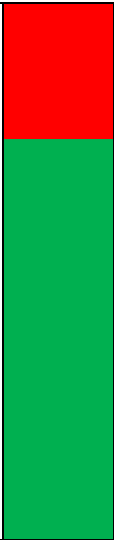


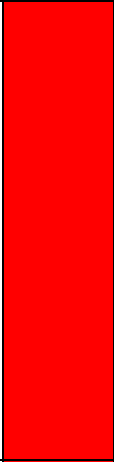
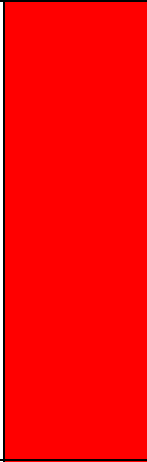
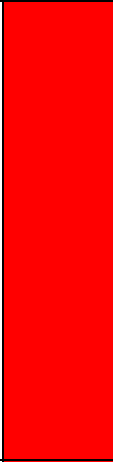
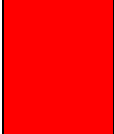
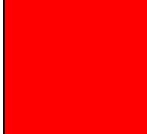
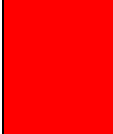


2021: STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL PLANS OF ACTION (NPOA) FOR SEABIRDS AND SHARKS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAO GUIDELINES TO REDUCE MARINE TURTLE MORTALITY IN FISHING OPERATIONS

CPC	Sharks	Date of Implementation	Seabirds	Date of implementation	Marine turtles	Date of implementation	Comments
MEMBERS							
Australia		1 st : April 2004 2 nd : July 2012		1 st : 1998 2 nd : 2006 3 rd : 2014 NPOA in 2018.		2003	<p>Sharks: 2nd NPOA-Sharks (Shark-plan 2) was released in July 2012, along with an operational strategy for implementation: http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries/environment/sharks/sharkplan2</p> <p>Seabirds: Has implemented a Threat Abatement Plan [TAP] for the Incidental Catch (or Bycatch) of Seabirds During Oceanic Longline Fishing Operations since 1998. The present TAP took effect from 2014 and largely fulfilled the role of an NPOA in terms of longline fisheries. http://www.antarctica.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/21509/Threat-Abatement-Plan-2014.pdf.</p> <p>In 2018 Australia finalised, an NPOA to address the potential risk posed to seabirds by other fishing methods, including longline fishing in state and territory waters, which are not covered by the current threat abatement plan.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Australia's current marine turtle bycatch management and mitigation measures fulfil Australia's obligations under the FAO-Sea turtles Guidelines.</p>
Bangladesh							<p>Sharks: Bangladesh currently do not have a NPOA for sharks but a working group has been formed to update the draft NPOA sharks which was developed in 2014 during the BOBLME Phase 1 programme.</p> <p>The Wildlife Conservation and Security Act introduced in 2012 lays out general rules on requirements for hunting wild animals but no specific mention of sharks. The Wildlife Conservation and Security Act was introduced in 2012 states: No person shall hunt any wild animal without license, or import or export any wild animal without a CITES certificate</p> <p>Seabirds: Bangladesh currently do not have a NPOA for seabirds. The Wildlife Conservation and Security Act introduced in 2012 lays out general rules on permits required to hunt wild animals but no specific mention of seabirds</p> <p>Marine turtles: Bangladesh currently have no information on their implementation of FAO guidelines on sea turtles. The Wildlife Conservation and Security Act introduced in 2012 lays out general rules on requirements for hunting wild animals but no specific mention of turtles</p>

<p>China</p> <p>-Taiwan,China</p>		<p>–</p> <p>1st: May 2006 2nd: May 2012</p>		<p>–</p> <p>1st: May 2006 2nd: Jul 2014</p>		<p>Sharks: China is currently considering developing an NPOA for sharks.</p> <p>Seabirds: China is currently considering developing an NPOA for seabirds</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Sharks: No revision currently planned.</p> <p>Seabirds: No revision currently planned.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Wildlife Protection Act introduced in 2013, Protected Wildlife shall not be disturbed, abused, hunted, killed, traded, exhibited, displayed, owned, imported, exported, raised or bred, unless under special circumstances recognized in this or related legislation. <i>Cheloniidae spp.</i>, <i>Caretta Caretta</i>, <i>Chelonia mydas</i>, <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>, <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i> and <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> are listed into List of Protected Species. Domestic Fisheries Management Regulation on Far Sea Fisheries request all fishing vessels must carry line cutters, de-hookers and hauling nets in order to facilitate the appropriate handling and prompt release of marine turtles caught or entangled.</p>
<p>Comoros</p>		<p>–</p>		<p>–</p>		<p>Sharks: No NPOA has been developed. Shark finning is prohibited but measures are difficult to enforce due to the artisanal nature of the fisheries. A campaign to raise awareness of measures is being implemented to improve compliance. Shark catches and size frequency data are submitted to IOTC</p> <p>Seabirds: No NPOA has been developed. There is no fleet in operation south of 25 degrees south and no long-line fleet. The main fishery is artisanal operating within 24 miles of the coast where there is low risk of interactions with seabirds.</p> <p>Marine turtles: According to the Comoros Fisheries Code Article 78, fishing, capture, possession and marketing of turtle and marine mammals or of protected aquatic organisms is strictly forbidden in accordance with national legislation in force and International Conventions applicable to the Comoros.</p>
<p>Eritrea</p>						<p>Sharks: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Seabirds: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>

European Union		5 Feb 2009		16-Nov-2012		2007	<p>Sharks: Approved on 05-Feb-2009 and it is currently being implemented.</p> <p>Seabirds: The EU adopted on Friday 16 November 2012 an Action Plan to address the problem of incidental catches of seabirds in fishing gears.</p> <p>Marine turtles: European Union Council Regulation (EC) No 520/2007 of 7 May 2007 lay down technical measures for the conservation of marine turtles including articles and provisions to reduce marine turtle bycatch. The regulation urges Member States to do their utmost to reduce the impact of fishing on sea turtles, in particular by applying the measures provided for in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of the resolution.</p>
France (territories)		5 Feb 2009		2009, 2011		2015	<p>Sharks: Approved on 05-Feb-2009.</p> <p>Seabirds: Implemented in 2009 and 2011. 2009 for Barrau's petrel and 2019 for Amsterdam albatross which will be in force from 2018-2027.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Implemented in 2015 for the five species of marine turtles that are present in the southwest Indian Ocean.</p>
India							<p>Sharks: In preparation. In June 2015, India published a document entitled "Guidance on National Plan of Action for Sharks in India" which is intended as a guidance to the NPOA-Sharks, and seeks to (1) present an overview of the current status of India's shark fishery, (2) assess the current management measures and their effectiveness, (3) identify the knowledge gaps that need to be addressed in NPOA-Sharks and (4) suggest a theme-based action plan for NPOA-Sharks.</p> <p>Seabirds: India has determined that seabird interactions are not a problem for their fleets. However, a formal evaluation has not yet taken place which the WPEB and SC require.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>
Indonesia		-		-			<p>Sharks: Indonesia has established an NPOA for sharks and rays in 2015-2019</p> <p>Seabirds: An NPOA was finalized in 2016</p> <p>Marine turtles: Indonesia has established an NPOA for Marine Turtles but this does not fully conform with FAO guidelines. Indonesia has also been implementing Ministerial Regulation 12/2012 regarding captured fishing business on high seas to reduce turtle bycatch.</p>
Iran, Islamic Republic of		-		-		-	<p>Sharks: Have communicated to all fishing cooperatives the IOTC resolutions on sharks. Have in place a ban on the retention of live sharks.</p> <p>Seabirds: I.R. Iran determined that seabird interactions are not a problem for their fleet as they consist of gillnet vessels only. i.e. no longline vessels.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>

Japan		03-Dec-2009, 2016		03-Dec-2009, 2016		<p>Sharks: NPOA–Shark assessment implementation report submitted to COFI in July 2012 (Revised in 2016)</p> <p>Seabirds: NPOA–Seabird implementation report submitted to COFI in July 2012 (Revised in 2016).</p> <p>Marine turtles: All Japanese fleets fully implement Resolution 12/04.</p>
Kenya			n.a.	–		<p>Sharks: A National Plan of Action for sharks is being developed and shall put in place a framework to ensure the conservation and management of sharks and their long-term sustainable use in Kenya. Baseline and risk assessments have been conducted and based on these the NPOA is being drafted with the aim to finalise it in 2021.</p> <p>Seabirds: Kenya does not have any flagged longline vessels on its registry. There is no evidence of any gear seabird interaction with the current fishing fleet. Kenya plans to develop a NPOA for seabirds after the NPOA Sharks has been finalised.</p> <p>Marine turtles: The Kenyan fisheries law prohibits retention and landing of turtles caught incidentally in fishing operations. Public awareness efforts are conducted for artisanal gillnet and artisanal longline fishing fleets on the mitigations measures that enhance marine turtle conservation. Kenya plans to develop a NPOA for turtles after the NPOA Sharks has been finalised.</p>
Korea, Republic of		08-Aug-11		2019	–	<p>Sharks: Currently being implemented.</p> <p>Seabirds: NPOA seabirds was submitted to FAO in 2019.</p> <p>Marine turtles: All Rep. of Korea vessels fully implement Res 12/04.</p>
Madagascar		–		–		<p>Sharks: Madagascar has recently developed a NPOA for sharks which is awaiting final ministerial approval.</p> <p>Seabirds: Development has not begun.</p> <p>Note: A fisheries monitoring system is in place in order to ensure compliance by vessels with the IOTC’s shark and seabird conservation and management measures.</p> <p>Marine turtles: There is zero capture of marine turtle recorded in logbooks. All longliners use circle hooks. This has been confirmed by onboard observers and port samplers.</p>
Malaysia		2008 2014		–	2008	<p>Sharks: A revised NPOA-sharks was published in 2014.</p> <p>Seabirds: To be developed</p> <p>Marine turtles: A NPOA For Conservation and Management of Sea Turtles had been published in 2008. A revision will be published in 2017.</p>

Maldives, Republic of		Apr 2015	n.a.	-		<p>Sharks: NPOA Sharks was finalised in 2015 with the assistance of Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BoBLME) Project. The longline logbooks ensure the collection of shark bycatch data to genus level. Maldives would be reporting on shark bycatch to the appropriate technical Working Party meetings of IOTC. On 14th July 2019 the Government of Maldives officially announced the cessation of the Maldives Long line fishery in Maldives EEZ and High Seas so consider the NPOA for sharks to now be unnecessary.</p> <p>Seabirds: Maldives is in the final stages of developing an action plan on seabird nesting sites. Article 12 of IPOA states that if a 'problem exists' CPCs adopt an NPOA. IOTC Resolution 05/09 suggests CPCs to report on seabirds to the IOTC Scientific Committee if the issue is appropriate'. Maldives considers that seabirds are not an issue in the Maldives fisheries, both in the pole-and-line fishery and in the longline fishery. The new longline fishing regulations has provision on mitigation measures on seabird bycatch.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Standards of code and conduct for managing sea turtles have been developed by the Environmental Protection Agency in the drafted National sea turtle management plan under the protected species regulation.</p> <p>Longline regulation has provisions to reduce marine turtle bycatch. The regulation urges longline vessels to have dehookers for removal of hook and a line cutter on board, to release the caught marine turtles as prescribed in Resolution 12/04.</p>
Mauritius		2016				<p>Sharks: The NPOA-sharks has been finalised but has not been published; it focuses on actions needed to exercise influence on foreign fishing through the IOTC process and licence conditions, as well as improving the national legislation and the skills and data handling systems available for managing sharks.</p> <p>Seabirds: Mauritius does not have national vessels operating beyond 25°S. However, fishing companies have been requested to implement all mitigation measures as provided in the IOTC Resolutions.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Marine turtles are protected by the national law. Fishing companies have been requested to carry line cutters and de-hookers in order to facilitate the appropriate handling and prompt release of marine turtles caught or entangled.</p>

Mozambique		-		-		<p>Sharks: Drafting of the NPOA-Shark started in 2016. At this stage, baseline and risk assessments have been performed and the relevant information of coastal, pelagic and demersal shark species along the Mozambican coast has been gathered. These assessments are now being considered in the draft of the NPOA. This is an ongoing process.</p> <p>Seabirds: Mozambique is regularly briefing the Masters of their fishing vessels on the mandatory requirement to report any seabird interaction with longliner fleet.</p> <p>Marine turtles: see above.</p>
Oman, Sultanate of						<p>Sharks: An NPOA-sharks is currently being drafted and is due to be finalized in 2017</p> <p>Seabirds: Not yet initiated.</p> <p>Marine turtles: The law does not allow the catch of sea turtles, and the fishermen are requested to release any hooked or entangled turtle. The longline fleet are required to carry out the line cutters and de-hookers.</p>
Pakistan						<p>Sharks: A stakeholder consultation workshop was conducted in 2016 to review the actions of the draft NPOA - Sharks. The draft NPOA was circulated to the key stakeholders and comments were received with an end-date of 30 June 2016. The final version of the NPOA - Sharks has been submitted to the provincial fisheries departments for endorsement. Meanwhile, the provincial fisheries departments have passed notification on catch, trade and/or retention of sharks including Thresher sharks, hammerheads, oceanic whitetip, whale sharks, guitarfishes, sawfishes, wedgefishes and mobulids. Sharks are landed with the fins attached and each and every part of the body of sharks are utilised.</p> <p>Seabirds: Pakistan considers that seabird interactions are not a problem for the Pakistani fishing fleet as the tuna fishing operations do not include longline vessels.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Pakistan has already framed Regulations regarding the prohibition of catching and retaining marine turtles. As regards to the reduction of marine turtle bycatch by gillnetters; presently Marine Fisheries Department (MFD) in collaboration with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Pakistan, is undertaking an assessment. Stakeholder Coordination Committee Meeting was conducted on 10th September 2014. The "Turtle Assessment Report (TAR)" will be finalized by February 2015 and necessary guidelines / action plan will be finalized by June 2015. As per clause-5 (c) of Pakistan Fish Inspection & Quality Control Act, 1997, "Aquatic turtles, tortoises, snakes, mammals including dugongs, dolphins, porpoises and whales etc" are totally forbidden for export and domestic consumption.</p> <p>Pakistan is also in the process of drafting a NPOA for cetaceans.</p>

Philippines		Sept. 2009		–		<p>Sharks: Under periodic review.</p> <p>Seabirds: Development has not begun.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>
Seychelles, Republic of		Apr-2007		–		<p>Sharks: Seychelles has developed and is implementing a new NPOA for Sharks for years 2016-2020</p> <p>Seabirds: SFA is collaborating with Birdlife South Africa to develop an NPOA for sea bird. A consultant will be recruited to start development in December 2017</p> <p>Marine turtles: An NPOA for turtles is planned to start in 2018.</p>
Somalia						<p>Sharks: Somalia is currently revising its fisheries legislation (current one being from 1985) and has completed the necessary steps for required for the consultative process to begin in order to develop these NPOA.</p> <p>Seabirds: See above.</p> <p>Marine turtles: The Somali national fisheries law and legislation was reviewed and approved in 2014. This includes Articles on the protection of marine turtles. Further review of the National Law is underway to harmonize this with IOTC Resolutions and is expected to be presented to the new parliament for endorsement in 2017.</p>
South Africa, Republic of		–		2008		<p>Sharks: The NPOA-sharks was first approved and published in 2013. A review is now being undertaken with cooperation from several International and National experts in order to update the NPOA.</p> <p>Seabirds: Published in August 2008 and fully implemented. The NPOA-seabirds is being reviewed.</p> <p>Marine turtles: The South African permit conditions for the large pelagic longline fishery prohibits landing of turtles. All interactions with turtles are recorded, by species, within logbooks and in observer reports, including data on release condition. Vessels are required to carry a de-hooker on board and instructions on turtle handling and release in line with the FAO guidelines are included in the South African Large Pelagic permit conditions. All turtle interactions in respective areas of competence are reported to the respective RFMOs. Recent South African led studies on impact of marine debris on turtles have been published in the scientific literature (Ryan et al. 2016). Marine turtle nesting sites in South Africa are protected by coastal MPAs since 1963.</p>

Sri Lanka						<p>Sharks: An NPOA-sharks has been finalized and is currently being implemented.</p> <p>Seabirds: Sri Lanka has determined that seabird interactions are not a problem for their fleets. However a formal review has not yet been provided to the WPEB and SC for approval.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Implementation of the FAO Guideline to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operation in 2015 was submitted to IOTC in January 2016. Marine turtles are legally protected in Sri Lanka. Longliner vessels are required to have dehookers for removal of hooks and a line cutter on board, to release the caught marine turtles. Gillnets longer than 2.5 km are now prohibited in domestic legislation. Reporting of bycatch has made legally mandatory and facilitated via logbooks.</p>
Sudan						<p>Sharks: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Seabirds: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>
Tanzania, United Republic of		-		-		<p>Sharks: Initial discussions have commenced.</p> <p>Seabirds: Initial discussions have commenced.</p> <p>Note: Terms and conditions related to protected sharks and seabirds contained within fishing licenses.</p> <p>Marine turtles: Sea turtles are protected by law. However as there is a national turtle and Dugong conservation committee that oversee all issues related to sea turtles and dugongs. There is no information so far with regards to interaction between sea turtles and long line fishery.</p>
Thailand		2020		-		<p>Sharks: An updated NPOA Sharks has been developed for the years 2020-2024 and has been submitted to the Secretariat and FAO.</p> <p>Seabirds: Development of NPOA seabirds has not begun. Thailand does not have longliners operating in the southern region of the Indian Ocean far from Thailand or large purse seine vessels operating in the Indian Ocean as a whole and has no record of incidental catches of seabirds in Thailand's tuna fisheries. The Notification of the Department of fishing vessels operating in Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Competence Area B.E.2561 has been in force since 2018 and includes requirements for line-cutters and dehookers to be carried for releasing marine animals and for any fishing vessel operating south of 25°S to follow the measures for mitigating capture of seabirds</p> <p>Marine turtles: Thailand reports on progress of the implementation of FAO guidelines on turtles in their National Report to IOTC. Laws relating to conservation of marine turtles include: a prohibition on catching marine turtles; discarding of any marine turtles caught and recording details on catches; and a requirement to take care of injured marine turtles that have been caught.</p>

United Kingdom	n.a.	–	n.a.	–		<p>British Indian Ocean Territory (Chagos Archipelago) waters are a Marine Protected Area closed to fishing except recreational fishing in the 3nm territorial waters around Diego Garcia. Separate NPOAs have not been developed within this context.</p> <p>Sharks/Seabirds: For sharks, UK is the 24th signatory to the Convention on Migratory Species ‘Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks’ which extends the agreement to UK Overseas Territories including British Indian Ocean Territories; Section 7 (10) (e) of the <i>Fisheries (Conservation and Management) Ordinance</i> refers to recreational fishing and requires sharks to be released alive. No seabirds are caught in the recreational fishery.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No marine turtles are captured in the recreational fishery. A monitoring programme is taking place to assess the marine turtle population in UK (OT).</p>
Yemen						<p>Sharks: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Seabirds: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>

COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES						
Liberia						<p>Sharks: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Seabirds: No information received by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>
Senegal		25-Sept-2006		–		<p>Sharks: The Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission supported the development of a NPOA-sharks for Senegal in 2005. Other activities conducted include the organization of consultations with industry, the investigation of shark biology and social -economics of shark fisheries). The NPOA is currently being revised. Consideration is being made to the inclusion of minimum mesh size, minimum shark size, and a ban on shark finning.</p> <p>Seabirds: The need for a NPOA-seabirds has not yet been assessed.</p> <p>Marine turtles: No information received by the Secretariat.</p>

Colour key	
Completed	
Drafting being finalised	
Drafting commenced	
Not begun	

