

WKREFRAME Workplan

Dorleta Garcia

MIACO

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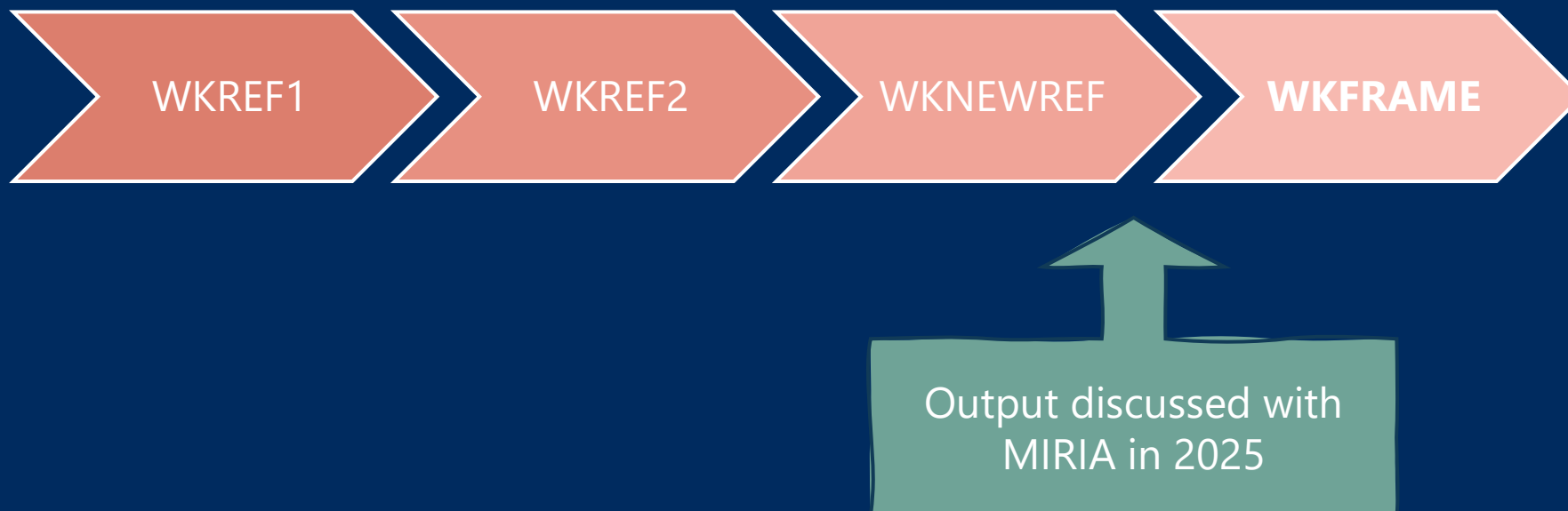
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Purpose

Present MIACO the workplan for the upcoming working group to develop the new ICES reference point framework



Original Plan



- WKREFRAME in early 2026, co-chaired by members from both ACOM and MIRIA, to ensure advice requesters are well represented
- Intersessional meeting with MIRIA to revise the terms of reference and develop a work plan for the workshop.

ACOM agreed ToRs in 2022:

- a) Consider the decoupling of the ICES AR and stock status reference points as proposed by WKREF1&2.
- b) Recommend criteria for setting F_{target} and B_{trigger} in the ICES AR for a range of life history, exploitation and assessment characteristics.
- c) Recommend criteria to define B_{safe} for a range of different stock types life history, exploitation and assessment characteristics.
- d) Develop agreed terminology for reference points and ICES AR control parameters
- e) Identify potential conflicts and solutions in the implementation of the new framework given advice requesters policies and needs.

Old & New considerations

- Decoupling of biological reference points and control points in the advice rule:
 - A central concern for advice requesters and stakeholders
 - Simulations indicate that a range of values for these control points can provide catch advice consistent with maximum sustainable yield in the long term.
 - If there is ACOM support for decoupling, need to define how those biological reference points should be defined.
 - Shifts in stock productivity have challenged the use of biological reference points based on the assumption of stationary conditions, such as MSY:
 - North Sea Saithe benchmarked in 2024 has already shown a sharp downward trend in biological parameters within just one year.
 - Need for a reference point framework and advice rules that can rapidly adapt to such changes (e.g adaptative HCRs and/or dynamic reference points).
 - Incorporate ecosystem considerations, including the role of individual stocks within the food web and climate change.
- ➔ Terms of reference approved in 2022 should be revised by ACOM.
- ➔ Given the technical nature of discussions, how to effectively engage with requesters and stakeholders? Proposal: series of webinars and guidance for experts in WGENGAGE and the communications department

Updated ToRs proposal:

- a) *Consider the decoupling of the ICES AR and stock status reference points as proposed by WKREF1&2.*
- b) *Recommend criteria for setting F_{target} and $B_{trigger}$ in the ICES AR for a range of life history, exploitation and assessment characteristics.*
- c) *Recommend criteria to define B_{safe} for a range of different stock types life history, exploitation and assessment characteristics.*
- d) *Develop agreed terminology for reference points and ICES AR control parameters*
- e) *Identify potential conflicts and solutions in the implementation of the new framework given advice requesters policies and needs.*
- f) Provide recommendations for addressing changes in productivity in the provision of catch advice, focusing on the definition of reference points and the application and definition of the ICES AR.
- g) Define a preliminary roadmap for the incorporation of ecosystem considerations in the provision of catch advice.

Proposed workplan



- February 2026: Two half-day ACOM meeting to consolidate ToRs, gather expert input, and prepare for WKREFRAME.
- Before summer 2026: A MIRIA subgroup to present the agreed ToRs and discuss the detailed workplan for WKREFRAME.
- WKREFRAME in February 2027

New Reference Point Tool

- TAF templates using FLR packages following the WKNEWREF recommendations
- They have been reviewed by a subgroup of the methods working group WKMG.
- Tutorial and course material under preparation.
- Ready to be used in Benchmarks in 2026.
- Changes based on WKREFFRAME can be integrated in a second version.



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fyrir, go raibh maith agat, paldies, аћиӯ, dziękuje, obrigada, gracias,
gràcies, grazas, eskerrik asko, mercés, diolch, таpadh leat

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