

5 April 2013

IOTC CIRCULAR 2013-40

Dear Sir/Madam,

SUBJECT: PREPARATION OF THE NEXT IOTC COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (COC) AND COMPLIANCE ISSUES OF CONCERN

As required by IOTC Resolution 10/09 and in particular paragraph 4.2, it is my duty as the Chair of the Compliance Committee, with the assistance of the IOTC Secretariat, to *"identify, select and transmit the significant non-compliance issues to each concerned CPC and submit them for discussion in the Compliance Committee meeting at least 30 days in advance"*

These issues will, therefore, form the basis of our discussions in the IOTC Compliance Committee meeting to be held during the 2-4 May, 2013, in Grand Baie, Mauritius.

Each CPC will receive a Compliance Report which has been elaborated on the basis of the template agreed in 2011, and which has been built up on the elements provided by CPCs (Compliance questionnaires, feedback letters and reports of implementation). However, due to the varied response from CPCs, the content of the Compliance Report varies in line with the different level of submissions, which is summarised in Annex 1 to this letter.

For the purpose of the discussion in the Compliance Committee, I would like to invite CPCs to consult and review all the relevant documentations; these include the completed Compliance Questionnaires, the Reports of Implementation, and responses to the Letters of Feedback. These documents will serve as the basis for our analyses and discussions of each CPC Compliance Report. The Compliance Reports, which were posted on the IOTC website on the 2nd April, 2013, 30 days before the start of the Compliance Committee meeting, and all of the other above-mentioned documents are being added to the webpage, for the Tenth Compliance Committee meeting, as and when they are received, can be accessed at the following link:

http://www.iotc.org/English/meetings/comm/history/doc_meeting_C10.php

As you will find, at the end of each Compliance Report I have highlighted significant issues for consideration of the Committee.

The secretariat will keep on updating this link according to the new elements which are now missing, and which would be provided by CPCs before the Compliance Committee meeting, indicating the date of reception.

As the process of assessing compliance of CPCs to the decisions of the Commission continues to evolve, you will find in the Compliance Reports an assessment of the current status, plus the previous status, as was assessed in the last session of the Compliance Committee. Where applicable, comments have also been provided alongside the elements being assessed to guide our discussions. To expedite our tasks in reviewing these reports at the next meeting, I would

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Cooperating non-Contracting Parties: Senegal, South Africa.

Chairperson IOTC

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strongly encourage CPCs to provide, as soon as possible, any outstanding or additional information to the Secretariat, so that any revisions required to the reports can be made in a timely manner.

I would also like to seize this opportunity to highlight the need of monitoring the effectiveness of this relatively new compliance assessment process and to establish if actions taken by CPCs during the intersessional period, including their replies to the Letter of Feedback to this organisation permits us to assess improvements in compliance.

Finally, I would like to like to seize this opportunity to invite all CPCs that have not yet provided their Report of Implementation for the year 2012 and their completed Compliance Questionnaire, to do so as soon as possible.

As you will recall, in agreeing to adopt Resolution 10/09, we had set a process by which the Compliance Committee would conduct its business. Please kindly note that failure by CPCs to submit to the Secretariat any information required for the implementation of the process, will inevitably hamper progress in the work of the Committee and ultimately the effectiveness of the Commission.

I look forward to your constructive participation in the upcoming meeting.

Yours sincerely

Roberto Cesari
Chairman of the IOTC Compliance Committee

Attachments:

- Annex 1: Dates on which documents were received

CPCs	Dates on which the following documents were received		
	Response to Feedback letter/	Completed Compliance Questionnaire	Report of Implementation
Australia		07/02/2013	07/03/2013
Belize	29/05/2012	15/02/2013	14/03/2013
China		29/03/2013	29/03/2013
Comoros		13/03/2013	13/03/2013
Eritrea			
European Union	25/05/2012		
France (Territories)		20/03/2013	
Guinea			
India		14/02/2013	15/03/2013
Indonesia	30/08/2012	25/02/2013	07/03/2013
Iran (Islamic Rep of)		12/02/2013	09/03/2013
Japan	14/05/2012	22/02/2013	12/03/2013
Kenya		18/03/2013	
Korea, Rep. of		14/02/2013	01/03/2013
Madagascar			
Malaysia		20/02/2013	08/03/2013
Maldives		06/03/2013	07/03/2013
Mauritius		19/03/2013	19/03/2013
Mozambique		19/02/2013	07/03/2013
Oman		29/03/2013	29/03/2013
Pakistan			
Philippines		19/02/2013	17/03/2013
Seychelles		22/03/2013	22/03/2013
Sierra Leone			
Sri Lanka	15/06/2012	19/02/2013	07/03/2013
Sudan			
Tanzania, United Rep. of			21/03/2013
Thailand		22/03/2013	22/03/2013
United Kingdom(OT)		06/03/2013	06/03/2013
Vanuatu	21/03/2013	21/03/2013	07/03/2013
Yemen			
Senegal		15/03/2013	16/03/2013
South Africa			