
UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING RESOLUTION 09/01 – ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP

PREPARED BY: IOTC SECRETARIAT; 10 APRIL 2014

PURPOSE

To provide the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance (SCAF) with an opportunity to update the current status of implementation for each of the recommendations arising from the Report of the IOTC Performance Review Panel, relevant to the SCAF.

BACKGROUND

In response to calls from the international community for a review of the performance of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) agreed in 2007 to implement a process of Performance Review. The IOTC formed a Review Panel, consisting of an independent legal expert, an independent scientific expert, six IOTC Members and a non-governmental organisation observer, which concluded its report to the Commission in January 2009. The Panel's review was based on the criteria developed as a result of a joint meeting of tuna RFMOs, Kobe, Japan, 2007 and concentrated on the following issues:

- Adequacy of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC Agreement) relative to current principles of fisheries management,
- Consistency between scientific advice and conservation and management measures adopted,
- Effectiveness of control measures established by the IOTC; and
- Efficiency and transparency of financial and administrative management.

In 2009, the IOTC performance review panel published a report outlining 75 recommendations to improve the functioning of the IOTC ([Anon 2009](#)).

DISCUSSION

At the 17th Session of the Commission held in May 2013, Members noted the status of implementation of each of the recommendations arising from the report of the performance review panel. The Commission agreed that each of the Committees should carry out a comprehensive evaluation of the status and priority of each of the recommendations from the Performance Review, and for a revised document to be provided to the Commission at its next Session.. The Recommendations relevant to the SCAF are provided at [Appendix A](#) for consideration.

In addition, the Commission agreed that a second Performance Review of the IOTC be undertaken in 2014, with terms of reference to be developed by interested CPCs and circulated for wider agreement via an IOTC Circular.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance:

- 1) **NOTE** the status of each of the recommendations from the performance review relevant to the SCAF, as agreed to by the Commission at its 17th Session, with updates shown in tracked-changes in [Appendix A](#)
- 2) **REVIEW** and **UPDATE** the status table by including a workplan with proposed timelines and priorities for each recommendation relevant to the work of the SCAF, for the Commission's consideration.

APPENDICES

[Appendix A](#): SCAF: Update on progress regarding Resolution 09/01 – On the performance review follow-up

APPENDIX A

SCAF: UPDATE ON PROGRESS REGARDING RESOLUTION 09/01 – ON THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW FOLLOW-UP
(NOTE: NUMBERING AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS PER APPENDIX I OF RESOLUTION 09/01)

ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Data collection and sharing				
11. Support for capacity building be provided to developing States – the Commission should enhance funding mechanisms to build developing country CPCs' capacity for data collection, processing and reporting infrastructures, in accordance with the Commission requirements.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance and Finance</i>	<p>Ongoing: <u>In 2010</u> The Commission allocated USD\$400,000 for a range of projects related to capacity building in data collection and reporting.</p> <p>The Commission allocated USD\$60,000 for Capacity Building in the 2011 budget, and USD\$78,000 in the 2012 budget and US\$80,000 in 2013. <u>Further increases have been proposed for the 2014 and 2015 budgets.</u></p> <p>One workshop was organized in 2011, in Chennai, India involving representatives of several CPCs.</p> <p>Other sources and cooperative arrangements will continue (e.g. IOTC-OFCF Project; <u>CPCs</u>) or might be available in the future (e.g. SWIOFP, COI, etc.). The Secretariat continues to collaborate with these initiatives.</p>	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High
15. The Secretariat's capacity for data dissemination and quality assurance be enhanced, including through the employment of a fisheries statistician.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance via Scientific Committee Commission</i>	<p>Partially completed & Ongoing: The existing post of Data Analyst was converted to a Fisheries Statistician to join the Data Section of the Secretariat. The position was filled in September 2012.</p> <p><u>Further efforts continue to be made to improve data dissemination, including through an online data atlas, planned for 2014/15.</u></p>	Staffing needs to be assessed annually at IOTC meetings.	Medium

19. The Secretariat's capacity to provide support to developing States' Members should be enhanced.	<i>Commission and Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	Ongoing: Resolution 10/05 provides a mechanism for financial support to facilitate scientists and representatives from developing IOTC CPCs to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. In 2012, <u>2013 and 2014</u> , capacity building funds were provided and utilized in workshops to enhance understanding of the IOTC process among officials of member countries, The Secretariat has also collaborated directly and indirectly with other regional initiatives, including, inter alia, to the <u>EU, BOBLME, OFCF, SWIOFC and SWIOFP</u> , ACP Fish II and COI.	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High
Quality and provision of scientific advice				
26. The resources of the IOTC Secretariat should be increased. Even though some progress will be made with recruitment of the stock analysis expert, some additional professional staffing is required.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance on advice from Committees and the Commission</i>	Ongoing: The Secretariat will propose a budget for 201 4 ³ and 201 5 ⁴ that includes an additional <u>professional staff member (Fisheries Officer), as recommended by the Scientific Committee in 2012, resources for projects requested by the Scientific Committee and Commission.</u>	Review annually at IOTC meetings.	High
31. A special fund to support the participation of scientists from developing States should be established.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	<u>Partially Completed:</u> A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05. The Resolution provides a funding mechanism to facilitate scientists and other representatives from developing IOTC CPCs to attend and/or contribute to the work of the Commission, the Scientific Committee and its Working Parties. The fund is financed, initially, by accumulated funds, with no provisions for long-term support yet agreed. The fund was replenished to US\$200,000 at S1 7 ⁶ from accumulated funds. An ongoing process of replenishment of this fund needs to be developed <u>and a proposal to continue the IOTC Meeting Participation Fund will be consider during the S18 Session.</u>	Review annually at IOTC SCAF and Commission meetings. A procedure for supplying funds to the MPF should be developed and presented at S1 8 ⁷ .	<u>MediumHigh</u>
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	RESPONSIBILITY	UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Special requirements of developing States				

74. A specific fund to assist capacity building should be put in place.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	Partially completed & Ongoing. A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05 (See 19 and 31) and needs ongoing financial contributions. Additional funding for capacity building provided in 2012 and 2013 , and proposed in the budgets for 201 4 ³ and 201 5 ⁴ . See also para. 11 above.	S1 8 ⁷ will need to consider proposed budget lines for capacity building funds.	High.
Participation				
76. Financial support, in particular for attendance in the scientific activities to developing States, is needed.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i>	Partially completed & Ongoing: A Meeting Participation Fund was established via Resolution 10/05. The Resolution provides a funding mechanism to facilitate scientists and other representatives from CPCs who are developing States to attend IOTC meetings. The fund is financed, initially, by accumulated funds, with no provisions for long-term support yet agreed.	Annually for each IOTC meeting. A procedure for supplying funds to the MPF should be developed and presented at S1 8 ⁷ by a CPC.	High
ON FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES		UPDATE/STATUS	WORKPLAN/TIMELINE	PRIORITY
Availability of resources for RFMO activities – efficiency and cost-effectiveness				
78. The IOTC Agreement as well as financial management rules should be amended or replaced in order to increase Members' as well as Secretariat's control of all the budget elements, including staff costs of the budget. This would also improve transparency.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i> <i>Commission and Members</i>	Pending. See Recommendations 1 and 2.		High
81. The agreed external financial audit should be implemented as soon as possible, and should include a focus on whether IOTC is efficiently and effectively managing its human and financial resources, including those of the Secretariat.	<i>Standing Committee on Administration and Finance</i> <i>Commission</i>	Pending.		