



Office of
Deputy Commissioner
of Maritime Affairs

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
LIBERIA MARITIME AUTHORITY

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February 6, 2017

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission/Secretariat
Attn: Mr. Alejandro Anganuzzi, Exec. Secretary (Ad Interim)
Le Chantier Mall (2nd floor)
P.O. Box 1011
Victoria Mahé, Seychelles

RE: Liberia's Application for Continued Cooperating Non-Contracting Party Status

Dear Mr. Exec. Secretary / Secretariat:

The purpose of this letter is to request Liberia's continued participation as a Cooperating Non-Contracting Party (CNCP) of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). Please note that our reason for renewing our CNCP status is because we have in our Registry a number of carrier and supply vessels that participate in transshipment activities in the IOTC Convention Area. The following information comprises of the requirements for CNCP status [pursuant to Resolution 03/02 on criteria for attaining the status of Cooperating Non-Contracting Party] and submitted in support of Liberia's application:

a) Data on historical fisheries in the IOTC Area, including nominal catches, number/type of vessels, name of fishing vessels, fishing effort and fishing areas:

Liberia's reason for seeking renewal of CNCP status is because we have in our Registry a number of carrier and supply vessels that are participating and plan to participate in transshipment activities in the IOTC Convention Area.

b) All the data that Contracting Parties have to submit to IOTC based on the Resolutions adopted by IOTC:

Liberia has submitted and will continue to submit the requisite data to the IOTC. In due course, Liberia will provide to the IOTC its Compliance Questionnaire (2016); Report of Implementation (2016); Report of Implementation of VMS due by June 30th; and the Annual Report on Transshipment which is due by September 30. Liberia intends to provide any other relevant information to the Commission.

c) Details on current fishing presence in the IOTC Area, number of vessels and vessel characteristics:

Liberia does not have vessels that actually 'fish' in the IOTC Convention Area. However, Liberia has provided and continues to provide a Record of Vessels authorized to engage in transshipment activities in the IOTC Convention Area.

d) Information on any research programs Liberia may have conducted in the IOTC Area and the information and the results of this research:

Liberia has not conducted any research programs in the IOTC Area. Should Liberia conduct any such activities, the results will be provided to the Secretariat.

In addition, Liberia:

a) Confirms its commitment to respect the Commission's Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs):

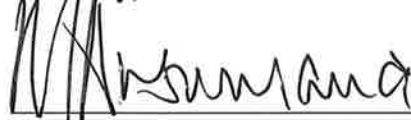
Liberia is fully committed to cooperating in the implementation of CMMs adopted by the IOTC and will continue to ensure that vessels flying the flag of Liberia and engaging in transshipment activities in the Area comply with the provisions of the Convention and CMMs adopted by the Commission.

b) Inform the IOTC of the measures to ensure compliance by Liberian registered vessels:

Liberia has implemented measures to ensure compliance by vessels engaged in transshipment activities in the IOTC and other Areas. Specifically, Liberia has an established Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirement for all ships that engage in transshipment activities. Through CLS America, our registered vessels are provided automatic locator Thorium units, including a tablet. These units use the Iridium satellite network, the largest commercial satellite network and are able to track the vessels' positions, generate catch or e-forms data, and emit transshipment notifications.

Should you need additional information, please feel free to contact the undersigned at transshipment@liscr.com. Kindly revert with an acknowledgement and advise whether Liberia's renewal application for CNCP status may be granted. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Margaret C. Ansumana

Dep. Commissioner of Maritime Affairs
Republic of Liberia