

Echebatar Sustainability Working Group

Monthly Meeting: April 24 2023

10.00 h (CET)

MINUTE

PARTICIPANTS

Ane Iriondo, Marga Andrés (AZTI), José Luis Jauregui, Pablo González Valloría, Ian Scott (Echebatar)

POINTS

- Marga reported that the amount of usable data from 100 % observer coverage had returned to pre pandemic levels and was above 80 %
- On April 18th. Scott participated virtually in a Seychelles workshop to present the draft management plan for Amirantes to Fortune Bank Sustainable Use Area. This is part of the part of the Seychelles marine spatial planning initiative ([Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan Initiative - Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan Initiative \(seymssp.com\)](https://seymssp.com)). Subsequently he prepared comments on various aspects of the plan to be sent by Echebatar to the project.
- Scott continues to work drafting a report “OPTIONS ANALYSIS FOR TUNA FISHERY MANAGEMENT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF THE “EUROPEAN” TUNA PURSE SEINE FLEET TO ISLAND STATES IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN”. Note the change in title from that previously advised.
- The Client Checklist for the recertification process was sent to the CAB. The auditors will start the process in Bermeo on Tuesday, June 27th with a wrap -up meeting on the following Monday. Scott will develop this document considering information from the forthcoming IOTC annual meeting and the on-going ANABAC certification process. Scott will verbally present report findings to the meeting with CFTO scheduled for May 23.
- Ane noted that the MSC was increasing emphasis on habitats and ecosystem in an modified approach to the Standard. Scott stated it would be important to proactively respond to such changes, while also bearing in mind the importance of continuing to go beyond MSC requirements by responding to stakeholder concerns.
- Jose Luis and Ian will participate in the SIOTI meeting to be held in Bermeo on Thursday 27 May that will plan the new FIP. ESWG made a number of comments on the FIP process and Scott will draft an ESWG position statement to be presented at the opening of the meeting.
- Next Meeting May 26, 2023 at 10:00 CET

Meeting closed 11.00 CET.