

19 March 2019

IOTC CIRCULAR 2019–12

Dear Madam / Sir

INVITATION TO THE 23RD SESSION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TUNA COMMISSION (S23) AND ASSOCIATED MEETINGS (COC16, SCAF16, TCMP03) — 90 DAYS PRIOR

I have the honour to extend to you an invitation to participate in the 23rd Session of the Commission, which will be held at the [Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre Hotel](#), Hyderabad, India, from 17 to 21 June 2019.

The 16th Session of the Compliance Committee, the 16th Session of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance and the 3rd Session of the Technical Committee on Management Procedures will also be held in conjunction with the Commission meeting. Session dates are given below.

This suite of meetings is being hosted by the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare.

Further information concerning the Sessions, including agendas and other meeting documents, will be communicated by the IOTC Secretariat in the coming weeks via Circulars and the IOTC website.

Meeting location and registration

All meetings will be held at the Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre.

Registration is essential so as to allow the IOTC Secretariat sufficient time to make the necessary preparations for each meeting. Please register for the meetings on the IOTC website no later than 15 days before the respective sessions. The registration deadlines and links to the registration sites are provided below

Credentials

In accordance with Rule III of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014), official credentials are required in order to participate in the meetings. For your convenience, a draft letter of credentials (from Appendix I of the IOTC Rules of Procedure, 2014) is available [here](#).

Please note, only those who are listed on a Letter of Credentials will be permitted to attend the Sessions.

Contracting Parties & Cooperating Non-contracting Parties (CPCs)

Each CPC is requested to provide a letter of credentials signed by the appropriate Authority indicating who will attend the meeting and in what capacity, no later than 15 days before the above meetings to iotc-secretariat@fao.org and a hard copy at the commencement of the meeting.

Invited Experts and Observers

Delegates wishing to attend the meeting as Invited Experts or pre-approved IOTC Observers are also requested to submit a similar Letter of Credentials, no later than 15 days before the Session to iotc-secretariat@fao.org and a hard copy at the commencement of the Session.

Proposals for Conservation and Management Measures:

In accordance with the procedure agreed upon by the Commission in 2011, only those proposals for new or revised Conservation or Management Measures received thirty (30) days before the Session, at the latest, will be considered by the Commission. Thus, all proposals must be received by the IOTC Secretariat before midnight on 18 May 2019, Seychelles time.

Distribution

IOTC Contracting Parties: Australia, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Eritrea, European Union, France (Territories), Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Rep of), Japan, Kenya, Rep. of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, United Rep. of Tanzania, Thailand, United Kingdom (OT), Yemen. **Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties:** Liberia, Senegal. **Intergovernmental Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations. Chairperson IOTC. Copy to:** FAO Headquarters, FAO Representatives to CPCs.

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In accordance with Resolution 16/10, Contracting Parties are encouraged to submit a provisional title, Contracting Party sponsorship and a focal point for the proposal (including the email address of the focal point), a minimum of 60 days prior to each annual Session (i.e. 18 April in 2019) so that all Contracting Parties are provided with an opportunity to identify proposals being developed by other CPCs, and as appropriate, cooperate in the development of proposals prior to the Session in which they are to be discussed.

Meeting Participation fund (for developing IOTC Contracting Parties Members only)

The participation of one representative from developing Members of the IOTC may be supported through the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund. The applications for the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund, must be received by the IOTC Secretariat (iotc-secretariat@fao.org) no later than the dates indicated below. NOTE – these dates will be strictly enforced.

Applications must include:

- i) an official nomination letter
- ii) the contact details of the nominee (with a copy of his/her passport).

Rules of procedure for the administration of the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund as well as guidelines for applying to the MPF can be found in Appendix VIII of the IOTC Rules of Procedure (click [here](#)). Please be reminded that there is no provision in the IOTC Rules of Procedure (2014) for the IOTC Secretariat to consider late applications to the MPF.

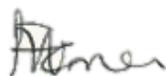
Calendar of Meetings and important dates

Meeting (linked to the IOTC website)	Meeting dates	Days	Deadline for registration & credentials	Deadline for MPF applications
Compliance Committee	9-11 June	Sunday-Tuesday	25 May	25 April
Standing Committee on Administration & Finance	12 June	Wednesday	28 May	28 April
Adoption of the Compliance Committee report (half day, am) Adoption of the SCAF report (half day, pm)	13 June	Thursday		
Technical Committee on Management Procedures	14-15 June	Friday-Saturday	30 May	30 April
Heads of Delegation meeting: 5-6 pm (to be confirmed)	16 June	Sunday		
Commission meeting	17-21 June	Monday-Friday	2 June	3 May

Information on the host country

An information document, providing details on logistical aspects of the meeting and local conditions, will be made available on the meeting webpage in the near future.

Yours sincerely



Ms Susan Imende
IOTC Chairperson

Attachments:

- None