

1st Meeting of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Scientific
Committee

21-14 March 2015, Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle

SC-01 -14 (01)

Future Meeting Arrangements

Relates to agenda item: 14

Working paper info paper

Secretariat

Abstract

The Scientific Committee should consider its future meeting arrangements, including a date and location for the second meeting the SIOFA Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee meeting does not necessarily need to be held in the same place as the Meeting of the Parties.

Recommendations *(working papers only)*

1. That the SIOFA SC when (month) its ordinary annual meetings shall be held
 2. That the SIOFA SC agree dates and location for its 2nd meeting to be held in 2017.
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Future Meeting Arrangements

Timing of the ordinary Scientific Committee meeting

Article 7 provides that the Scientific Committee shall meet, unless the Meeting of the Parties decides otherwise, at least once a year; and preferably prior to the Meeting of the Parties.

- The next ordinary Meeting of the Parties will be held in June 2016, which was the preferred timing for Contracting Parties. It is likely that the ordinary Meetings of the Parties will continue to be held at this time of year.

In considering when to hold its annual ordinary meeting, the Scientific Committee may wish to take into account:

- Practical considerations including:
 - when the Scientific Committee can reasonably expect to receive and consider data provided by Contracting Parties from the previous calendar year; and
 - holding a meeting with sufficient time before the ordinary Meeting of the Parties to ensure the Scientific Committee's advice can be incorporated into any proposals considered by the Meeting of the Parties.
- The Scientific Committee may also wish to consider the timing of Scientific Committee (or equivalent) meetings in other RFMOs that are adjacent to, or overlapping with, SIOFA; or which have common membership. RFMO SCs meet at different times around the year¹, for example.
 - NAFO - June
 - September - CCSBT
 - September / October – SPRFMO, SEAFO
 - October –CCAMLR, NEAFC
 - November / December - IOTC
 - August - WCPFC

Date and Location of next meeting

Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, which applies mutatis mutandis to the SC provides that if no Contracting Party offers to host the next meeting, it will be hosted at the Headquarters of the Secretariat in La Reunion.

¹ Does not take into account working groups established under SCs.