



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

March 7, 2023

Terms of Reference

For *Illex* squid, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2023-2025 fishing years:

- 1) A. Review the preliminary 2023 *Illex* acceptable biological catch (ABC) of 40,000 MT recommended by the SSC in July 2022 and determine if an ABC adjustment is warranted. If so, please specify an adjusted 2023 *Illex* ABC and provide any rationale and justification for the adjustment;

B. Provide an *Illex* ABC for the 2024-2025 fishing years. If appropriate, provide any new or different rationale that was not addressed in Term of Reference 1A;
- 2) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of the ABC;
- 3) Research or monitoring recommendations that would reduce the scientific uncertainty in the ABC recommendation;
- 4) The materials considered by the SSC in reaching its recommendations;
- 5) A conclusion that the recommendations provided by the SSC are based on scientific information the SSC believes meets the applicable National Standard guidelines for best scientific information available.