

IOTC Agreement – Article X

Report of Implementation for the year 2015

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 16 MARCH 2016

Reporting CPC: I.R.Iran

Date of submission: 16.03.2016

Please NOTE: this document is composed of 3 sections to report on the implementation of IOTC Resolutions

Part A. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, in the previous year to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission at its Nineteenth Session.*

- Resolution 15/11 On the implementation of a limitation of fishing capacity of Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties.^a

- The required data and information of each vessel according IOTC format are sent to Secretariat in due time.

- Resolution 15/10 On target and limit reference points and a decision framework.

- Management of Tuna fishing is monitored, controlled based on IOTC regulations and fisheries management as an acceptable principle has been included in Iran fisheries regulations and all management approaches are based on these principles. However, in order to implement these approaches more carefully, we have prepared a national code of conduct for Tuna Fishing Management which is based on this resolution and been announced by Iran Fisheries Organization.

- Resolution 15/09 On a fish aggregating devices (FADs) working group.

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- Resolution 15/08 Procedures on fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specifications of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species.^a

- Based on this resolution, Iran fisheries are to prepare their managerial plan for FADs. Therefore, Iran Fisheries Organization with the help of Purse Seiners proposed a FADs management plan. The Table prepared for this activity is to be used for daily reporting (Logsheet) of Purse Seiners.

Each Purse Seiners, averagely install 20-30 FADs at sea and control them via radio buoys. Installation of FADs is according experiments of captain of vessel by climate changes, time and place of installation, sea currents and based on policies of IOTC for member countries. Installation of FADs

and collecting them are according national plans, policies and regulation of Iran besides local and regional regulations (like Tuna Fishing Regulations). It must be noted that industrial fishing vessels which are using purse seine methods in the Oman Sea (EEZ of Islamic republic of Iran) do not use FADs and they only use FADs for international waters fishing activities.

- Resolution 15/07 On the use of artificial lights to attract fish to drifting fish aggregating devices.
 - Not applicable for Iran. Basically, there is no fishing with lights among Iran fleet at sea. However, Iran has no fishing vessels that use of artificial lights to attract fish to drifting fish aggregating devices.

- Resolution 15/06 On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC area of competence.
 - The Resolution was translated and bulletined among fisheries cooperations especially Purse seine vessels. But as Iran has declared before, Iranian fishermen have never discarded any small bigeye, Skipjack, Yellowfin or any other tuna and tuna like species because of great market of fish in the country. Also maximum period of Iranian vessels navigation time is 45 days and amount of fish are not enough big to occupied the vessels cold storage. In fact Iranian Purse seiners always have enough space in their cold storage to protect fish.

- Resolution 15/05 On conservation measures for striped marlin, black marlin and blue marlin.
 - Iran Fisheries Organization has taken action to the regulations and policies of IOTC resolution. Although there is no target fishery for Billfish.

- Resolution 15/04 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence.^a
 - Statistics of authorised vessels and active vessels of Islamic Republic of Iran in IOTC region has been sent to IOTC Secretariat with letter no. 36830 on Feb14, 2016.

Reporting on IMO number:

To allow the necessary time for CPCs to obtain an IMO number for eligible vessels that do not already have one, paragraph 2.b on IMO number is effective as of 1 January 2016. As of this date, CPCs shall ensure that all their fishing vessels that are registered on the IOTC Record of fishing vessels have IMO numbers issued to them. Paragraph 2.b on IMO number does not apply to vessels which are not eligible to receive IMO numbers.

In assessing compliance with the paragraph above, the Commission shall take into account exceptional circumstances in which a vessel owner is not able to obtain an

IMO number despite following the appropriate procedures. **Flag CPCs shall report any such exceptional situations** to the IOTC Secretariat.

The report on exceptional situations has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes * **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** Iran Fisheries Organization according letter No.36830 dated 14/02/2016 has been sent to IOTC Secretariat..

No ; **if no report exceptional situations below:**

- As we mentioned in email dated Nov 17, 2015(IOTC REF: IRN-00031), In our country for allocating IMO number to fishing vessels there are some specific laws and regulation. Because of these regulations, a major part of our vessels couldn't receive IMO number. Iran Port and Maritime Organization as responsible organization for IMO affairs in Iran has not obliged fishing vessels to get such registration number. But all fishing vessels (except Dhows) have obtained IMO number and it seems that the rest of our fishing vessels (Dhows) according to above resolution, are not eligible to obtain IMO number.

• Resolution 15/03 On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) Programme.^a

- As we reported before Iran Fisheries Organization(IFO) had problem to equip fishing vessels with satellite Vessel monitoring system because of sanction. So IFO equipped all Iranian fishing vessels with offline. After cancelling sanction and in new atmosphere of our country we have printed a tender in official newspaper to start the project. While I am writing this report (10th of February 2016) the tender is under processing and companies are preparing necessary document to apply their proposals.

• Resolution 15/02 On mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs).

- Iran Fisheries Organization has taken following steps regarding this resolution:

- Catch Data according to each species, fishing methods and for fishing Pelagic fishes catch & effort including number of vessels and level of effort in previous formats based on fishing vessels class and fishing methods were sent to IOTC

- Biometric data including number of Biometrics and average length according to Various Species and their Purseine and Gillnetting Methods were made available to IOTC.

• Resolution 15/01 On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence.

- According Iran Fisheries Organization's data and statistics software, all Tuna Fishing Vessels are covered in the system and their data is recorded by this system.

The Manual for implementation of 1 and 2 Annexes of this Resolution have been processed and implemented for Purse Seine Vessels were designed based on IOTC format and distributed among Purse Seiners to fill in during 10-day period for trial. But for gillnet Vessels, necessary steps for designing, publication of Manual for Daily Data Collection been underway. In order to supply minimum data available for IOTC, and supplying data by fishing catch and effort according IOTC format, some steps including development of VMS and logbook have been considered. With these alterations we can offer data and statistics by species, month, fishing method, by-catch, and ... preparation until June 30 of 2016.

With regard to some articles of this resolution, IOTC has prepared some special programs for implementation of it and therefore it is necessary support and coordination for supplying training, necessary support and coordination for supplying training, software support be considered by IOTC.

Note: ^a indicate that a template report exists for some of the requirements and can be downloaded at <http://www.iotc.org/compliance/reporting-templates>

Part B. *Describe the actions taken, under national legislation, to implement conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission in previous Sessions, and which have not been reported previously.*

- Iran Fisheries Organization has been actively implementing "Guide on data and information reporting" and sent related reports in due time to IOTC Secretariat:

- Regarding resolutions 05/03 and 10/11: We would like to inform you that ports named by Iran Fisheries Organization to IOTC has not posted any report on entrance of fishing vessels with foreign flags. And this was sent to you by letter no. 11045 dated June30, 2015. Regarding coordination with foreign vessels , focal points for Iran have been endorsed and all vessels can apply for Port Entrance at least Ten days sooner.

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- Regarding resolution 12/05, Not applicable for Iran Because, Iran has no active longline fishing vessel in the Indian Ocean Area.

Part C. Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report (please refer to the section “Implementation Report due by 16 March 2016” of the *Guide on data and information reporting requirements for Members and Cooperating Non-contracting Parties*, available for download at <http://www.iotc.org/compliance/reporting-templates>).

- Resolution 01/06 Concerning the IOTC bigeye tuna statistical document programme

CPCs which export bigeye tuna shall examine export data upon receiving the import data from the Secretary, and report the results to the Commission annually [A template report exists].

Nil report, specify the reason: * No large scale longline vessels on the IOTC RAV
 Do not export frozen big eye tuna

The report has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** [Click here to enter text.](#)
No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes* No

Additional information:

- According Resolution 01/06, regarding import and export of Big eye Tuna no shipment has been recorded in our custom offices.

- Recommendation 05/07 Concerning a management standard for the tuna fishing vessels

The CPC flag States which issues licenses to their AFVs should report annually to the Commission all measures taken to meet the minimum management standards when they issue fishing licenses to their “authorised fishing vessels”.

a. Management in the fishing grounds (of flag vessels).

	Scientific Observer boarding	Satellite-based vessel monitoring system	Daily or required periodic catch report	Entry/Exit report
Yes, No?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No * <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes* <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes* <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	% Click here to enter text.	% or number of vessels Offline based	Method Purse seiners are required to submit daly and each trip fishing logbooks on their operations	Method Performing port controls at entery and exit of fishing vessels like recording the enterance and exit time. Controlling the

				logbook, surveying the documents related to vessels and their crew.
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b. Management of transhipment (from the fishing grounds to the landing ports; of flag vessels)

	Transhipment report	Port inspection	Statistical document program
Yes, No?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> *	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	Method N/A (I.R.Iran has no active longline fishing vessel in the indian Ocean Area	Method -	-

c. Management at landing ports (of flag vessels).

	Landing inspection	Landing reporting	Cooperation with other Parties
Yes, No?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> *	Yes* <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No * <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	Method Inspection are undertaken at landing site and the data will be gathered by field samplers.	Method Landing reporting carried out quarterly by species and msnsgement	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 10/10 Concerning market related measures

For CPCs that import tuna and tuna-like fish products, or in whose ports those products are landed or transhipped, should report a range of information (e.g. information on vessels / owners, product data (species, weight), point of export) annually. [A template report exists].

Nil report, specify the reason(s): No landing from foreign vessels in national ports
 No transhipment by foreign vessels in national ports
 Do not import tuna and tuna-like fish products

The report on import, landing or transhipment of tuna and tuna-like fish products landed or transhipped in port in 2015 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes * **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** Tuna and tuna-like fish import to Iran is carried out by non-fishing vessels (Container and refer vessels). This issue has been informed by letter No. 39354 dated 08.Mar.2016 to IOTC Secretariat

No

The report on import, landing or transshipment of tuna and tuna-like fish products landed or transhipped in port in 2015 is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No *

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text](#)

- Resolution 11/02 Prohibition of fishing on data buoys

CPCs are to notify the IOTC Secretariat of all reports of observations of damaged data buoys.

Nil Report

The report has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): [Click here to enter text.](#)

No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 11/04 On a Regional observer scheme

CPCs shall provide to the Executive Secretary and the Scientific Committee annually a report of the number of vessels monitored and the coverage achieved by gear type in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.

Type of gear	No of vessels monitored in 2014	Coverage in 2014 (%)
Purse seine	0	0
Longline	N/A	Click here to enter text.
Gillnet	0	0
Bait Boat	N/A	Click here to enter text.
Hand line	N/A	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type	N/A	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.		

Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

- In 2015, IFO did not implemented onboard vessel monitoring system, but IFO collected related information from port state monitoring system in landing places.
- Resolution 12/04 On marine turtles

CPCs shall report to the Commission, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, their progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines and this Resolution.
- Because of data weaknesses and reciving no reports from fishermen, IFO is going to start a new joint project with NGOs. We hope we will produce quallify information in 2016.
- Resolution 12 /06 On Reducing the Incidental Bycatch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries

CPCs shall provide to the Commission, as part of their annual reports, information on how they are implementing this measure and all available information on interactions with seabirds, including bycatch by fishing vessels carrying their flag or authorised to fish by them. This is to include details of species where available to enable the Scientific Committee to annually estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries within the IOTC Area of Competence.
- The Resolution is only applicable to longline vessels and Iran dose not has any Long line active vessels. In fact this resolution is not applicable for Iran.
- Resolution 12/12 To Prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC Area

CPCs shall include in their Annual Report a summary of monitoring, control, and surveillance actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.
- Using long Gillnets is banned according to Article 3-3 National Tuna Fishing Regulation in 2010 and it has been circulated through official network of Iran Fisheries Organization. National Regulation for Tuna Fishing Managment of gillnet Vessels with one introduction, 6 Article and 30 items which is based on IOTC regulations in 2010 and it has been circulated through official network of Iran Fisheries Organization. In this regulation, Using long gillnets is banned according to Article 3-3.
- Resolution 13/04 On the conservation of cetaceans

CPCs shall report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, any instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.

Not applicable (No PS vessels on the IOTC RAV in 2015);

***No encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2015,**

Encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2015 (Complete the table below):

Name of the species	Number of instances of encirclement
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

Click here to enter text.

- Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)

CPCs shall report, in accordance with Article X of the IOTC Agreement, any instances in which whale sharks have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.

Not applicable (No PS vessels on the IOTC RAV in 2015);

***No encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2015,**

Encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2015 (Complete the table below):

Name of the species	Number of instances of encirclement
Whale sharks (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>)	1 report

Additional information:

- Iranian fishermen, were released a seventh meters Whale Shark in Iranian teroterial waters in Persian Gulf N26,27/E54,14 in eastern part of Kish Island, dated on 9 seotember 2015. The crew of the gillnet vessel after one hour effort releasde the shark safely.

- Resolution 14/05 Concerning A Record Of Licensed Foreign Vessels Fishing For IOTC Species In The IOTC Area Of Competence And Access Agreement Information

For Government to Government access agreement in existence prior to the entry into force of this resolution, where coastal CPCs allow foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters in their EEZ in the IOTC Area for species managed by IOTC through a CPC-to-CPC agreement, CPCs involved in the referred agreement:

- Shall submit copy of the access agreement,
- Shall submit information concerning these agreements (paragraphs 3a, b, c, d, e, f, g),

A report template exists and can be requested at secretariat@iotc.org

Additional information:

- Iran Fisheries Organization has not issued any fishing license for foreign vessels to carry out Tuna Fishing activities in EEZ or IOTC related waters.

- Resolution 14/06 On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels
(Report of flag vessels transshipping in foreign ports)

Each flag CPC of the LSTV shall include in its annual report each year to IOTC the details on the transshipments in ports by its vessels (Name of LSTV, IOTC Number, name of carrier vessel, species and quantity transhipped, date and location of transshipment). *[A template report exists].*

Nil report, specify the reason(s): *No LSTVs on the RAV

Flag LSTVs do not tranship in foreign ports

The details on transshipment in ports for 2015 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** [Click here to enter text.](#)

No

The details on transshipment in ports for 2015 are attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

- Basically there is no transshipment occurred at sea in Iranian fishing vessels, Because Iran has no active longline fishing vessel in the Indian Ocean Area

- Resolution 15/04 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence.

CPCs shall review their own internal actions and measures taken pursuant to paragraph 7, including punitive actions and sanctions and, in a manner consistent with domestic law as regards disclosure, report the results of the review to the Commission annually. In consideration of the results of such review, the Commission shall, if appropriate, request the flag CPCs of AFVs on the IOTC Record to take further action to enhance compliance by those vessels with IOTC Conservation and Management Measures.

The flag CPCs of the vessels on the record shall:

- take measures to ensure that their AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;
Describe the measures:
[Click here to enter text.](#)
- take measures to ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorisation to fish and/or tranship;
Describe the measures:
 - All fishing vessels are a unique code and any changes to be updated.
- ensure that their AFVs on the IOTC Record have no history of IUU fishing activities or that, if those vessels have such a history, the new owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owners and operators have no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control over those vessels; the parties of the IUU incident have officially resolved the matter and sanctions have been completed; or that having taken into account all relevant facts, their AFVs are not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing;
Describe the measures:
 - The vessels who carry out any infraction against Iranian Fisheries org. legislations and instruction are introduced to both court and especial fishing commission for fisherman infraction investigation.

In fact their IUU infraction registered in the vessels dossier, and they have to pay the penalties and tolerate and sanctions. If a vessels two times carry out infractions during six months their licenses cancelled. In fact any action by fisherman registered in their vessel history.

When a vessels owner is going to sell, the official office change the owner only by introduction letter of IFO so, IFO inform new owner about the vessels condition and probability infraction. However there is a simple but strict procedure for control of vessels IUU.
- ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their AFVs on the IOTC Record are not engaged in or associated with tuna fishing activities conducted by vessels not entered into the IOTC Record in the IOTC area of competence;
Describe the measures:
 - All vessels information registered computer base program and history of all vessels are very clear for who want to issue license. But regarding those vessels fishing out of territorial waters we have other especial regulations. Registration of these vessels is different from coastal fishing vessels with especially tailored codes of conduct. For example, we have especial codes of conduct for vessels active on IOTC area of competent which is according IOTC regulations for Tuna Fishing
- take measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the AFVs on the IOTC Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag CPCs so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them;
Describe the measures:

- All fishing vessels in Iran have their own registration number from Iran Port and Maritime Organization and after registration in Iran Fisheries Organization, they obtain their Fishing License, as well. In this License, there is some info on fishing activity and fishing gear and time limit. However Iran Port and Maritime Organization and IFO only issue the require license for Iranian citizen.