

Report of Implementation for the year 2013

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT 2 APRIL 2014

Reporting CPC: VANUATU

Date: 29/02/14

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
Part 11 of the New Fisheries Bill which is yet to tabled by Parliament focuses on Compliance with International Obligations therefore covers all Resolutions of the IOTC will be covered by the regulations adopted
2. Resolution 13/02 Concerning the IOTC record of vessels authorised to operate in the IOTC Area of Competence ^a
A record of Authorised vessels was sent to the IOTC Secretariat
3. Resolution 13/03 On the recording of catch and effort data by fishing vessels in the IOTC Area of Competence ^a
Vanuatu Longline Logbook has been developed with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and will be sent to the secretariat as soon as it is completed.
4. Resolution 13/04 On the conservation of cetaceans
All Vanuatu flag vessels are aware of interactions with Cetaceans, there were no interactions with Cetaceans in the past with Vanuatu Vessels
5. Resolution 13/05 On the conservation of whale sharks (*Rhincodon typus*)
All Vanuatu Flag Vessels are aware of interaction with whale shark therefore there were no interactions with whale shark in the past.
6. Resolution 13/06 On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed Fisheries
Vanuatu has just currently developed a shark Management Plan and will be completed soon
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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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.*

Vanuatu did not take any actions last year as there was no infringements in the IOTC area of competence however as Part 11 of the New Fisheries Bill for Vanuatu which is yet to be tabled in Vanuatu's national parliament this year (2014) focuses on the Compliance with International Obligations therefore covers all the Resolutions of the IOTC therefore Vanuatu believes that as soon as the Bill is tabled Vanuatu will pursue all necessary actions to combat IUU in the IOTC area. Below is the Caption of the New Fisheries Bill for Vanuatu.

PART 11 COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS

64 Application of Part

Unless stated otherwise in this Act or any other Act, this Part applies to all vessels registered under the Shipping Act [CAP 53] and the Maritime Act [CAP 131].

65 Application of international obligations

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the obligations and requirements relating to the activities and practices of fishing vessels provided for in any Scheduled Treaty, are obligations and requirements applying to Vanuatu Fishing Vessels regardless of whether those vessels are operating inside or outside Vanuatu waters.
- (2) The Minister may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, for the purpose of:
 - (a) adding any other international treaty or convention to the Schedule; and
 - (b) specifically identifying which parts of an international treaty or convention, or which specific obligations and requirements stated in a Scheduled Treaty, are imposed on or must be observed by a Vanuatu Fishing Vessel.
- (3) In the absence of a regulation made under paragraph (2)(b), the operator of a vessel to which this Part applies, must observe all the obligations and requirements of all Scheduled Treaties applying to their fishing and related activities.

66 Giving effect to international conservation and management measures

- (1) The Minister may by notice, publish a list of the global, regional or sub-regional organisations or arrangements to which Vanuatu is a party or a cooperating non-contracting party.
- (2) The Minister may by notice, publish the international conservation and management measures which are to have the force of law in Vanuatu and on all fishing vessels registered in Vanuatu wherever they are operating
- (3) The Minister may specify in the notice under subsection (2), the parts of an international conservation and management measure that are to have the force of law in Vanuatu.

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- (3) The Minister may specify in the notice under subsection (2), the parts of an international conservation and management measure that are to have the force of law in Vanuatu.

The Minister may, for the purpose of giving effect to any treaty entered into by Vanuatu or any international conservation and management measure or arrangement to which Vanuatu is a party or is a cooperating non-contracting party, make such regulations or give notice in the Gazette or attach such conditions to a licence as the Minister may consider necessary or expedient for this purpose.

- (5) The Minister may publish in the Gazette no less than every 6 months, any conditions that have been imposed on individual licences according to this section.



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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:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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”.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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:

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- Resolution 12/05 On establishing a programme for transhipment 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 transhipments in ports by its vessels (Name of LSTV, IOTC Number, name of carrier vessel, species and quantity transhipped, date and location of transhipment). *[A template report exists].*

The details on transhipment 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 transhipment 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.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

- 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.

- 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

N/A