Draft language for SC12 recommendations on Shark Management Plans

1630 hrs, 5 August 2016

SC12 considers that it is problematic to agree and apply a definition of longline fisheries “targeting” sharks, noting that fisheries need not be targeting sharks to be having a significant impact on vulnerable shark stocks.  The Commission may wish to refer to the potential definitions in EB-WP-05 as a starting point for further consideration, if required.

Noting that two CCMs have submitted shark management plans within the agreed timeframe under CMM 2014-05, SC12 recommends that the Commission encourage all CCMs with longline fisheries, whether targeting sharks or not, to submit shark management plans using the suggested template.

SC recommends that the Commission review submitted SMPs for completeness and quality, with a view toward encouraging continuous improvement and documenting the scientific basis for all national management measures.