

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

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INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

2nd WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION (MSE) FOR TROPICAL TUNAS

La Jolla, California (USA)
May 8-9, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENT

The purpose of the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process in fisheries is to compare the performance of alternative management strategies in meeting management objectives, using computer simulations and relevant fisheries performance metrics. Some parts of the MSE process are highly technical and done by scientists, but others, such as defining objectives, performance metrics and management strategies, require input and participation of managers and other stakeholders. A better understanding of the MSE process and its components will strengthen communication among scientists, managers and other stakeholders, as well as foster their participation in the process.

In [Resolution C-16-02](#), the IATTC adopted elements of a management strategy, such as interim reference points and a harvest control rule (HCR), and the [IATTC Strategic Science Plan 2019-2023, presented to the Commission at its 93rd meeting](#) in August 2018, included a [work plan](#) for evaluating the IATTC's current strategy, along with alternatives using MSE. Because the elements, concepts and approaches involved in MSE are mostly new for managers and other stakeholders, this work plan foresees the convening of a series of workshops starting in 2019 to introduce MSE to different audiences. For the same reason and with financial support from the FAO-GEF Common Oceans project, introductory workshops on MSE for tropical tunas in the eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO), aimed at managers, had already been held in Panama in 2015 and the United States (2018), and a further five, aimed at the tuna industry, took place during 2019 in Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, and the United States.

At its 94th meeting in July 2019, the Commission adopted [Resolution C-19-07](#) to establish the Terms of Reference for the workshops to be held in 2019 and 2020 in accordance with the work plan. The first IATTC funded and organized MSE Workshop for tropical tunas in the EPO was held during December 2019. Its goals were to explain and clarify the MSE process, enhance communication and foster mutual understanding among fisheries scientists, managers, and other stakeholders on matters related to harvest strategies and MSE, and discuss potential management goals and performance metrics with managers and other stakeholders.

The objectives of this workshop, the second one funded and organized by the IATTC, are to continue to

enhance communication and foster mutual understanding among fisheries scientists, managers, and other stakeholders on matters related to harvest strategies and MSE, and discuss potential performance metrics, reference points and harvest control rules.

Scientists and managers from governments, industry, NGOs, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend. Some limited funding is available for qualified applicants.

Languages: English and Spanish, with simultaneous interpretation.