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**REPORT ON ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR TRANSHIPMENT BY LARGE-SCALE FISHING VESSELS**

**Prepared by IOTC Secretariat, 02 April 2013**

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IOTC Resolution 12/05 *On Establishing a Programme for Transhipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels* calls for all transhipment operations of tuna and tuna like species and sharks species in the IOTC Area to take place in port except under special conditions. In accordance with this resolution, at sea transhipments will be monitored by IOTC observers. This applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments from these vessels at sea.

### **Executing the Regional Observer Programme**

The Consortium of Marine Resource Assessment Group and Capricorn Fisheries is responsible for executing work under the IOTC regional observer programme. The responsibilities of the Consortium include the training and provision of qualified observers, managing the logistics for the deployment of observers and their repatriation at the end of the deployment and maintaining the IOTC regional observer programme database. The Consortium is also tasked with providing the IOTC Secretariat with five day reports which summarise the activities undertaken by the programme every five days. A report for each deployment is also submitted to the Secretariat at the end of each deployment. In line with the agreed confidentiality rules, these reports are subsequently edited by the Secretariat and forwarded to the concerned fleets whose vessels have transhipped under the deployment for which the report covers. Additionally, the reports for deployments where Southern Bluefin tuna have been transhipped are also forwarded to the Secretariat of the CCSBT as per the MOU signed between the IOTC and CCSBT. This arrangement has the benefit of minimising costs to the fleets that catches and tranships SBT in the IOTC Area.

### **Fleets currently participating in the Programme**

Paragraph 3. The Commission hereby establishes a programme to monitor transhipment at sea which applies initially to large-scale tuna longline fishing vessels (hereafter referred to as the "LSTLVs") and to carrier vessels authorised to receive transhipments from these vessels at sea.

Paragraph 4. The CPCs that flag LSTLVs shall determine whether or not to authorise their LSTLVs to tranship at sea.

Table 1 list the numbers of Large Scale Fishing Vessels currently authorised to operate in the IOTC Area and indicates which fleets have participated in the Programme in 2012.

### **Submission of carrier vessels list**

Paragraph 6. Each CPC shall submit, electronically where possible, to the IOTC Secretary by 1 July 2008 the list of carrier vessels that are authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from its LSTLVs in the IOTC Area.

Nine fleets have submitted information on carrier vessels authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs. This represents a total of 53 carrier vessels that have been expressly authorised to receive at-sea transhipments from participating fleets in the programme; it should be noted that a carrier vessel may be authorised by one or more participating fleets. The following CPCs have not submitted their list of authorised carrier vessels: Indonesia and Tanzania.

**Costs of implementing the Regional Observer Programme for the year 2011 and calculation of contributions for the participants in the Programme**

Paragraph 12, Annex 3 - The costs of implementing this program shall be financed by the flag CPCs of LSTLVs wishing to engage in transshipment operations. The fee shall be calculated on the basis of the total costs of the program. This fee shall be paid into a special account of the IOTC Secretariat and the IOTC Secretary shall manage the account for implementing the program.

Based on the level of activities recorded from the second year of the transshipment programme, a budget of €699,367 was proposed for the programme in 2012. This resulted in a total budget of €3,697,653.49 allocated for the four years over which the transshipment programme had been implemented.

The principle applied to recover the cost for the programme was discussed and agreed upon by the representatives of the different fleets participating in the regional observer programme. Unlike the initial cost recovery method, which was adopted in the first year of the programme (2009), the cost recovery method for the last three years have been based on actual figures from the preceding year. Therefore, the cost for 2012 was apportioned to participating fleets based on the quantity of fish that they actually transhipped during 2011.

The amount apportioned is the equivalent of the estimated total cost for the year plus the 4.5% FAO servicing cost. Difference between the budgeted amount and the actual costs incurred is adjusted to the contributions of the participating fleets in the following year of the Programme.

**Transshipments observed**

For 2012, a total of 45 observer deployments were approved; excluding deployments that were approved in late 2011, but continued into 2012. Five of the approved deployments were subsequently cancelled by the fleets requesting the deployment. Information on transshipments observed from the 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2012, are presented in Table 2 and Figures 1 and 2. Others in Figure 2 refer to Belize, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Oman, Philippines, Tanzania and Thailand. A total of 801 transshipment operations have been observed, in which 43,339 tonnes of fish were transhipped. In comparison to 2011, the numbers of deployments approved were slightly more in 2012, and the numbers of transshipments observed increased by 4%. Bigeye tuna was the main species transhipped; accounting for 55% of all fish transhipped. This was followed by albacore and yellowfin tunas which accounted for 9.3% and 16.3%, respectively. Oilfish (*Revuttus spp.*), which is a non-IOTC species, and which accounted for the fourth most important species transhipped in 2010 and 2011 (average of 12%), has significantly decreased, and accounted for only 3.8% of fish transhipped during 2012. Overall, tuna and billfishes accounted for 91.8% of all species transhipped. In comparison to 2011, the quantity of fish transhipped during 2012 has slightly increased. Figures 3 and 4 provide a graphical illustration of the changes in the transshipment programme over 2011 and 2012. Others in Figure 4 refer to Belize, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Oman, Philippines, Tanzania and Thailand.

**Table 1. Numbers of Large Scale Fishing Vessels (LSTLVs) authorised to operate in the IOTC Area, and remarks on participation in the Transhipment Programme**

	No LSTLVs.	Remarks
Australia	3	Not transhipping at sea
Belize	2	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
China	80	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Taiwan,China	336	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Comoros		n/a
European Union	168	Not transhipping at sea
Eritrea		n/a
France (O. T.)		n/a
Guinea		n/a
India	15	Not transhipping at sea
Indonesia	320	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Iran	1	Not transhipping at sea
Japan	266	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Kenya		Not transhipping at sea.
Korea, Republic of	121	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Madagascar		Not transhipping at sea
Malaysia	7	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Maldives		n/a
Mauritius	1	Not transhipping at sea
Mozambique	1	Not transhipping at sea
Oman	22	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Pakistan		n/a
Philippines	23	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Seychelles	33	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Sierra Leone		n/a
Sri Lanka	3	n/a
Sudan		n/a
Tanzania	4	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
Thailand	6	Participating in the Regional Observer Programme
UK (I. O. Territories)		n/a
Vanuatu	30	Not transhipping at sea
Senegal	3	Not transhipping at sea
South Africa	8	Not transhipping at sea

Table 2: Details of the transhipments undertaken by fleets, during the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 – 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2012.

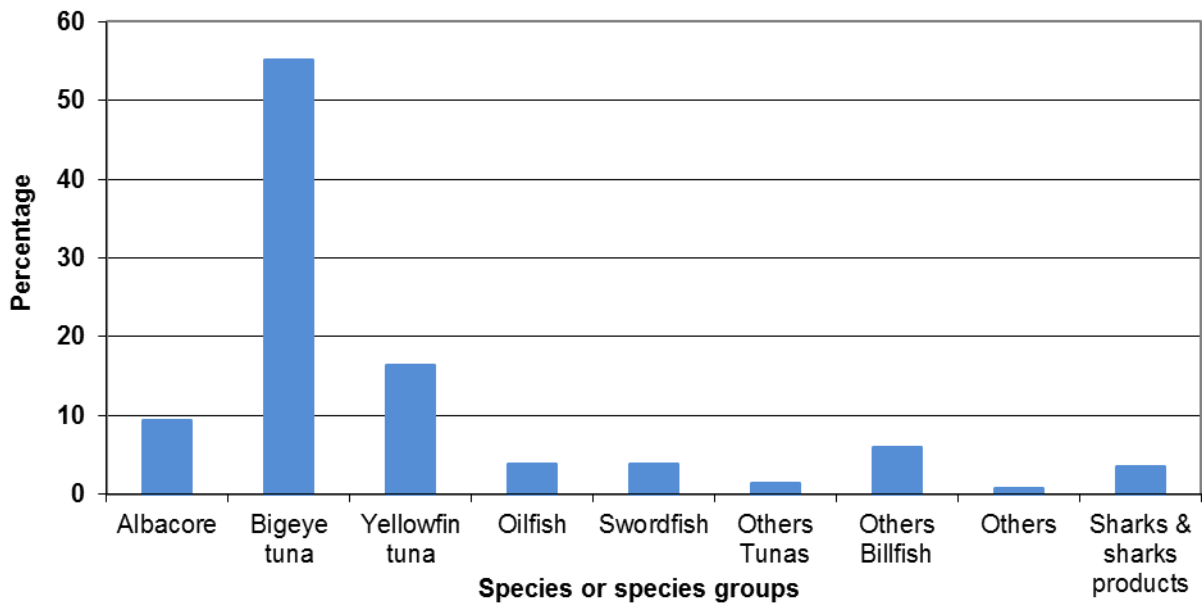
Fleets	Albacore	Bigeye tuna	Yellowfin tuna	Oilfish	Swordfish	OTH_Tunas <sup>a</sup>	Oth_Billfish <sup>b</sup>	Others <sup>c</sup>	Sharks/Sharks prod.	Total
Belize	0	90.63	5.87	0	0	0	0	0	0	96.50
China	0	915.97	104.64	0	58.82	0	19.01	0	0	1098.44
Taiwan,China	2497.96	15594.07	4076.24	1616.92	1240.98	201.08	1920.62	105.44	1487.66	28740.96
Indonesia	0	706.14	102.41	0	0	0	0	0	0	808.54
Japan	1342.50	1931.91	1845.21	19.09	208.29	381.49	368.91	235.44	49.29	6382.11
Republic of Korea	7.83	13.95	269.91	0	5.47	0.20	30.67	0.23	0	328.27
Malaysia	198.89	1.77	6.66	0	0.49	0	2.87	0	0	210.68
Oman	8.45	571.32	146.31	4.14	48.06	0	31.44	0	8.81	818.53
Philippines	0	649.63	36.37	0	3.80	0	16.66	0	0	706.46
Seychelles	1.87	2999.78	400.30	0.32	72.33	0	160.75	1.53	0.32	3637.20
Tanzania	0	81.76	3.20	0	0	0	0	0	0	84.97
Thailand	0	333.17	93.58	0	0	0	0	0	0	426.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>4057.50</b>	<b>23890.08</b>	<b>7090.71</b>	<b>1640.47</b>	<b>1638.23</b>	<b>582.77</b>	<b>2550.93</b>	<b>342.64</b>	<b>1546.08</b>	<b>43339.39</b>

**a:** Skipjack tuna, Southern bluefin tuna, Mixed tuna, Tuna nei.

**b:** Atlantic Blue Marlin, Atlantic Sailfish, Indo-pacific blue marlin, Indo-pacific sailfish, Longbill spearfish, Black marlin, Stripped Marlin, Marlins, sailfishes nei.

**c:** Wahoo, Butterfly kingfish, Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel, Mixed fish species, Opah.

**Figure 1. Distribution of species/species groups transhipped (%)**



**Figure 2. Distribution of transhipments by fleets (2012)**

