

## **IOTC Agreement – Article X**

### **Report of Implementation for the year 2015**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 16 MARCH 2016**

Reporting CPC: SYC

Date of submission: 16-03-2016

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

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**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.<sup>a</sup>

Seychelles has submitted its Fleet Development Plan to the IOTC as per the requirement of this resolution. Seychelles support the evaluation to be undertaken by the IOTC Compliance Committee to assess the level of compliance of CPCs with the provisions of this Resolution, including the implementation, of the Fleet Development Plans.

- Resolution 15/10 On target and limit reference points and a decision framework. Seychelles will be represented at the IOTC Scientific Committee and will participate in the deliberations in regards to interim target and limit reference points.
- Resolution 15/09 On a fish aggregating devices (FADs) working group. Seychelles support the setting up of an ad hoc working group on FAD's. Scientists, managers and other relevant stakeholders will actively participate and make contribution to this working group
- 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.<sup>a</sup>

Through the implementation of a Scientific Observer Programme Seychelles is collecting more information on FADs fishery including number and type of FADs deployed. Furthermore more detailed information is collected on catch made from FAD's set through at sea sampling of

bycatch. In 2016, Seychelles will undertake a pilot project to test Electronic Monitoring System to complement data collected through the Scientific Observer Programme.

- Resolution 15/07 On the use of artificial lights to attract fish to drifting fish aggregating devices. Fishing Vessels including support and supply vessels flying the Seychelles flag has been notified of this resolution and are prohibited from installing or operating surface or submerged artificial lights for the purpose of aggregating tuna and tuna-like species or non-target, associated or dependent species on drifting Fish Aggregating Devices (DFADs).

- 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 Seychelles purse seine fleet has been notified of this resolution informed and have been advised to abide to its requirements. It is part of their license condition on their certificate of authorisation.

- Resolution 15/05 On conservation measures for striped marlin, black marlin and blue marlin.

The Seychelles purse seine fleet has been notified of this resolution informed and have been advised to abide to its requirements. It is part of their license condition on their certificate of authorisation.

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

The Seychelles is submitting to the IOTC Secretariat the list of its AFVs that are authorised to operating in the IOTC area of competence . The list include the following information:

- a) Name of vessels, register numbers;
- b) previous name (s) (if any);
- c) IMO number (if eligible);
- d) Previous flag (s) (if any);
- e) Previous details of deletion from other registries (if any);
- f) International radio call sign (s) (if any);
- g) Port of registration;
- h) Type of vessel (s), length and gross tonnage (GT);
- i) Name and address of owner (s) and operator (s);
- j) Gear (s) used;

k) Time period (s) authorised for fishing and/ or transshipping.

An updated template of the official authorisation to fish outside National Jurisdictions, and update this information whenever this information changes. This information includes:

- a) name of the Competent Authority;
- b) name and contact of personnel of the Competent Authority;
- c) signature of the personnel of the Competent Authority;
- d) official stamp of the Competent Authority.

The Seychelles promptly notify, after the establishment of their initial IOTC Record, the IOTC Executive Secretary of any addition to, any deletion from and/or any modification of the IOTC Record at any time such changes occur.

The Seychelles

- a) authorise their vessels to operate in the IOTC area of competence only if they are able to fulfil in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the IOTC Agreement and its Conservation and Management Measures;
- b) take necessary measures to ensure that their AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC Conservation and Management Measures;
- c) take necessary 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 transship;
- d) 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;
- e) 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;
- f) take necessary 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.

The Seychelles take measures, under their applicable legislation, to prohibit the fishing for, the retaining on board, the transshipment and landing of tuna and tuna-like species by the vessels which are not entered into the IOTC Record.

- b) To ensure the effectiveness of the IOTC Conservation and Management Measures pertaining to species covered by Statistical Document Programs:
  - i. Flag CPCs shall validate statistical documents only for the vessels on the IOTC Record;
  - ii. CPCs shall require that the species covered by Statistical Document Programs caught by AFVs in the IOTC area of competence, when imported into the territory of a Contracting Party, be accompanied by statistical documents validated for the vessels on the IOTC Record; and
  - iii. CPCs importing species covered by Statistical Document Programs and the flag States of vessels

shall cooperate to ensure that statistical documents are not forged or do not contain misinformation.

The Seychelles

- a) Ensure that each of its fishing vessels carry on board documents issued and certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with IOTC, including, at a minimum, the following:
- i. License, permit or authorisation to fish and terms and conditions attached to the licence, permit of authorisation;
  - ii. Vessel name;
  - iii. Port in which registered and the number(s) under which registered;
  - iv. International call sign;
  - v. Names and addresses of owner(s) and where relevant, the charterer;
  - vi. Overall length;
  - vii. Engine power, in KW/horsepower, where appropriate.
- b) Verify above documents on a regular basis and at least every year;
- c) Ensure that any modification to the documents and to the information referred to in 13.a) is certified by the competent authority of that Contracting Party or of that Cooperating Non-Contracting Party with the IOTC.

The Seychelles ensure:

- a) that its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence are marked in such a way that they can be really identified with generally accepted standards such as the FAO Standard Specification for the Marking and Identification of Fishing vessels.
- b) each gear used by its fishing vessels authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence is marked appropriately, e.g., the ends of nets, lines and gear in the sea, shall be fitted with flag or radar reflector buoys by day and light buoys by night sufficient to indicate their position and extent;
- c) Marker buoys and similar objects floating and on the surface, and intended to indicate the location of fixed fishing gear, shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and/or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong;
- d) Fish aggregating devices shall be clearly marked at all time with the letter(s) and / or number(s) of the vessel to which they belong.
- e) that all their respective fishing vessels of 24 meters or above and vessels less than 24 meters if fishing outside their EEZ, and are registered on the IOTC Record of fishing vessels and authorised to fish in the IOTC area of competence, keep a bound fishing national logbook with consecutively numbered pages. The original recordings contained in the fishing logbooks shall be kept on board the fishing vessel for a period of at least 12 months.

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):** 28/12/2015

No  ; if no report exceptional situations below:

Click here to enter text

- Resolution 15/03 On the vessel monitoring system (VMS) Programme.<sup>a</sup>

A vessel monitoring system exist and a report on the progress and implementation of its VMS programme in accordance with this Resolution is submitted to the IOTC Secretariat, by 30 June each year.

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

The Seychelles submit to the IOTC Secretariat complete and accurate catch and effort data concerning fishing activities on inter alia, vessel position, catch of target and non- target species and fishing effort, applicable to tuna and tuna-like species for the different type of fishery according to the deadline set forth by the IOTC Secretariat.

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

The Seychelles ensures that all purse seine, longline, gillnet, pole and line, handline and trolling fishing vessels flying its flag and authorised to fish species managed by IOTC be subject to a data recording system makingb sure that all the data for any given year are submitted to the IOTC Secretariat by June 30th of the following year on an agregated basis.

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



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**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.*

All IOTC legally binding resolutions that is adopts by the commisssion becomes law as stipulated under the Fisheries Act.

**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  
x 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 x

**The report is attached to the implementation report:**

Yes  No x

Additional information:

There will be a delay in submission of the Annual report as we are still waiting for the missing data.

- 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).

	<i>Scientific Observer boarding</i>	<i>Satellite-based vessel monitoring system</i>	<i>Daily or required periodic catch report</i>	<i>Entry/Exit report</i>
<b>Yes, No?</b>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Note</b>	% Click here to enter text.	% or number of vessels 100	Method E-mail	Method E-mail

b. Management of transshipment (from the fishing grounds to the landing ports; of flag vessels)

	<i>Transshipment report</i>	<i>Port inspection</i>	<i>Statistical document program</i>
<b>Yes, No?</b>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes X No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Note</b>	Method E-mail	Method E- mail	E-mail
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c. Management at landing ports (of flag vessels).

	<b>Landing inspection</b>	<b>Landing reporting</b>	<b>Cooperation with other Parties</b>
<b>Yes, No?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Note</b>	Method Click here to enter text.	Method Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

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- 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):** X 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):** Click here to enter text.

No x

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

Yes

No x

Additional information:

Submission will be done before end of March 2016

- 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	7	28%
Longline	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Gillnet	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Bait Boat	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Hand line	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Insert other gear type <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Insert other gear type <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Insert other gear type <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
Insert other gear type <a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>

Additional information:

IOTC secretariat has been provided with 6 observer reports for the year 2014.

- 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.

The Authority informed vessels owners and operators of this resolution and of the proposed mitigation practices as well as the steps to be undertaken in case of incidental capture.

Modification of logbook for reporting interaction with marine turtle is to be implemented. It is also incorporated in their license condition on the certificate of Authorization.

- 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 Authority informed vessels owners and operators of long line fisheries of this resolution and were encouraged to report data for catches of sharks. It is also incorporated in their license condition on the certificate of Authorisation.

- 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.

Seychelles has prohibited the use of large-scale driftnet. No incidence in regards to its use had been detected during the sea patrols.

- 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.
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Additional information:

The Authority informed vessels owners and operators of this resolution and prohibit their flagged vessels from intentionally setting a purse seine net around a cetacean in the IOTC area of competence. Moreover they have been instructed on the best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of cetaceans developed by the IOTC Scientific Committee. It is also incorporated in their license condition on the certificate of Authorization

- 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> )	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

The Authority informed vessels owners and operators of this resolution and prohibit their flagged vessels from intentionally setting a purse seine net around whale shark in the IOTC area of competence. Moreover they have been instructed on the best practice guidelines for the safe release and handling of whale shark developed by the IOTC Scientific Committee. It is also incorporated in their license condition on the certificate of Authorization.

- 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](mailto:secretariat@iotc.org)

Additional information:

A record of Licensed Foreign Vessels fishing for the IOTC Species in the IOTC area of competence has been submitted to the IOTC Secretariat.

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

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

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

Yes       No x

Additional information:

Submission will be done before end of March 2016

- 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:

The vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of competence are issued with Certificates of Authorization in which the different resolutions which are of relevance to them are part of their license condition which they should observe. The IOTC resolutions which are adopted are automatically enshrined in the domestic laws of the Seychelles as part of the Fisheries Act.

- 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:

Upon renewal of the certificate of authorisation (COA) a letter addressed to the management of the fishing vessel is enclosed with the COA which explains that the original

of the certificate should remain at all time on board the fishing vessel. This is further enforced through the observer scheme programme.

- 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:

Before accredating a vessel to be a Seychelles flag, verification is done to see wheteher the vessel have not previously been involved in IUU fishing or have no such history by browsing other RFMO websites.

- 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:

National observers are deployed on Seychelles Flag vessel so as to report any breach of such measures.

- 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:

[Click here to enter text.](#)