

IOTC Agreement – Article X

Report of Implementation for the year 2016

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 17 MARCH 2017

Reporting CPC: Union of Comoros

Date of submission: 15/03/2017

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 Twentieth Session.*

- Resolution 16/01 On an Interim Plan for Rebuilding the Indian Ocean Yellowfin tuna Stock in the IOTC area of competence

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The report on methods for achieving the YFT catch reductions has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): Click here to enter text

No

Additional information:

- Resolution 16/02 On harvest control rules for Skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence.
We support the implementation of this resolution and the definition of the harvest control rules that will be defined in the future for the sustainable exploitation and management of skipjack tuna
- Resolution 16/03 On the second performance review follow-up
We want the implementation of this resolution to improve the functioning of the IOTC. Comoros wishes to participate in the ad hoc Technical Committee
- Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a Pilot project in view of promoting the Regional observer scheme of IOTC
Comoros do not have any vessels listed in the IOTC, but they do participate in the IOC Regional Observer Project. When the longline fleet is operational, Comoros will implement resolution 11/04. [sic]

- Resolution 16/05 On vessels without nationality

The law N ° 07/011 / AU of 27 August 2007 establishing the Code of Fisheries and Aquaculture is clear in its Article 31. It stipulates that: foreign fishing vessels and boats may be authorized to operate in maritime waters under Comorian jurisdiction either under a fishing agreement or when such vessels or boats are chartered by Comorian companies or they have obtained a fishing license in accordance with the provisions of Article 32.

- Resolution 16/06 On measures applicable in case of non fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC

“NOTING that incomplete reporting or no data reporting and that, despite the adoption of numerous measures intended to address the matter, lack of compliance with reporting obligations is still a problem for the Scientific Committee and for the Commission;”

Actions taken to implement their reporting obligations for all IOTC fisheries (in terms of Resolutions 15/01 and 15/02), including shark species caught in association with IOTC fisheries, and in particular the steps taken to improve their data collection for direct and incidental catches.

Note: where applicable, please report actions separately for artisanal (coastal), and industrial IOTC fisheries:

- **Action(s) to improve data collection that facilitate improvements in compliance in terms of IOTC mandatory reporting obligations (e.g. development or improvements in the implementation of logbooks, port-based sampling or related fisheries surveys, national observer scheme, vessel registry, electronic data capture, VMS, or on-board electronic monitoring):**

The measures applicable in the case of non-compliance are provided for in Title 5, Chapter IV of Law No. 07/011 on the Code of Fisheries and Aquaculture. Failure to comply with the regulations on the provision of catch data constitutes a serious misconduct. These serious offenses are punishable by a fine of 5 to 50 times the rate of the fishing license when they are committed in the context of industrial fishing and from 5000 to 150 000 CF when they are committed in artisanal fisheries.

In addition, the court may order the confiscation of catches found on board the fishing vessel or boat or the proceeds of sale and/or confiscation of fishing gear used in the commission of the offense. In the event of a repeated offense, catches found on board the fishing vessel or boat or the proceeds of sale thereof shall be automatically confiscated.

For Artisanal Fishing



Since February 2011, a system for the collection and processing of artisanal fisheries data has been set up by the IOTC/OFCF.

The objective is to provide estimates of fishing trips numbers (by vessel type) and catches per trip (by vessel type and species/group of species). The catches according to various groupings of species and/or types of vessels should also be estimated. Each day, each of the investigators will have to collect the necessary information from the village assigned to him for each category of fishing craft present at the various landing sites. The number of trips for the surveyed village and catch data and descriptors of activity during fishing trips for each vessel sampled will be collected and input in the forms referred to as SE1 and SE2. During this survey, a series of biometric measurements are also performed.

For Industrial Fishing

In order to prepare for the collection of statistical data at the time when our longline fleet will be in operation, a fishing logbook has been developed according to the IOTC directives. A copy has been submitted to the IOTC.

- **Action(s) to improve data processing and reporting systems that facilitate submission of data to the IOTC Secretariat (e.g., development of fisheries databases and data dissemination systems, development of automated routines to process and extract IOTC data submissions, steps to minimise data entry errors):**

For Artisanal Fishing

IOTC has developed for us a database for data storage and processing. We have developed data retrieval modules specific to IOTC data declarations.

In 2016 we launched a pilot phase of electronic data collection with mobile phones for six months. Since January 2017, data collection is entirely on Smartphone.

In order to reduce input errors likely to be made by the investigators, after the reception of the data they first pass through a control and validation interface before storage in the database. This leaves the controller time to check and contact the investigator who committed the error for any necessary corrections.

For industrial fishing

Not applicable because we do not have any Vessels on the IOTC List.

- **Action(s) to improve the quality and accuracy of data submitted to the IOTC Secretariat (e.g., steps to improve data validation, improvements in sampling coverage, frame surveys, etc.; coherence of data with alternative fisheries datasets, comparability of data from previous years):**

For artisanal fishing

In order to improve the accuracy of the data submitted by the investigators, monthly supervision missions in the field and exchange and coordination meetings are carried out on a regular basis.

An analysis of data collected monthly is carried out for the identification of errors and anomalies related to the collected data. The irregularities observed are discussed during the meeting and specific instructions are given to the investigators.

During each field visit, discussions with the village fishermen are carried out to dispel possible problems that may arise with the investigator.

For industrial fishing

Not applicable as we do not have vessels on the IOTC List

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 16/07 On the use of artificial lights to attract fish
Not transcribed in national legislation but will be transposed into the current draft decree supported by Swiofish 1, the Comorian government and the IOTC secretariat. We expect to implement it by the end of 2017.
- Resolution 16/08 On the prohibition of the use of aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles as fishing aids
Not transcribed in national legislation but will be transposed into the current draft decree supported by Swiofish 1, the Comorian government and the IOTC secretariat. We expect to implement it by the end of 2017.
- Resolution 16/09 On establishing a Technical Committee on Management Procedures
Comoros wishes to participate in the ad hoc Technical Committee (TCMP)
- Resolution 16/10 To promote implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures
We support the maintenance of a special fund for capacity-building to ensure the continuity of capacity-building actions implemented by the IOTC Secretariat.
- Resolution 16/11 On Port state measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing
Not applicable: Comoros is not a Port state
- Resolution 16/12 Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)
Comoros wishes to participate in this working group



iotc ctoi

Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Commission des Thons de l'Océan Indien



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.*

The Fleet Development Plan has been updated and submitted to the IOTC Secretariat on 08/03/2017.

Resolution 14/05 information on the fisheries agreement between Comoros and the European Union.

Information on the Comoros-European Union fisheries agreement has been submitted to the IOTC secretariat. We are informing you that this fisheries agreement has expired in December 2016. We are currently negotiating.

a) Fisheries Agreement Union of the Comoros / European Union

b) From January 2014 to December 2016

c) - 42 tuna purse seiners

- 20 surface longliners

- information on the vessels is on the list already sent to the IOTC

d) Targeted species: Tuna and associated species

e) Reference tonnage: 6000 tonnes

f) Vessels shall be monitored; Among other things, by the satellite control system of the National Fisheries Control and Monitoring Centre. Vessels authorized to fish in Comorian waters under the Agreement shall have on board observers designated by the Comorian authorities responsible for fisheries.

g) Authorized vessels shall communicate their catches to the Ministry responsible for fisheries by means of the logbook with a copy to the scientific institutes (IRD, IEO, IPIMAR)

Resolution 14/05 updated license model, signing authority and stamp.

An update on the model of the license, the signing authority and the stamp was transmitted to the IOTC secretariat.

Resolution 13/06 on a scientific and management framework for the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by the IOTC. We are in the process of transcribing the resolution in our legislation.

Part C. Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report (please refer to the section “Implementation Report due by 17 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:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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>
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 Click here to enter text.	Method Click here to enter text.	Method Click here to enter text.

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>
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 Click here to enter text.	Method Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
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c. Management at landing ports (of flag vessels).

	<i>Landing inspection</i>	<i>Landing reporting</i>	<i>Cooperation with other Parties</i>
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 Click here to enter text.	Method Click here to enter text.	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 2016 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

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

The report on import, landing or transhipment of tuna and tuna-like fish products landed or transhipped in port in 2016 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:

Not applicable as Comoros do not have vessels on the IOTC List of authorized vessels.

- 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 2015	Coverage in 2015 (%)
Purse seine	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Longline	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Gillnet	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Bait Boat	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Hand line	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.
Insert other gear type Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Additional information:

Not applicable as Comoros do not have vessels on the IOTC List of authorized vessels.

- 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.

No catches of turtles have been observed and the resolution has been transposed in the Comorian legislation.

The report on the progress of the implementation of the FAO guidelines in this resolution was sent to the Secretariat on 17/03/2017.

- 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.

Not applicable. We do not have longliners.

No interaction in artisanal fisheries in 2015.

- 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.

Not applicable as Comoros do not have vessels on the IOTC List of authorized vessels.

- 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 2016);

No encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016,

Encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016 (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 2016);

No encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016,

Encirclement reported by flag vessels in 2016 (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:

Click here to enter text.

- 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:

A copy of the agreement has been submitted to the IOTC. The list of vessels has been submitted to the IOTC.

a) Fisheries Agreement Union of the Comoros / European Union

b) From January 2014 to December 2016

c) - 42 tuna purse seiners

- 20 surface longliners

- information on the vessels is on the list already sent to the IOTC

d) Targeted species: Tuna and associated species

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f) Vessels shall be monitored; Among other things, by the satellite control system of the National Fisheries Control and Monitoring Centre. Vessels authorized to fish in Comorian waters under the Agreement shall have on board observers designated by the Comorian authorities responsible for fisheries.

g) Authorized vessels shall communicate their catches to the Ministry responsible for fisheries by means of the logbook with a copy to the scientific institutes (IRD, IEO, IPIMAR)
Resolution 14/05 updated license model, signing authority and stamp.

- 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 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 2016 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

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

The details on transhipment in ports for 2016 are attached to the implementation report:

Yes **No**

Additional information:
[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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:
Not applicable. No vessel on the IOTC List of authorized vessels.
- 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:
Not applicable.
- 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:

Not applicable.

- 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:

Not applicable.

- 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:

Not applicable.

- Resolution 15/08 Procedures on a 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

From 2015 on, CPCs shall submit to the Commission, 60 days before the Annual Meeting, a report on the progress of the management plans of FADs, including reviews of the initially submitted Management Plans, and including reviews of the application of the principles set out in Annex III.

Not applicable (No PS vessels on the IOTC RAV in 2016);

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.](#)