



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

7-18 August 2006
Manila, Philippines

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE
METHODS SPECIALIST WORKING GROUP**

ME-SWG AGEMDA

1. Preliminaries

- 1.1. Adoption of agenda
- 1.2. Finalization of documents

2. Requests from the Commission

2.1. Review of information

- a. Changes and enhancements to the stock assessment methods used for the principal target species (review of issues identified by SC1)

ME WP-1: Langley, A. 2006. “*Summary report from yellowfin and bigeye stock assessment workshop*”

ME IP-1: Langley, A. 2006. “*Spatial and temporal trends in yellowfin and bigeye longline CPUE for the Japanese fleet in the WCPO*”.

ME IP-2: Langley, A. 2006. “*Spatial and temporal variation in the size composition of the yellowfin and bigeye longline catch in the WCPO*”.

ME IP-3: Langley, A., H. Okamoto, P. Williams, N. Miyabe 2006. “*A summary of the data available for the estimation of conversion factors (processed to whole fish weights) for yellowfin and bigeye tuna.*”

2.2. Advice to the Scientific Committee

3. Other research

3.1. Review of information

- a. Improved methods to standardize longline CPUE. (in particular, the incorporation of factors to better account for changes in catchability over time and physical factors other than SST and oxygen to better describe and account for changes in habitat)

ME WP-2: Bigelow “Incorporation of other oceanographic factors into CPUE Standardizations”

- b. Methods for assessing billfish stocks in the WCPO

ME WP-3: Kolody, D., R. Campbell, and N. Davies. 2006. “*Multifan-CL Stock Assessment for South-West Pacific Broadbill Swordfish 1952-2004*”

ME WP-4: Davies, N., R. Campbell, and D. Kolody. 2006. “*CASAL Stock Assessment for South-West Pacific Broadbill Swordfish 1952-2004*”

- 3.2. Advice to the Scientific Committee

4. Research planning

- 4.1. Medium Term Research Plan
- 4.2. Operational Research Plan for 2006/07

5. Administrative matters

- 5.1. Terms of Reference
- 5.2. Other matters

6. Adoption of report

- 1.