

IOTC Agreement – Article X

Report of Implementation for the year 2016

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 17 MARCH 2017

Reporting CPC: SRI LANKA

Date of submission: 03.13.2017

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

As a coastal state with large number of native fishermen engaged in high seas fishing for their livelihoods it is complicated to implement a sudden limitation over the vessels operating in high seas due to the social and economic implications arise.

Therefore the relevant fishermen have been made aware on the stock status of the YFT and the resolution 16/01 adopted by the IOTC, to bring back the YFT stock to healthy status. This has been discussed at the regular training and awareness programs conducted by DFAR during the past few months and the message on the requirement of catch control over YFT was slowly inculcated to their minds.

In the meantime the managers of Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DFAR) decided to limit the number of fishing trips of the vessels to maintain the catches at controlled limits by up-to-date monitoring of the catch by each gear. Further application of rotational basis to issue the high seas departure permit is planned to implement to avoid any discrimination among the fishermen.

To stick on to the catch limits proposed in the resolution 2016/85C, it is decided to follow the procedure given below, for proper monitoring of the up-to-date catch.

1. Maintenance of catch data recording in log books and submission of log sheets to DFAR harbour office after each fishing trip by the vessels operating at high seas. (This has been already legally mandatory)
2. Log sheets are being entered to a data base at the Head office.
3. Maintenance of a real-time data base (atleast quarterly).
4. The catches of YFT by each gear will be quarterly analyzed. This analysis will conduct one month past each quarter enabling all log sheets relevant to that quarter to be collected.
5. The manager will issue departure forms for fishing trips at rotational basis under control to maintain the annual catch quantity within the limits allowed.

Note: Sri Lanka has already developed an e-logbook system which facilitate the data recording and further manipulation. This allows quick data transmission by single entry on board by fisher to all the data bases to use for any type of analysis and report generation without errors and delays caused by manual operations. This system is to be implemented in due course.

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):** Provided above (03.13.2017)
Nox

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 16/02 On harvest control rules for Skipjack tuna in the IOTC area of competence.

The Harvest strategy endorsed by the committee will implement at national level once the threshold limits reached.

- Resolution 16/03 On the second performance review follow-up

Sri Lanka appreciate the ongoing process on improving the functions of IOTC.

- Resolution 16/04 On the implementation of a Pilot project in view of promoting the Regional observer scheme of IOTC

Sri Lanka being a country with large number of small vessels between 10m to 15m operates in high seas and faced with an issue of deploying on board observers, looking forward to see the results of the pilot projects on the exploration of the possibility of electronic observation and observer in port proposed in this proposal. A practical and low cost method is highly important.

- Resolution 16/05 On vessels without nationality

Sri Lanka is strictly implementing Port State Measures under the National legislation on implementation of PSM 2015. Therefore stateless vessels are completely rejected for port access for landing and transshipment.

Sri Lanka is ready to share information, provide assistance to any of member state or CNCPs or to IOTC, to prevent IUU fishing activities. In the meantime if a member state or CNCPs found a Sri Lankan vessel or a vessel that can be suspect as a Sri Lanka vessel in high seas without proper vessel markings and no flag raised, we appreciate reporting of such incidents to the competent authority of Sri Lanka with proven documents/evidence to take legal actions against such nationals, on the aspirations of prevent IUU fishing in the region. Sri Lanka has strengthen the

legal framework in a way that can take legal actions and imposition of adequate sanctions for violation of conservation and management measures at high seas.

- 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):**

Sri Lanka improved the data collection and reporting system through out the last 2 years and complied with most of the data reporting requirements by the 30th June of 2016 when submit the data for year 2015. Length frequency data for tuna species and for 271 number of sharks by species has been submitted. (National Report 5.1 and 2016 June catch data submission)

In addition Sri Lanka provided the National report to the Scientific Committee 2016 in the format provided by IOTC. All actions to improve data collection are reported under section 6 of National report submitted in 2016. ie. implementation of Log book (6.1), Port based Sampling and surveys (6.4), National observer scheme (6.3), VMS (6.2) etc

Sri Lanka maintain a up-to-date vessel registry and update the authorized vessels list by providing all required information. The authorized vessels and the Active vessels list submit to the Secretariate inline with the deadlines. No on-board electronic monitoring systems operates in Sri Lanka vessels.

Sri Lanka maintain a log book as per the template provided by the resolution 15/01 (The format submitted to the Secretariat) where it is legally mandatory to take onboard and maintain by recording accurate catch and effort data on all gears used in high seas. Log book records provides the target catch and by-catch data

- **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):**

Sri Lanka has already developed an E-logbook system which facilitate all data recording and manipulation. This allows quick data transmission by single entry on-board by fisher to all other data bases to use for any type of analysis and report generation without the errors that can be happen in manual operations. This system is to be implemented in-due-course.

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

The vessels that were sampled at ports and the log sheets submitted by the same vessel were sorted by gear referring to the registration number and the landed catches were cross checked with the records of the log sheets.

Steps are being taken to increase the sampling coverage by increasing the number of port samplers.

Species under statistical document program is validated with the export data.

With the implementation of VMS Sri Lanka was able to improve data validation. cross check of position data in the log book with the VMS track and the fishing points using the track and the vessel speed etc. was applied. High Seas Unit of DFAR is responsible for Log book data validation and verification.

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 16/07 On the use of artificial lights to attract fish

Purse seines are not operated in Sri Lanka. Consequently, this resolution is not applicable at present. However Sri Lanka will develop regulations as per this resolution on the event of future introduction of purse seines (if any)

- Resolution 16/08 On the prohibition of the use of aircrafts and unmanned aerial vehicles as fishing aids

No support or supply vessels used in Sri Lanka, Hence This resolution is not applicable to Sri Lanka at present. In the event of future developments necessary regulations will be established.

- Resolution 16/09 On establishing a Technical Committee on Management Procedures

This resolution does not require implementation at national level.

- Resolution 16/10 To promote implementation of IOTC Conservation and Management Measures

Sri Lanka agrees with the contents of the resolution and will be act accordingly.

- Resolution 16/11 On Port state measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

Sri Lanka is strictly implementing port state measures under the regulation on PSM 2015. Sri Lanka is applying E-psm application introduced by IOTC with effect from November 2016 after the capacity building program conducte by IOTC on E-psm application by an officer of IOTC expert in this field.

Since the PSM regulation published in 2015 the e-psm procedure is not included to the regulation and it will be incorporated in the next amendment.

All resolution conditions follwed and 15 reports of port inspection out of 50 number of port calls of foreign fishing vessels were submitted to secretariste for the year 2015.

- Resolution 16/12 Working Party on the Implementation of Conservation and Management Measures (WPICMM)

Sri Lanka agrees with the inclusion of the facts adopted in this resolution to the rules and procedures of TOTC in its next amendment.

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.*

1. Sri Lanka improved the national legislation scheme in an accelerated process within the period of 2013-2015. All passed regulations reported in previous reporting.
2. The amendment of the Foreign Fishing Boats Act no. 59 of 1979 is processing at the Legal Draftman Department.
3. Fish and fishery products processing , import, export and re-export management regulation 2016- The draft is at the Legal Draftman Department

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 x Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): 15.03.2016

No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

- 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 x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	% Apply to all vessels >24m. In year 2015 no active vessel > 24m. Since all boats are less than 24m (majority 10-15m) alternate	% or number of vessels 100%	Method Through Paper log book	Method Template has been introduced to report the departure and arrival. Official of DFAR, Sri Lanka Navy and coast Guard officials inspect and keep



	measure for onboard observer implemented.			the records.
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b. Management of transshipment (from the fishing grounds to the landing ports; of flag vessels)

	Transshipment report	Port inspection	Statistical document program
Yes, No?	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	<p>Method</p> <p>No large scale tuna long line vessels . All national vessels prohibited to tranship at sea.</p>	<p>Method</p> <p>Port inspection for national vessels exists. Officials of DFAR assigned on duty at the harbours to conduct an inspection after the arrival of the boat. Buffer zone entry alarm (of the VMS) make the port inspectors ready to be present in the port at the time of arrival of the vessel. Progress of the port inspections in 2016 reported to Scretariate.</p>	<p>No active large scale tuna long line vessels in 2016.</p>

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

	Landing inspection	Landing reporting	Cooperation with other Parties
Yes, No?	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes x No <input type="checkbox"/>
Note	<p>Method</p> <p>Officals of DFAR asigned for inspections at the landing sites. Inspection guideline has been introduced.</p>	<p>Method</p> <p>Reporting template has been introduced.</p>	<p>Fisheries Harbours corporation, Coast Guard Dept. and Sri Lanka Navy.</p>

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): 23/02/2017
 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.

X 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:
 No such observations

- 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	NA	AN
Longline	01	100%



Gillnet	All vessels < 24m (majority 10-15m)and therefore could not deploy on-board observer due to safety and accomodation issues	NA
Bait Boat	AN	NA
Hand line	NA	NA
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:
Click here to enter text.

- 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.

Already submitted to the Secretariate

- 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.

NA

- 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.

Use of large scale gill nets is prohibited under the high seas fishing operation regulation 2014 (amended 2015) . All fishing vessels are subject to an inspection at departure point of

the harbour. No person allowed to carry gill nets > 2.5km to the high seas. At sea monitoring surveillance is being strengthening on this regard. Near to the coast inspections are conducted by Coast Guard officials and offshore inspections are carried out by Sri Lanka Navy at random basis.

- 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.
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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:

One incident of entangling of whale sharks to a gill net has been reported in 2015.



- 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:

Sri Lanka do not issue licenses to the foreign fishing vessels.

- 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 2016 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):
No

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

Yes No

Additional information:

Sri Lanka do not allow its flag vessels to do any of transhipments at sea or in port. Hence this resolution is not applicable.

- 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:
 1. Most of the CMMS of IOTC are incorporated in to National legislation and under strict enforcement
 2. Maintain updated vessel registry.
 3. Report authorized vessel list by 15th February to Secretariate.
 4. Template of the National registration, Fishing operation licence and the log book submitted to IOTC.
 5. Inspection of the vessels at the point of Departure and arrival to ensure implementation of CMMs.
 6. Condemn the vessels with IUU history and take legal actions imposing restrictions over claiming benefit of such a vessel by a previous owner convicted for IUU.
 7. Revision of the Act and the regulation in a way that impose of panalties of adequate severity for violation of CMMs to prevent and detter reoccurrence.
 8. Strenthening of MCS through the officials of DFAR, Harbour orporation , Port Authority, Coast Guard Dept. and Sri Lanka Navy.
 9. Use of VMS data for detection of violations and verifications.
 10. It is legally madatory that the ownership of a fishing vessel should be owned by majority of shares of Sri Lankan citizen or a company. No Foreign fishing vessels are granted to operate under the flag of Sri Lanka.

- 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:
Incorporated to High seas fishing operation regulation 2014 (amended 2015) and under Implementation.

- 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:
Local vessels found guilty on IUU fishing activities in Other states waters (BIOT) are being taken punitive actions asper the provisions of FARA Act no 2 of 1996 and No.35 of 2013. All Biot reported cases are being bilaterally resolved and reported to IOTC. Summary of the legal activities for 2016 is is annexed hereto.

- 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:

Sri Lanka is in the process of installation of VMS to the multiday fishing vessel operate within EEZ. Tender procedure is going on. Untill it comes to implement an electronic log book (data entry tablet which indicate the GPS)is sheduled to be provided to operators within EEZ. This will help to find to monitor the fishermen who enter to the EEZ without authorization.

- 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:

It is clearly interprit in the FARA Act No. 2 of 1996 and the amendment thereof that a local fishig boat is wholly owned by Government of Sri Lanka or any citizen of Sri Lanka or public corporation, Company, assoisiation established under the law of Sri Lanka where the majority of voting shares held by citizens of Sri Lanka.

- 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:

Sri Lanka do not have PS vessls and hence the FAD management plan is not submitted. On the event of such developments the FAD mangement plan will be submitted.