

## **Report of Implementation for the year 2013**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 2 APRIL 2014**

Reporting CPC: Mauritius

Date: 02.04.2014

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*Please NOTE: this document is composed of 3 sections to report on the implementation of IOTC resolutions*

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**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  
Mauritius is agreeable for the removal of the obsolete conservation and management measures with regards to the above resolution.
2. Resolution 13/02 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence<sup>a</sup>  
The list of authorised vessels including details of the vessels that are authorised to fish outside national jurisdiction were submitted on 12/10/13 and 18/12/13 respectively as per the template of the IOTC.
3. Resolution 13/03 On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence<sup>a</sup>

According to the fishing license conditions, all national and foreign licensed fishing vessels have to submit duly filled in fishing logbooks prior to unloading. Reporting requirements of the logbooks are in line with the IOTC format.

4. Resolution 13/04 On the conservation of cetaceans  
The mauritian-flagged purse seiners operating on the high seas have been advised to strictly abide by the above resolution. No cases of incidental catch have been reported so far. The drifting FADS used by the purse seiners are designed to prevent entanglement by non-targetted species. The design of DFADS were submitted to IOTC along with the Management Plan for DFADS.
5. Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)  
The national purse seiners operating on the high seas have been advised to strictly abide by the above resolution. No cases of incidental catch have been reported so far. The drifting FADS used by the purse seiners are designed to prevent entanglement by non-targetted

species, according to Annex III of Resolution 13/08. The design of DFADS were submitted to IOTC along with the Management Plan for DFADS.

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

The national purse seiners operating on the high seas have been advised to strictly abide by the above resolution. No cases of incidental catch of oceanic whitetip have been reported so far.

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 <sup>a</sup>

The Ministry of Fisheries has a register where all details of fishing vessels licensed to fish in the waters of Mauritius are recorded. Licenses are issued to foreign fishing vessels according to the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels. Details of the licensed fishing vessels are regularly transmitted to the IOTC. With regards to Government-Government Access Agreements, information thereto was submitted to IOTC. However, a copy of the written agreement was not submitted due to domestic confidentiality.

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

As from December 2013, a number of national flagged purse seiners have started their fishing operations. The FADS used by the purse seiners are designed to reduce incidence of entanglement of non-targeted species. A DFAD Management Plan has already been submitted including the DFAD design.

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

Data related to the catch and effort statistics as well as the length-frequency of albacore tuna landed by licensed vessels are regularly submitted to IOTC. Moreover, the above statistical data are also collected from national fleets operating in the EEZ of Mauritius and submitted to IOTC.

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

The proposed interim target and limit reference points need further assessment.

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

According to license conditions, non-targeted species are to be retained and sold on the Agricultural Marketing Board in Mauritius as per regulations made under the Fisheries and Marine Resources Act. The national purse seiners operating on the high seas have been advised to strictly abide by the above resolution.

Note: <sup>a</sup> indicate that a template report exists for some of the requirements and can be requested at [secretariat@iotc.org](mailto: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.*

The Port State Control Unit of the Ministry of Fisheries is responsible for the boarding, verification and monitoring of fishing vessels calling in the port for unloading or transshipment. Licensed vessels are required to submit duly filled in logbooks prior to obtaining authorisation to unload.

The National Coastguard monitors the entry and exit of fishing vessels in the EEZ of Mauritius as well as the entry in the port. Fishing vessels not complying with the licensed conditions are contravened.

The implementation of the joint Regional Surveillance Programme under the Smartfish/Indian Ocean Commission continued during 2013.

Licensed and national fishing vessels are monitored through the Vessel Monitoring System by the Fisheries Monitoring Centre and the National Coastguard. The Vessel Monitoring System Regulations are presently being reviewed and updated. Moreover, regulations on Automatic Identification System (AIS) are being worked out to make it compulsory for licensed and national fishing vessels to be equipped with AIS.

The Fisheries and Marine Resources Act, 2007 is being reviewed with the objective, amongst others, to make the proposed bill compliant with international instruments.

**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):** [Click here to enter text.](#)

No

**The report is attached to the implementation report:**

Yes       No

Additional information:

A consignment of Bigeye tuna was exported in December 2013. However, import data from the Secretariat has not yet been received.

- 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”.

All licensed AFVs are equipped with a Vessel Monitoring System and are monitored by the Fisheries Monitoring Centre.

Report of transshipment by fishing vessels calling in Mauritius are submitted to the IOTC.

Port inspection is carried out by the Port State Control Unit (PSCU) on all vessels calling for unloading or transshipment.

The PSCU is responsible for the implementation of the Statistical Catch Document Programme.

All statistical data on landings of species caught in the IOTC area are regularly submitted to the Secretariat.

- 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.

Mauritius does not have fishing vessels operating beyond 25 degrees south. All foreign licensed longline fishing vessels have been informed through their agents on the above resolution and have been requested to strictly adhere to the mitigation measures provided in this resolution.

Moreover, as per the terms and conditions of fishing licenses issued to foreign longliners, all vessels shall abide by all fishery international and regional management and conservation 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:

Carriers transshipping raw material for processing in Mauritius from Seychelles are subject to close scrutiny regarding submission of catch documents. All processed products leaving Mauritius for the Export market must be accompanied by appropriate catch documents along with the Veterinary certificates.

- 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.

As from December 2013, Mauritius has registered seven purse seiners. Mauritius is planning in collaboration with Orthongel to place observers onboard the purse seiners after being properly trained.

- 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.

The agents of foreign licensed fishing vessels and owners of national boats were informed of the above resolution and mitigation measures. Marine turtle identification cards have been distributed to fishing operators. National purseine fishing operators have been advised to

strictly abide to Section 9 of Resolution 12/04. Encounter with sea turtles have not been reported by national fishing vessels.

- 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):** [Click here to enter text.](#)

No

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

Yes

No

Additional information:

Data is being compiled and will be duly submitted in line with Resolution 12/05.

- 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.

Not Applicable

- 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):** Not applicable

Purse seine vessels  **Date of reporting (DD/MM/YYYY):** 17/03/2014

**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.

No cases of encounter with a cetacean was reported.

- 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.

No cases of encounter with a whale shark was reported.

- 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](mailto:secretariat@iotc.org)*

Information concerning the agreement has been submitted to IOTC. However, a copy of the Access Agreement has not been forwarded due to domestic confidentiality.