of Directors; and

e) Consider any other matters referred by the ISSF President or Board or the Scientific Advisory Committee of the ISSF, or its Chair.

12. All reasonable expenses associated with the work and travel of the Environmental Stakeholder Committee shall be paid by ISSF. The travel of the Chair to ISSF Board Meetings shall be paid by ISSF

13. The Environmental Stakeholder Committee Chair, as a member of the ISSF Board of Directors, shall report on the activities and recommendations of the Stakeholder Committee to the ISSF Board.