

[October 2015]

INTERNATIONAL SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY FOUNDATION
Scientific Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference

1. The International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) Scientific Advisory Committee (the “SAC”) is established pursuant to Article VII of the By-Laws of the ISSF, and shall act as an advisory body to the ISSF Board of Directors on matters of science and technology.
2. The Board of ISSF shall appoint one of its members to serve as Chair of the SAC who shall have suitable scientific qualifications and at least ten years of experience working in the field of fisheries or related sciences (collectively, the “Fisheries Science Field”).
3. The SAC Chair shall nominate an individual who is not an ISSF Board member or employee to serve as SAC Vice Chair, subject to confirmation by the ISSF Board. The SAC Vice Chair must have appropriate experience working in the Fisheries Science Field. The SAC Vice Chair will be invited to attend the annual joint informational meeting of the International Seafood Sustainability Trade Association and ISSF, as an observer.
4. In addition to the SAC Chair and Vice Chair, the Committee shall have at least four, but not more than eight, members (such that the total will not exceed ten members), all of whom shall be recognized scientists working in the Fisheries Science Field. These members shall be selected on the basis of their individual expertise by the Chair of the SAC and shall be confirmed by the Board of Directors. When performing their responsibilities as members of the Committee, they shall not represent their governments or the organizations by which they are employed.
5. The Chair shall be responsible for convening at least one session of the SAC 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.
6. 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.
7. 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 ISSF.

8. The Chair shall prepare an annual review of the status of the 23 stocks of tuna listed in Annex I for presentation to the ISSF Board of Directors. The review may include such topics as the quality of the science supporting management decision-making, the likely effects of increased or decreased fishing mortality, the different patterns of fishing, the impacts on the ecosystem of the various fisheries on the target species and those taken incidentally and either retained or released or discarded at sea, potential future research issues, opportunities for research partnerships, effectiveness of the management systems for tunas and related species, and recommendations in support of management.

9. As the SAC is an advisory body, no formal voting procedure shall be established. The SAC 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 SAC.

10. The Committee shall:

- a) Review the SAC Chair's annual review of the status of the stocks (paragraph 8) for accuracy and completeness;
- b) Provide scientific advice on any other matters related to the 23 stocks of tunas, including those related to the impact of bycatch and discards of undersized tunas on the stocks and the ecosystems to which they belong; matters such as the development of fishing technology to reduce the impact of bycatch and any other mitigating factors; and matters related to the effectiveness of the management systems for tuna;
- c) Suggest research relating to improving the management of the 23 stocks of tunas and the ecosystems to which they belong, including matters related to bycatch and discards of undersized tunas and the mitigation of potential impacts of such bycatch and discards. In the event of fiscal support by ISSF for such research, the SAC shall set appropriate priorities for carrying out that research;
- d) Keep regular minutes of its meetings and provide periodic reports to the Board; and
- e) Consider any other matters referred by the President or the ISSF Board of Directors.

11. All reasonable expenses associated with the work and travel of the SAC shall be paid by ISSF. The Chair will endeavor to schedule meetings to coincide with other events where committee members may be in attendance.

12. The SAC Chair shall report on the activities of the SAC to the ISSF Board of Directors through the Board Chair and the President of ISSF.

ANNEX I

Albacore north Pacific
Albacore south Pacific
Albacore north Atlantic
Albacore south Atlantic
Albacore Indian Ocean
Albacore Mediterranean
Bigeye eastern Pacific
Bigeye western and central Pacific
Bigeye Atlantic
Bigeye Indian Ocean
Skipjack eastern Pacific
Skipjack western and central Pacific
Skipjack eastern Atlantic
Skipjack western Atlantic
Skipjack Indian Ocean
Yellowfin eastern Pacific
Yellowfin western and central Pacific
Yellowfin Atlantic
Yellowfin Indian Ocean
Bluefin eastern Atlantic
Bluefin western Atlantic
Bluefin Pacific
Bluefin Southern