

Report of Implementation for the year 2013

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 2 APRIL 2014

Reporting CPC: China

Date: March , 2014

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 sixteenth Session.*

1. Resolution 13/01 On the removal of obsolete Conservation and Management Measures

This Resolution indeed improves the coherence, interpretation and accessibility of Conservations and management measures of IOTC. The last updated compendium of active conservation and management measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission in 14 November, 2013 accurately reflects the IOTC Recommendations and Resolutions currently in force and their respective non-binding and binding nature.

2. Resolution 13/02 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence^a

China already submitted the list of Chinese authorised vessels and the template of authorisation to fish and will timely update the information of Chinese authorised vessels as well as template to IOTC secretariat whenever changes occur. Besides, China takes necessary measures to ensure our AFVs comply with all the relevant IOTC CMMs, keep on board valid related certificates and official logbooks, marked in accordance with FAO Standard Specification for the Marking Identification of Fishing vessels, and not engaged in or associated with IUU fishing.

China reviews our AFVs performance yearly and takes necessary punitive actions and sanctions to vessels and owners violating the relevant IOTC CMMs according to our domestic law.

3. Resolution 13/03 On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence^a

China started pilot logbook data submission system in 2005 in order to obtain more detailed information about catch and fishing effort as required by the IOTC. In 2006 Chinese government announced that implementation of logbook work would be considered as one of the main factors for renewing fishing permission and licenses and all tuna fishing vessels need to fill official logbook and return to Chinese government. Since then Chinese logbook system has been carried out smoothly as a normal data collection work. Until 2009, 100% logbook coverage for the longline fishery has been realized. So far about 85% of the logbooks have been forwarded to Shanghai Ocean University. Most of the logbook data has

entered the national tuna fishery database and is being processed by the tuna technical working group at SHOU.

Official logbooks being used onboard now are published in both English and Chinese, and record bycatch species, but not consistent with the species list in the Annex of this Resolution. So, we are revising the logbook forms according to this Resolution and will carry out pilot electronic logbook project in tuna longliners.

China already submitted the template of official logbook to IOTC secretariat and will submit updated version timely.

4. Resolution 13/04 On the conservation of cetaceans

In accordance with this resolution, China formally informed tuna vessels' masters and owners of taking all reasonable steps to ensure the safe release of the cetacean and report the interactions with cetaceans to Chinese government, especially asking our observers to collect relative data through observer program. There is no incident with cetaceans reported or collected for the year 2013.

5. Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)

In accordance with this resolution, China formally informed tuna vessels' masters and owners of taking all reasonable steps to ensure the safe release of whale sharks and report the interactions with whale sharks to Chinese government, especially asking our observers to collect relative data through observer program. There is no incident with whale sharks reported or collected for the year 2013.

6. Resolution 13/06 On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed Fisheries

In accordance with this resolution, China formally informed tuna vessels' masters and owners of releasing unharmed, to the extent practicable, of oceanic whitetip sharks and included this species into official logbook bycatch list as to encourage fishers to record incidental catches as well as live releases of oceanic whitetip shark in their logbook, especially asking our observers to collect relative data through observer program. Shark catch data including oceanic whitetip shark was recorded and reported as required by IOTC data reporting procedures in National report.

China is developing a national plan of action for sharks. China is also collecting biological and ecological information based on longline observer program. Now, species-specific catch and effort data are being recorded in the logbook data collection. However, in consideration of fishermen's poor knowledge in species identification and workload onboard, complete recording species on the recommended list is hardly finished for them at least for the

current years. With the development of species identification cards and manuals, this issue will be solved in the near future.

7. Resolution 13/07 Concerning a record of licensed foreign vessels fishing for IOTC species in the IOTC Area of Competence and access agreement information ^a

Not applicable

8. Resolution 13/08 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices (FADs) management plan, including 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

There is no Chinese purse seiners in IOTC

9. Resolution 13/09 On the conservation of albacore caught in the IOTC Area of Competence

Not applicable

10. Resolution 13/10 On interim target and limit reference points and a decision framework

Not applicable

11. Resolution 13/11 On a ban on discards of bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, and a recommendation for non-targeted species caught by purse seine vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence

There is no Chinese purse seiners in IOTC

Note: ^a indicate that a template report exists for some of the requirements and can be requested at secretariat@iotc.org



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.*

No

Part C. Data and information reporting requirements for CPCs to be included in this report (please refer to the *section April 2014 of the Guide on data and information reporting requirements for Members and Cooperating Non-contracting Parties*).

- 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]).

The report has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):

No

The report is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

China make a supplementary annual report of the IOTC BET statistical document programme for the year 2011 on Feb.25, 2014 together with the Feedback from China regarding to compliance issue during the 10th Session of IOTC CoC

- 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”.

According to the Regulation on Distant Water Fisheries issued by the Ministry of Agriculture of China in 2003, fishing vessels must obtain official approval/authorization by the Bureau of Fisheries of China (BOF) before operating in waters beyond jurisdiction of China. The BOF issues fishing license to each vessel operating on High Seas after fishing vessels obtaining official approval/authorizaiton.

Fishing vessels engaged in tuna fishing must comply with the measure adopted by the Chinese Government, including but not limited to vessel monitoring system (VMS, since Oct 2006), data reporting, logbook, national observer program, tuna statistical document, catch control and annual review on the performance of the fishing company in the previous year, etc..

Annual review on the performance of deep sea fishing companies, including tuna fishing companies, in the previous year is made by the central government (BOF) at the beginning of each year. Such review is to evaluate the compliance by the fishing company, inter alia, data reporting, VMS, acceptance of national observer, logbook submission and data quality, compliance of other requirement as stipulated in conservation measures. Fishing license would be renewed if the performance meet relevant requirement of the Government.

Failure to pass the evaluation may lead to penalty by the government, such as suspension of tuna fisheries, reduction on catch limit allocated to that company.

The detailed annual reporting of implementation of the IOTC management standard for AFVs is as below:

a. Management in the fishing grounds

	Scientific Observer boarding	Satellite-based vessel monitoring system	Daily or required periodic catch report	Entry/Exit report
Yes, No	YES	YES	YES	YES
Note	One observer was dispatched to a longliner, XIN SHI JI 6 in 2013	100%	Monthly Report is required	

b. Management of transshipment (from the fishing grounds to the landing ports)

	Transshipment report	Port inspection	Statistical document program
Yes, No	YES	YES	YES
Note	Comply with 12/05	Implement custom verification since July 2010 for bigeye tuna, bluefin tuna and swordfish	For SWO, BET caught by deep frozen vessels

c. Management at landing ports

	Landing inspection	Landing reporting	Cooperation with other Parties
Yes, No	YES	YES	NO
Note	Customs inspection	Customs inspection	

- Resolution 10/06 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.

Most of China tuna longline vessels are operating in the tropical areas of IOTC waters and there are no interactions with seabirds. No seabird mortality was observed by China tuna longline fleet, which was confirmed by national observer programme. For a few number of vessels operating in area south to 25S, mitigation measures are implemented according to the management measures.

- 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].*

The report on import, landing or transhipment of tuna and tuna-like fish products landed or transhipped in port in 2013 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 2013 is attached to the implementation report:

Yes No

Additional information:

China has been to implement custom verification since July 2010 in accordance with Joint Announcement of the Ministry of Agriculture and the General Administration of Customs of P.R. China on Applying the "Catch Clearance Certificate" to Some Imported Aquatic Products. Any of bigeye tuna, bluefin tuna, swordfish and toothfish enter a customs boundary within China, shall apply to the Ministry of Agriculture for a "Catch Clearance Certificate". Upon declaring to the customs, the related product can enter into China.

China will communicate to the Secretariat the import data of only BET, SWO and BFT in 2013 as attachment.

- 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.

Formal observer program has been running since 2010 for the Indian Ocean. Shanghai Ocean University is authorized by BOF work on training and dispatching observers to Chinese flagged fishing vessels. Undergraduate/Graduate students majoring in marine fisheries science & technology, marine fisheries resources from Shanghai Ocean University are chosen to take the task as scientific observers, after training course is completed. In 2013, one observer was dispatched to longline vessel namely XIN SHI JI 6 to fulfil the task.

- 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.

In order to comply with the requirement adopted by IOTC, China provide free of charge each tuna longliner line cutters and de-hookers in order to facilitate the appropriate handling and prompt release of marine turtles caught or entangled. Vessel masters are obliged to record in the logbook the incidental catch of marine turtles, if any. Failure to record or make false record will lead severe punishment by the Government.

Observers are responsible for recording species specific interactions of marine turtles in longline fisheries, including number of caught, fate, and release status. No national plan of action for marine turtles is under development.

No sea turtle was reported to be incidentally caught by Chinese longline vessels in 2012 (addressed in Chinese National report in 2013).

- Resolution 12/05 On establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels

Each flag CPC of the LSTV shall include in its annual report each year to IOTC the details on the transshipments in ports by its vessels (Name of LSTV, IOTC Number, name of carrier vessel, species and quantity transhipped, date and location of transshipment). *[A template report exists].*

The details on transshipment in ports for 2013 have already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat:

Yes Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):12/09/2013

No

The details on transshipment in ports for 2013 are attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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 Reports a summary of monitoring, control, and surveillance actions related to large-scale driftnet fishing on the high seas in the IOTC area of competence.

Using large-scale driftnets by Chinese vessels is strictly prohibited by BOF, and has been transferred into national legislation according to this Resolution. The requirements in Resolution 12/12 have also been communicated with vessels' owners and masters for promoting compliance. No vessel was found using large-scale drift nets in IOTC area in 2013.

- Resolution 12/13 For the Conservation and Management of Tropical Tunas Stocks in the IOTC Area of Competence

CPCs flag states shall monitor the compliance of their vessels with this Resolution through VMS, and will provide a summary of VMS records related to their fleet operation in the previous year for the consideration of the Compliance Committee. *[A template report exists].*

The summary of VMS records has already been provided to the IOTC Secretariat for:

Longline vessels

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Purse seine vessels

Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY): [Click here to enter text.](#)

The summary of VMS records is attached to the implementation report:

Yes

No

Additional information:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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.

There is no Chinese purse seiners in IOTC and no purse seine nets used on Chinese Longliners, and according to records in logbooks and observer report, there is no incident with cetaceans reported or collected for the year 2013.

- 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 cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels.

There is no Chinese purse seiners in IOTC and no purse seine nets used on Chinese Longliners, and according to records in logbooks and observer report, there is no incident with whale sharks reported or collected for the year 2013.

- Resolution 13/07 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

Not applicable