

Working Group on Small Pelagic Fishes, their Ecosystems and Climate Impact (WGSPEC)

2015/MA2/SSGEPD02 The **Working Group on Small Pelagic Fishes, their Ecosystems and Climate Impact** (WGSPEC), chaired by Priscilla Licandro, UK, and Athanassios Tsikliras, Greece, will work on ToRs and generate deliverables as listed in the Table below.

	MEETING DATES	VENUE	REPORTING DETAILS	COMMENTS (CHANGE IN CHAIR, ETC.)
Year 2016	5-9 April	Koblenz, Germany	Interim report by 15 May to SSGEPD	
Year 2017	3-5 April	Plymouth, UK	Interim report by 15 May to SSGEPD	
Year 2018			Final report by	

ToR descriptors

TOR	DESCRIPTION	BACKGROUND	SCIENCE PLAN		DURATION	EXPECTED DELIVERABLES	
			TOPICS ADDRESSED				
A	Global comparison of climate variability impact on small pelagics	Support action on small pelagics	for 1, 2, 3, 4		1 year	Review submitted by December 2016	paper by
B	Impact of climate variability on recruitment of small pelagics in different regions of the North eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean	Support action for small pelagics	1, 2, 3, 4		1.5 Years	Review paper on environmental variability and anchovy recruitment in the Mediterranean and Northeastern Atlantic submitted by June 2018	
C	Preparation of joint presentations for PICES/ICES Symposium in 2017 on Drivers of Pelagic Fish Resources		1, 2, 3, 4		1.5 years	2-3 presentations given at the meeting in March 2017	

Summary of the Work Plan

Year 1	Global comparison (A), Impact on recruitment (B), preparation of presentations
Year 2	Preparation of presentations
Year 3	Summing up of results of WGSPEC

Supporting information

Priority	This Working Group has a high priority because the impact of climate variability on small pelagic fishes and their ecosystems has been largely ignored, as, in the past, ICES had put its focus on climate studies of larger predatory fish (cod) and more northern ecosystems.
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	This working group contributes to the preparation of the PICES/ICES Symposium on 'Drivers of Pelagic Fish resources' in Victoria, Canada, 2017. This Working Group is a support action for the Strategic Initiative on Effects of Climate Change on Marine Ecosystems (SICCME) of ICES. This Working Group is an ideal vehicle to continue and strengthen collaboration with PICES which was successfully started some years ago in the field of small pelagics and climate by joint workshops and theme sessions. This Working Group cooperates with scientists of the General Fisheries Council of the Mediterranean (GFCM).
Resource requirements	None
Participants	The participants of this Working Group should represent different disciplines such as fisheries science, planktology, physical oceanography, climatology. Scientists from the General Fisheries Council of the Mediterranean (GFCM)
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to ACOM and groups under ACOM	There are no obvious direct linkages.
Linkages to other committees or groups	The Working Group will link up with other ICES groups such as SICCME, WGOH, WGZE.
Linkages to other organizations	The Working Group will seek close cooperation with other international organisations, particularly from the North Pacific (PICES) and the Mediterranean (GFCM).